

Walk on to No. 58.

8. Eaton House, The Manor School, Grade II, 1792, extension 1905-6, formerly Byrom house. Porch with composite columns and heavy dentilled cornice, now an independent prep school. The Eaton House school group, here since 1993, started in 1897 when a Mr J Morton was encouraged to set up a school by the mother of a boy he was coaching. That boy was the future prime minister Harold Macmillan.

Proceed past Taybridge Road to No. 64, past a weeping willow in a garden suggesting the presence of water nearby.

9. No. 64 is a charming late 18th or early 19th century cottage; all that remains of Northside, the villa of John Carr, biscuit manufacturer, until he sold up in 1896. Fragments of the east wing of Northside can be seen on the left of the front elevation. Terraced houses were built on its grounds and those of its neighbour Springwell.

Walk on past the terraces, and Jedburgh Street, to Tregarvon Road. Pause here to view Parkgate House School, the tall building at No. 80, difficult to see close to.

10. Parkgate House School, Grade II, 1819, formerly Springwell House, was built for Roger Lee, Overseer of the Surrey Highways, who rode daily to the City on horseback. Carved heads above the windows. Between the First and Second World Wars this was an Open Air school, where tubercular children were kept in the fresh air all day in all weathers.

Next door in No 81, 1791, Doulton House (formerly Springwell Cottage) lived John Doulton (1793-1873) founder of Doulton Ceramics.

Stretching your legs, stride on past late 19th century terraced houses built over old estates including Northfields, Kirkdale and The Eukestons. Varied decorative brickwork and terracotta ornamentation. Go on to Sisters Avenue.

11. In No. 109, on 18 June 1892, Mr Gladstone, soon to be Prime Minister again, made the opening speech of his Home Rule for Ireland campaign, in the drawing room of his friend James Guinness Rogers, Minister of Grafton Square Congregational Church.

After Sisters Avenue, stop at No. 110, Alverstoke.

12. Alverstoke, 1895, extension 1984. Blue plaque to John

Burns, MP for Battersea 1892, engineer and trade unionist and the first working man to become a cabinet minister.

Cross Marjorie Grove, go on to No. 113, Gilmore House.

13. Gilmore House, Grade II, 1763, built for Joseph Ackerman of Battersea Rise House, together with its 'twin sister' where Alverstoke is now. Plaque to John Walter, founder of the Daily Universal Register in 1785, which became The Times in 1788. Visible behind the 2011 front addition, a Pre-Raphaelite chapel of 1879, by Philip Webb, with Burne-Jones stained glass, built for Isabella Gilmore, founder of the Anglican order of deaconesses. She was William Morris's sister, hence the choice of designers. House and chapel are now flats; the stained glass remains, and some fittings, with others in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Cross Elspeth Road, and continue to St Barnabas' Church.

14. St Barnabas' Church, Grade II, 1898 by W Bassett Smith is in the gothic style with 14th century crockets and gargoyles on the tower. **Enter by the south door if the church is open.** The interior is notable for its striped brick and enormous pointed windows. The west end has been imaginatively altered to create a meeting hall.

The church stands in the front garden of an 18th century house. Turn right down Lavender Gardens to see it on the right.

15. The Shrubbery, 1796, enlarged 1843. Built for George Scholey, City merchant and Lord Mayor of London. Frontage with pilasters with empire-style capitals, and a semi-circular entrance bay with timber-columned Tuscan porch. The rear elevation, with giant engaged Corinthian columns, was added by John Loat for Alderman John Humphery, later also Lord Mayor of London. Between 1864 and 1875 it was the home of Greek merchant, Michael Spartali, whose beautiful daughters, Christine and Marie, modelled for Whistler, Rosetti and Burne-Jones. After some vicissitudes, the house became flats in 1987, keeping many original features, including the marble entrance hall. The flats are named after flowers in the famous gardens which stretched away towards the river, see the doorbells.

Here the walk ends. Return to North Side where there are buses back to Clapham Common Underground Station.

© The Clapham Society June 2022.



