

# HESSLE TOWN COUNCIL

# HESSLE Town Trail

a walk round the  
Old Town

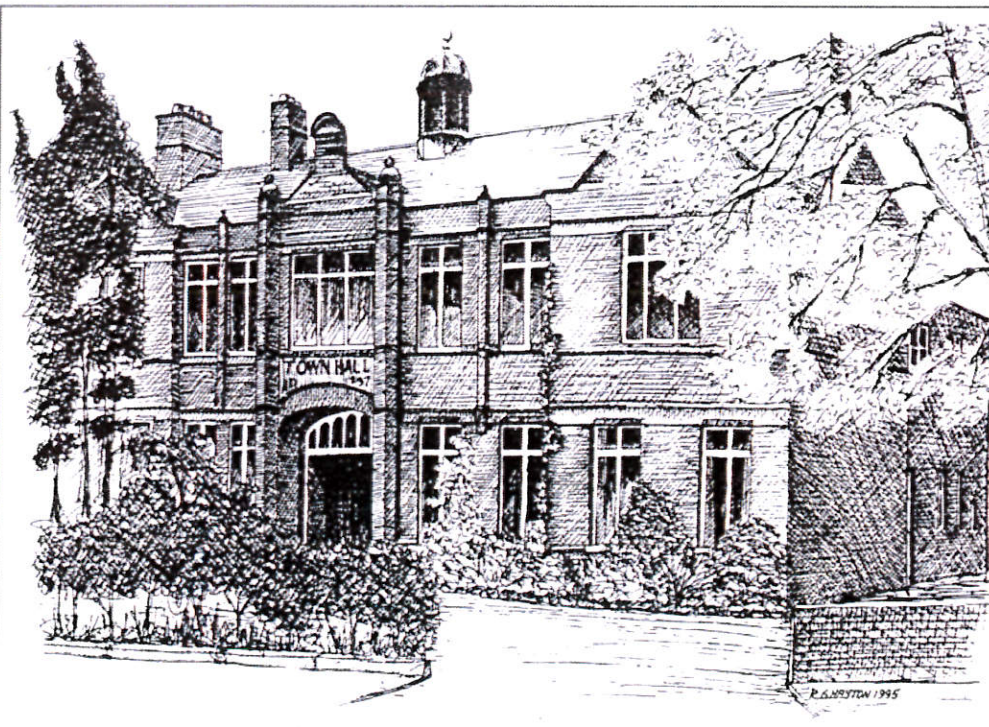
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*illustrations by*  
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This Walk covers a large area but can easily be broken down into "the Foreshore" and "the Town" with Southfield Estate as a link.  
You can start or finish at any point.

**H**essle may have been a Viking Settlement, though the Manor of "Haisell" is recorded in the Domesday Book as having been given by William the Conqueror to Drogo Debeverer, Lord of Holderness. The next owners were the Stuteville family, Lords of Cottingham, from whom it passed by marriage to Hugh Le Wake in the reign of Henry III, from there it passed to the Holland Earls of Kent. Eventually the Sykes family became Lords of the Manor.

