

Walk No 2

Starting from the village green in front of All Saints Church we look up Plumtree Road and on the opposite side of the road is Cotgrave Church School which was built in 1863 with money given by Earl Manvers. It was a replacement for Cotgrave's first School located on Main Road which doubled up as the first village Library.



At the junction with Scrimshire Lane we find Cotgrave village Cemetery with a Lych Gate entrance. In this graveyard are the parents of the former Arch-Bishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie and head-stones to Charles Thurman (noted for his financial contribution to Cotgrave) and Joshua Mann (local Farmer and dignitary). In the Cemetery is the memorial headstone to the fallen Cotgrave soldiers of WW1.



Further along Plumtree road on the right is Rectory Road junction and standing on the corner is a former old Rectory(now the Manor house) one of the two mediatis within Cotgrave which historically belonged to Lenton Priory in Nottingham. The other Manor house is located on the corner of Risegate and Owthorpe Road which belonged to Swineshead Abbey. The old Rectory house had very large gardens with numerous Cherry trees and annually held Garden Fetes for the village people.



Slightly further along Plumtree Road we have Bakers Hollow which is shown on village maps back in the 19th century.

Further along Plumtree road just beyond Mensing Avenue on the left side was a ‘modern day’ Police station built in the late 1950s to replace a small building in the centre of the village and opposite is Woodgate which is part of a Footpath leading out of Cotgrave going towards Bassingfield. It is along this stretch that the local Sewage works was located.

Turning into Mensing Avenue (which is named after the first Church School Headmaster and his wife) and then left into Greenplatt / Lamplands/ Broadmeer we would have seen Rempstone Hall which was a large family house owned by Lionella Clay (related to the Byron dynasty). When the Hall was demolished a very attractive oak staircase was relocated to a cottage located in Scrimshire Lane. Along part of this Lane is a very old Wall that has Bee nest cavities and is still occupied to this day, so BEEware|.



Walking through Greenplatt/aLamplands/ Broadmeer we arrive back at Scrimshire Lane before turning right towards Owthorpe road. 'The Manor house' referred to earlier is to be seen at the junction with Risegate.

We now walk onto Owthorpe Road from Scrimshire Lane passing the old farm entrance (Goose Gate) as shown with today's modern housing layout.



The old Goosegate farm entrance



2021 picture of Goosegate

Further along Owthorpe road on the left is Gripps Common which led to Wolds Field and one of the Windmills of Cotgrave.



Gripps Common

Further along the road is Pear Tree house on the left and The Beeches house on the right, two of the older dwellings in Cotgrave. Just before the steep hill out of the village on the right located in a wood is where Cotgrave's Steam Mill Brick Kiln was located. Its owner was Thomas/John Parker who lived in a large house at the end of Church lane. At the top of the hill was 'Devil's drop' a place not to be entered lightly!

Returning back down Owthorpe Road to its meeting with Scrimshire Lane is Risegate and the Manor house. It is said that in the grounds was a small Martello type Tower used to send fire signals into Nottingham. There were also stories about underground tunnels going out from the house?? The property also had substantive land with numerous Cherry trees within it.

Risegate was the diocese boundary of the Swineshead Abbey land at its junction with the Lenton Priory lands in Cotgrave. This segregation was finally joined during the reign of Henry viii.

Walking along Risegate (away from Owthorpe road/Scrimshire Lane) on the left hand side part way down was the entrance to Cotgrave Village Bowls club which became part of Whitelands Farm (stands on the corner of Main St and Candleby lane).. At the end of Risegate we turn right and almost opposite is a small building now housing the Veterinary clinic but originally was the part-time Surgery. Further along Candleby Lane on the right is the Catholic Church built in 1991 on land that was formerly a Builder's yard and the local Bus depot.



Cotgrave Catholic Church -2021

Returning back along Candleby Lane to its junction with Bingham Road on the left is Whitelands Farm. Turning right onto Bingham Road is Chapel Yard where the first Baptist Chapel was built and later became the Parish Hall which was opened by the Prince of Wales in 1936. This became the Scout and Guide Hall when the new Methodist Church was built. Chapel Lane had a long line of terraced dwellings whose residents included some of the Soldiers fatally killed in the Great War.

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