The Clapham Society

Clapham walks

7: North Side

The walk starts at Clapham Common Underground Station and mainly follows the road 'North Side', finishing near St Barnabas' Church in Lavender Gardens.

North Side is the name of the road running along the north of the Common, which marks the springline where wells were dug to supply Clapham. It is the best road to see 18th century houses in Clapham. By 1800 the village of Clapham had accumulated 'gentlemen's seats' all around the Common, in the culmination of a trend fuelled by the Great Fire of London, 1666. Rich merchants found they liked the fresh air, and they could reach the City easily by private horse power. Some of Clapham's most famous residents lived here, including the 17th century diarist Samuel Pepys, Granville Sharp of the Clapham Sect, the 19th century architect Sir Charles Barry, and the 20th century novelist Graham Greene. Until the mid-19th century houses for the rich were still being built, but improvements in transport soon made it easy for them to move further out, and for the less well-heeled to travel here from the centre of London. The arrival of horse drawn trams in 1871 led to the selling off of many 18th century houses for development. Today the resulting rows of terraced houses are themselves desirable. Most early houses remaining were too costly to run as private establishments and, sometimes following a period of dereliction, have become communal establishments or been divided into flats, taking advantage of Clapham's popularity.

The full walk will take about 1½ hours.

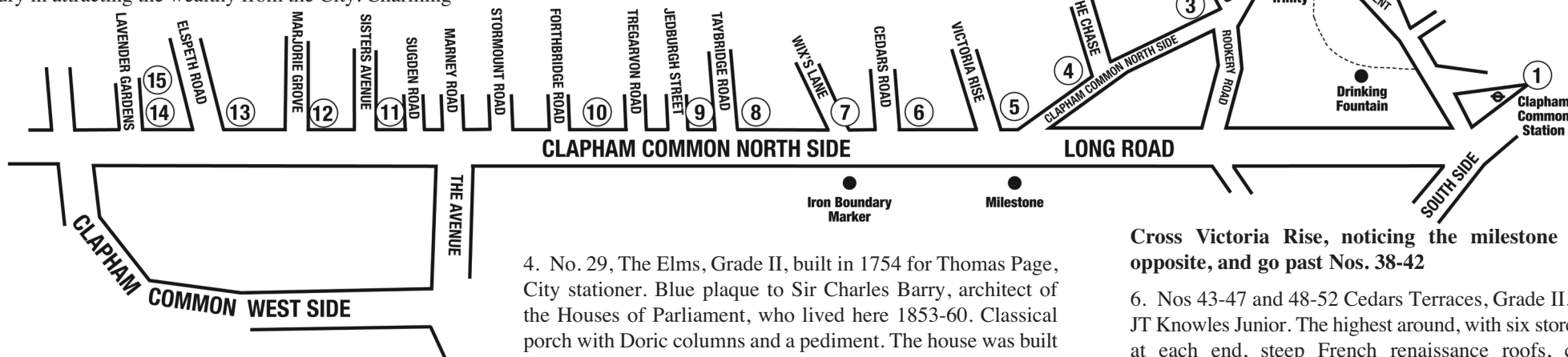
The Clapham Society is a local civic amenity society, which aims to improve the quality of life for residents, promote quality in new developments and to conserve the best features of the past. For further information please visit our website claphamsociety.com

Start at Clapham Common Underground Station.

1. The station, with its attractive little dome (Charles Holden 1924), replaced that on the corner of Clapham Park Road and the High Street when the line was extended to Morden.

Walk west towards the Common and cross onto it by the pedestrian lights. Take the path to the drinking fountain (sculpture of a woman giving water to a beggar, 1884), which once stood at the north end of London Bridge, and keeping right, walk on to the west end of Holy Trinity Church.

2. Holy Trinity Church, Grade II* (Kenton Couse, 1776), is the new Clapham parish church which replaced the medieval one in Rectory Grove. It reflects Clapham's success in the 18th century in attracting the wealthy from the City. Charming



miniature steeple with copper cupola, lead spire and golden cross. The large porch and colonnade were added in 1812 to protect the congregation arriving in their carriages from the rain. They were attracted by the preaching of rector John Venn, a leading member of the Clapham Sect, who campaigned for the abolition of the slave trade. Amongst them were William Wilberforce and Granville Sharp.