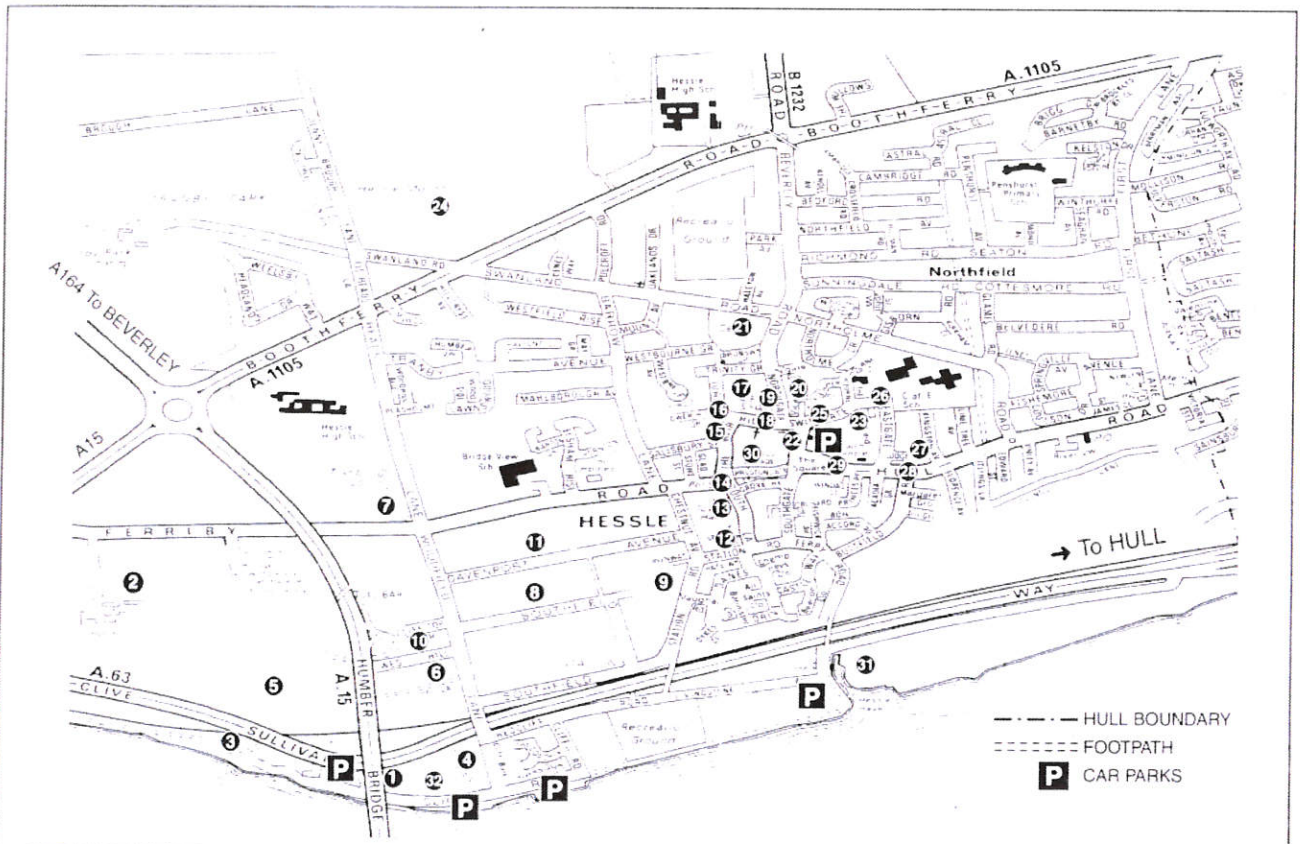
Hessle village in its current form developed in the area created by the enclosure of the three open fields in 1792-6. Further development took place in the 19th century due to the arrival of the railroad in 1840 and the abolition of turnpikes in 1873 (the route from the ferry to the village was a turnpike, charging a toll to those who passed, as were the roads to Hull and Beverley).

**Suggested route:** Cliff, Cliff Balk, Woodfield Lane (Cliff Top Lane), Southfield, Davenport Avenue, Chestnut Avenue, Station Road, South Lane, The Weir, Tower Hill, Northgate, Swinegate, The Hourne, Eastgate, The Square, Southgate, Ferry Road.



Please  
turn over  
for details  
of the  
walk.  
There is a  
map on  
the back  
page.





disabled access (for more information call Jill on 646262).

**Hesse House (27)** was near the corner of Eastgate. Some outhouses of this demolished large house built in c. 1784 by William Wadman still remain. Catherine and Thomas Taylor used Hesse House, not to be confused with Hesse House on Southgate, as a private Lunatic Asylum between 1835 and 1848. From the 1850's, Kingston College moved from Hull to Hesse House and became Kingston Lodge. By 1863, Anthony Bannister lived there. Bannister promoted the Hull to Withernsea railway; there is an impressive monument to him in Hesse Church. He was also a Lord Mayor of Hull.

The **Health Centre (28)** on Hull Road (formerly Cow lane) was built on the site of Thomas Hewson's Hesse Grange of 1782- the curved driveway is a remnant of the layout.

Hesse never had a market or fair and **The Square (29)** was created as recently as 1921. Buildings demolished for the new space included the Griffin Brewery and the Almshouses and School endowed by Leonard Chamberlain in 1716 and rebuilt in 1858.

Prestongate has always been a busy shopping thoroughfare and is now pedestrianised: ironically The Square was originally created to improve the traffic flow of Prestongate. Until 1860 **The George (30)** was a public house known as The White Gate.

The first Humber crossing between Barton, Barrow and Hesse Havens formed part of a link from London to Beverley. In 1315, following complaints of extortion on the Barrow-Hesse Ferry the King ordered that only

the customary halfpence for pedestrians and one penny for horsemen was to be allowed. In the same year the ferry from Hull to the South Bank was established but it was not until c. 1882 that the Barton-Hesse Ferry ceased operating completely - railways proved to be easier for transporting goods.

Shipbuilders from Blayde's Shipyard in Hull built ships of the third and fourth rate for the navy between 1743 and 1762 at Hesse Cliff. Barkworth and Hawkes took over the yard until the end of the Napoleonic Wars. The yard was closed and landscaped after 1822 for **Cliff Villa (4)**.