Continue along the path and cross North Side by the junction with Rookery Road, to the west of Macaulay Road. Turn left and walk west along North Side.

3. Nos 14-21 form a terrace of elegant red brick Georgian houses with slim sash windows, many of which have attractive fanlights over the front door and decorative railings and gates. No. 14 at first floor level on the right are the dates 1714-20 (when built), 1913, and IHS, the builder's initials, John Hutt Senior. In 1913 the lease ended and the buildings were bought by Westminster Hospital, but were eventually saved and

refurbished. Graham Greene lived here 1935-1940 and his blue plaque was unveiled in 2011. Famous residents include Granville Sharp and Edward I'Anson, 19th century local architect.

Continue west, past two 1930s blocks of flats, Okeover Manor (Music Hall Guild of Great Britain and America plaque for Marie Kendall, music hall artiste) and Woodlands by JJ de Segrain, art deco, with strong horizontal lines and the original iron gate to Okeover. Just before The Chase is No. 26, Chase Lodge (1700, with later additions), on or near the site of the Lodge serving Clapham Place (see Stop 4) possibly the oldest house on the Common. Samuel Pepys may have known this house, when staying next door. **Cross The Chase.**

4. No. 29, The Elms, Grade II, built in 1754 for Thomas Page, City stationer. Blue plaque to Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Houses of Parliament, who lived here 1853-60. Classical porch with Doric columns and a pediment. The house was built in the garden of Clapham Place, the grand mid-17th century mansion of Denis Gauden, victualler to the navy, later bought by William Hewer, Samuel Pepys' clerk and friend. Pepys spent the last three years of his life here, until 1703. Remains of Clapham Place have been found in The Chase.

The Elms was bought in 1900 by the National Free Home for the Dying, and now 29-32 all form Royal Trinity Hospice. In 2015, after a new ward was built at the rear, No. 29 was converted into flats for rent to raise income. At No. 31 George Hibbert MP, a slavery supporter with Jamaican interests and a strong opponent of the Clapham Sect, created a garden which rivalled Kew. Later JT Knowles Junior (1831-1908), architect and friend of the poets Tennyson and Browning, lived here.

Walk on west.

5. Nos. 33-37, 1852-3. Pale brick, lions heads above the top floor, and enormous urns on the roof. **Walk to the end of the terrace and turn into Victoria Rise.** This last house is bigger,

with the entrance at the side, a plainer facade and double height porch. It was designed by the architect Edward I'Anson, for himself.

Imagine it unaltered, without 20th century infillings and excrescences.

The previous house here was The Wilderness (1753, Henry Flitcroft), the 'small' London house of Henry Hoare ('the Magnificent'), of Hoare's Bank – now the last remaining private family bank in the City. His 'big' house was Stourhead in Wiltshire.

Cross Victoria Rise, noticing the milestone of 1745 opposite, and go past Nos. 38-42

6. Nos 43-47 and 48-52 Cedars Terraces, Grade II. 1860 by JT Knowles Junior. The highest around, with six storey towers at each end, steep French renaissance roofs, cast iron balustrades and ivy leaf decorations. Planned as the gateway of 'Park Town', a huge development to stretch down to the Thames. Much remained unbuilt, but down Cedars Road, and into Battersea, a trail of ivy leaves can still be seen.

No. 47 was the home (1889-1915) of music publisher George Augener and a blue plaque commemorates composer Edvard Grieg's visits to him.

These were the last of the grand houses to be built in Clapham.

Cross Cedars Road. Wix's Lane, next, was named after Mr Wix, who had a market garden on the site of No. 48.

7. The lane is the ancient boundary between Clapham and Battersea. On the Common an iron boundary marker can still be seen. Nos. 53-56 were built over the sites of Wix's house and Stoneley House, home of John Hatchard, bookseller of Piccadilly, between 1821 and 1849. Notice the long gardens – probably once part of the Common!