There were four yards in more recent times; Gemmel and Smith (1899-1902) then Dobson Bros. (1902 - 1906) and lastly Livingstone and Cooper (1912 - 1922). All these were on the west side of the Haven, on the eastern side was Henry Scarr (1897-1931) who sold out to Dunston's but carried on trading until the 1950's under the old name. **Dunston's (31)** only ceased trading in 1994. Other industries in the Haven area included Brick and Tileworks from the 1850's and the Hesse Gas Light and Coke Co. in 1861.

Walking back to the Mill **The Three Crowns Inn (32)** was near the jetty on the cliff and the site survives as part of the row of cottages. The three crowns are a reference to the Kingston upon Hull coat of arms.

Sources include: K. J. Allison, *Hull Gent. Seeks Country Residence (1750 - 1850)* (1981) and D. & S. Neave, *East Riding Chapels and Meeting Houses* (1990). Both published by East Yorkshire Local History Society. *The Buildings of England - Yorkshire* published by Penguin Books Yorkshire and East Riding (1985) published by Pevsner & Neave. The assistance of the Local History Unit at Hull College is gratefully acknowledged.



but developed slowly and by the late 1870's, only the villas on the north side had been built. Anderson was surgeon and registrar for Hessele.

The *Davenport Estate* (11) on the south side of Ferriby Road dates from between the 1890's and 1905, it was also a select development. Ebenezer Frost a Hessele builder, and G.R. Cook bought the land from a Mr. Davenport and laid out the two avenues then sold the site to a syndicate who divided it up. The listed house on the corner of Ferriby Road and Woodfield Lane is built in the Arts and Crafts style and has a good painted cartouche giving its date - 1901 - in the gable.

The *Trinity Congregational Chapel* on Station Road (12) was built in 1900. It later became the United Reformed Church but was still affectionately known as "congo's". The chapel replaced a "Tin Tabernacle", round the corner in South Lane, which then became the Sunday School. When the chapel was demolished to make way for the Anchor Homes development the former Sunday School became the new place of worship.

Hessele Urban District Council was formed in 1894. Their headquarters were in the *Parish Hall* (13) of 1897 (now the Town Hall). This passed to Beverley Borough Council in 1974 but has now been bought back by the Town Council for £1.

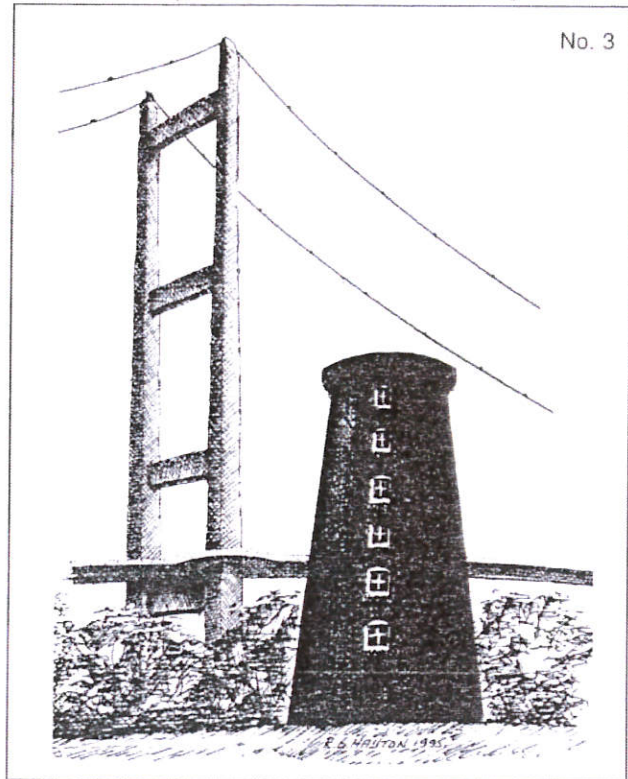
*Peeler House* (14) the former Police Station on the corner of Ferriby Road is now a Humberside County Council office. *Weir Lodge* (15) was built around 1800, as was *Tower Hill Lodge* (16).

The *War Memorial Park* (17) was created in the grounds of the demolished Hessele Cottage (built c 1800 by Charles Roe, Hull Comptroller of Customs)

The former *Wesleyan Chapel* (18) now the Methodist Church on Tower Hill was erected in 1876/77 by W. Botterill - replacing the Chapel of 1813 in Vicarage Lane which is now a house. The adjacent schoolroom was built in 1911. There are some interesting buildings to be seen along Northgate, three of them listed: *numbers 7 & 9* (19) are

probably early 1700's, *number 36* (20) is a grey brick house from about hundred years later.

The Municipal Cemetery was laid out in 1865 at a cost of £1,400, it contains the *Mortuary Chapel* (21) of J. R. Pease. *All Saints Church* (22) is essentially Early English in style with a Perpendicular west tower and spire. Given



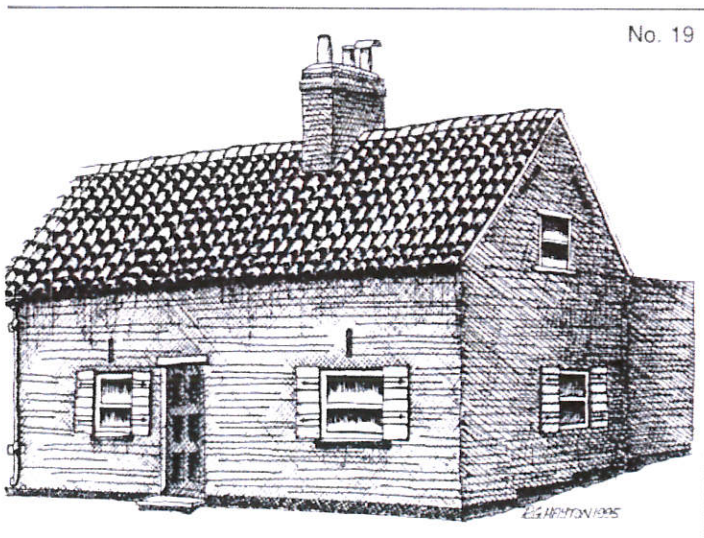
No. 3

to the monastery of Guisborough as a foundation gift, canons of that house were appointed as Vicars of Hessele by the Prior until the reformation in the 1540's. Hessele Parish included Hull until 1661 and the city church of Holy Trinity was subordinate to All Saints until that date. Notable details inside include the William Morris & Co. window in the north aisle and the arcade capitals painted to resemble manuscript scrolls. The village Stocks used to be sited on the north side of the church.

Mrs. Locke, wife of a Hull banker, built a *Girl's School* (23) for domestic service training in Swinegate in 1840. The Locke family lived in *Hessele Mount* (24) on Jenny Brough Lane, the house was built by James Watson of Hull between 1806-1813.

In Vicarage Lane can be seen the 1813 *Wesleyan Chapel* (24) referred to above.

In the Hourne is the *Hessele Community Centre* (26). This was formerly part of the National School (C of E) founded in 1855 and much enlarged since. The centre occupies the former boy's school built in 1897 by Botterill. Son and Bilson. John Bilson was an architect and architectural historian who lived for over 40 years in a house he designed in Davenport Avenue. The Community Centre is a warm, welcoming building which provides rooms for hire at very competitive prices. Used by voluntary and community groups alike, it has kitchen facilities and



No. 19



The *Humber Bridge* (1) was opened by the Queen in 1981. It is still the longest single-span suspension bridge in the world with a central span of 4626 feet. It is worth going on to the bridge for the views of the Hesse foreshore.

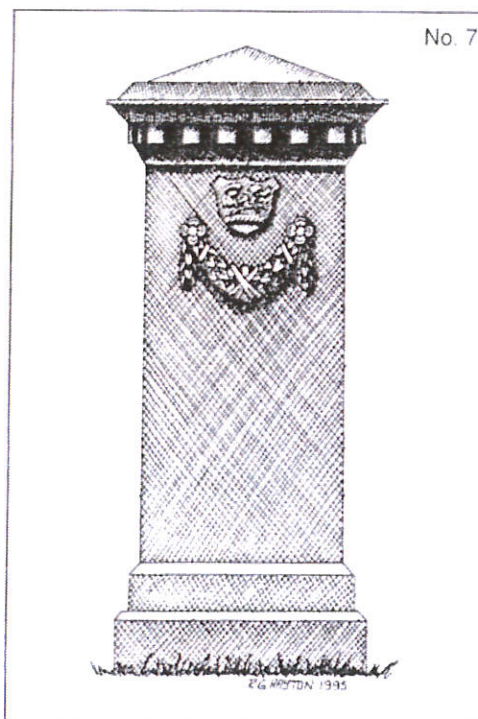
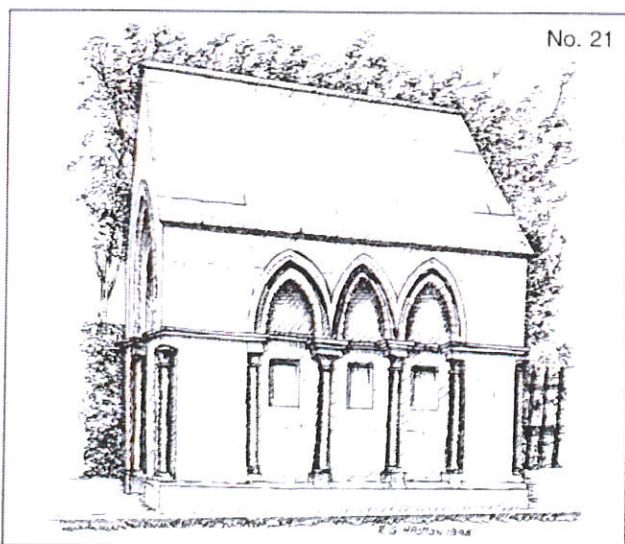
*Hesslewood Hall* (2) has good views of the Humber but was not considered as prestigious as houses further up the hill. A house at Hesslewood belonged, in 1716 to Leonard Chamberlain, Draper, of Hull and was leased in 1749 by his trustees to Robert Pease a Hull merchant - the stable block dates from his time. He was succeeded in 1770 by his nephew Joseph, during his time the house was taxed on the basis of it having 27

windows. Joseph's daughter, Mary, married Robert Robinson and their son, another Joseph took his grandfather's surname too and rebuilt the house in 1783/1789. He died in 1807 and was succeeded by yet another Joseph Pease. This last one being the J. R. Pease who the Mortuary Chapel in Hessle Cemetery was built for in 1866 Hesslewood Hall became the Hull Seaman's General Orphanage in 1920 and was converted to a Hotel and residential home in 1986.

Chalk was been quarried at Hessle Cliffs from the fourteenth century to the 1960's and was milled to produce whiting - used in the production of paints and lime for agriculture.

Hull Packet - 27.5.1807 - Hessle Cliff Stone for sale by Pinning, Ward, Wallis & Co.

Best Stone for Whiting	1s 6d per tun
Large Stone for Staithing	1s 4d



Handy Stone for lime, etc. 1s 2d  
 Small Stone for Highroads etc. 0s 7d  
 (The Admiral Hawke, with brewhouse, was for sale by auction in August 1814. The owner and occupier, Robert Pinning, was retiring after thirty years at the pub. Pinning was also a partner in the firm of Pinning, Ward, Wallis & Co., Paris White manufacturers and vendors of Cliff Stone, their partnership was dissolved in March 1815 and the business was carried on by Pinning, Ward & Co.)  
 (Admiral Edward Hawke (1705 - 1781). Defeated French in 1747 and 1759. Became first Baron Hawke. The public house is to be found in Hesse Square).

*Hesse Cliff Whiting Mill* (3) was built between 1806 and 1825 replacing an earlier horse mill. There was another, steam driven, mill to the west from the 1850's. Hessle also had a corn mill (the Providence Mill) at Northfield on the road to Anlaby and a stone crushing mill south of Hesslewood Hall

*Cliff Balk* (4) (Balk means boundary) was the site of Hessle Cliff Villa (now unfortunately demolished) residence of David Hearfield, whiting manufacturer.

Part of the Cliff to the east, known locally as *Little Switzerland* (5) has long been popular for walking and was laid out with trails from the start of this century. Together with the quarries themselves it became the Humber Bridge Country Park in 1986. A mission room, built on the Cliff, c 1865, which later became St. Mary's on the Cliff closed 1930's, used to stand near the Mill.

The site of *Hesse Cliff House* (6) on Woodfield Lane was acquired by John Gresham, Draper, of Hull in 1838/39 and by 1840 he had completed the building as it now stands and Gresham promoted the nearby railway. On the Cliff Top Lane side is a good example of a painted house-sign.

Slightly off the trail is *Tranby House* (7) on Heads Lane. Now Hessle High School it was built by John Barkworth, a Hull merchant in 1805. Like Tranby Lodge (demolished 1986, only the gateposts remain) it is to the same design as most of the large Georgian Houses around the north and west of Hessle - grey brick, two storey high and five bays wide.

The *West Hill Estate* (10) was the first purpose built residential development in Hessle. It was laid out in 1867 by a syndicate of Hull merchants who leased the land from Hull Charterhouse. Mentone house on the estate is named after a town on the French/ Italian border where James Reckitt recuperated after an illness. There were originally 4 large houses on the estate, only Mentone and Woodleigh Manor survive.

*Southfield* (8), opposite, was developed on land owned by Francis Anderson who built *Southfield House* (9) c.1838. The estate was laid out c.1868

