



interest

- P Ramsden Baths** - Opened in 1872, the baths were a gift to the town from Sir James Ramsden. In the 1980s the building's future was uncertain, but it has been re-generated and kept in use.
- Q Library** - Barrow's library was for many years housed in the Town Hall. Negotiations with the Andrew Carnegie Foundation for a separate building began in 1903. Eventually a site and arrangements were secured and work started. They were well advanced until the Great War interrupted them – hence the premature 1915 date stone above the main entrance. The building was not finally opened until 1922.
- R St Mary's Church** - Migrants from Scotland and Ireland brought with them their Catholic faith and the town's Roman Catholic Church was built in 1867, though the distinctive tower and spire were added about twenty years later.
- S Craven Park** - Craven Park is built on the northern part of the jute works site. A massive undertaking, it was opened in 1931, with the use of volunteer labour from the ranks of the unemployed and spurred on by 'The Great White Chief' – John Whinnerah, town councillor but also Rugby fanatic. The walling on the north side of Craven Park, halfway along Clive Street, seems older than 1931 and is probably from the original jute works.
- T Dock Museum** - The museum began life as a proposed private maritime museum for the Furness Maritime Trust. When this scheme failed to achieve its financial objectives, the Borough Council developed the site as a town museum. It opened in 1994 and has been continually developed since. The museum is built over the graving dock (a dry dock), which was opened in 1872.



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The Dock Museum

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Served by a car park and cycle parking, The Dock Museum is 15 minutes on foot from Barrow railway station.
Bus routes for The Dock Museum are 1, 2, 5, 6.



Discover Barrow on foot
GUIDE LEAFLET

Heart of Barrow Walk

A walk in the Central Barrow Conservation Area.

The walk will take about 1 hour to complete.



Points of interest



- A Hindpool Farm** - The Comet premises on Hollywood Park are approximately where Hindpool Farm once stood. Established in the early 16th Century, it was converted into a brass foundry in the 19th Century.
- B Tesco Site** - This area used to be heavily industrialised, with dock works, rail sidings and Caird's Foundry. Caird's established a foundry in the 1880s and took over the Furness Foundry site on Hindpool Road in the late 1890s. It was the last of Barrow's foundries to stop working, closing in 1989. Opposite, the Aldi supermarket is built on the site of the Municipal Bus Depot.
- C Custom House** - This building on the corner of Abbey Road and Hindpool Road served as a Custom House from 1873 and later as a post office. However, it was not built as a Custom House, an 1871 map and directory show it marked as 'Imperial Hotel'.
- D Congregational Church** - This chapel – now a tyre repair garage – was built in 1857 and then considerably altered in 1864. The Congregational church drew heavily on the Scottish influx into Barrow and there was seating for 520. The church was closed in 1931.
- E Laundry** - Laundry Street was named after the steam laundry, which was established over the road in about 1890 (where Homebase Garden Centre is now). It undertook commercial work and domestic cleaning for 'ladies, gentlemen, children and servants'.
- F Parade Ground** - This area was once open land. The Parade Ground probably got its name from being used by the Local Volunteers for their drills. It was a sports ground, hosting athletics, cycling, football, rugby and cricket. The ground, which stretched from Keith Street to Abbey Road, was built over in the 1890s.
- G John Whinnerah Institute** - The Council founded a Women's Institute in 1925 as an alternative to factory work or domestic service for teenage girls. Here they were trained for commercial jobs. The John Whinnerah Institute was opened in 1938 to provide purpose-built accommodation. It was named after ex-Alderman John Whinnerah, who had for many years been Chairman of the Borough's Education Committee.
- H Fire Station** - This distinctive building opposite the Institute and now a bed showroom was the town's first purpose-built Fire Station. Although the building has a 1911 date stone, it was not formally opened until 12 December 1912 (12/12/12, and not unfortunately 9 September 1909 – 9/9/9).
- I Welfare Centre** - Next to the old fire station is the Welfare Centre, built in 1934 to accommodate clinics for Maternity and Child Welfare, Ante Natal and Birth Control, Toddlers Clinic and an Orthopedic Clinic. These were the lynchpins of a determined drive by the Borough's Medical Officer of Health to reduce infant mortality and childhood diseases.
- J Ramsden Square** - Developed in the late 1860s and 1870s, Ramsden Square signified a move away from the old heart of Barrow near St George's. The Ramsden Statue was erected in 1872. It stands on a raised dome, created by building up layers of slag waste from the ironworks. The statue used to face west. It was turned round on its pedestal in 1891 so that Ramsden's back would not be turned to a visiting royal party driving from the station along Abbey Road towards the square.
- K Dalkeith Street** - On the eastern corner of Dalkeith Street, where it meets Abbey Road, used to stand the Methodist New Connexion Church, also known as Christ Church. It was built in 1875 and badly damaged in bombing in 1941. It was demolished in 1952 and a new Christ Church erected two years later at Beacon Hill, off Friars Lane. Behind the church stood the Trevelyan Hotel, which was destroyed during the bombing of 1941.
- L Furness Railway Pub** - The strength of the Victorian and Edwardian Cooperative movement in Barrow can be judged by the size of the Old Co-operative Buildings, built in 1889 and now the Furness Railway Pub.
- M Oxford Chambers and Duke of Edinburgh** - Oxford Chambers were built as speculative commercial buildings in 1875. They were converted in 1880 to a Higher Grade School, that is, open to children from the age of 7. In November 1881 'Boss' Harris arrived as head, a position he kept for 40 years. His policy, according to the school history, was "to build Christian gentlemen, if necessary by whacking them into decency". The school moved to Duke Street in 1889.
- The Duke of Edinburgh (now The Duke) was opened in 1873 in a location some way from the heart of Victorian Barrow. The Central Station, which one would have thought would have been its attraction, did not in fact open until 1882.
- N Baptist Church and Waverley Hotel** - It is one of those quirks of local history sent to confuse us that the bombing of Abbey Road in 1941 accounted for two sets of churches and hotels. One set was the Christ Church and Trevelyan. The other was the Baptist Church and Waverley Hotel, now the site of Coronation Gardens. The Baptist Church was opened in 1873 on land provided by the Duke of Devonshire. In the early hours of 16 April 1941 German bombing all but destroyed the church and the Reverend Gilbert Mason and Eric Davis, who were on the roof fire-watching, were killed. A new church was opened on Park Drive in 1953.
- O Technical School** - This grand building, on the corner of Abbey Road and Bath Street, has now been re-generated after years of neglect and is used for art workshops, studios and the like. It was opened in 1903 as the Technical College. The shape of the building is slightly irregular, missing an eastern gable. This was the result of the bombing which so badly damaged Christ Church opposite. The building is now known as the Nan Tait Centre.



Heart of Barrow Walk

The walk begins at The Dock Museum (1) car park on North Road. Cross over North Road turn left and walk towards the roundabout (2). At the roundabout turn right along Hindpool Road, go across the Tesco roundabout (3) and stop opposite the tyre depot (4).

HINDPOOL FARM, TESCO SITE, CUSTOM HOUSE, CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LAUNDRY.



Cross over Hindpool Road, go down Laundry Street (5), then go left to join Abbey Road (6). Turn right and walk towards Ramsden Square (7). PARADE GROUND, JOHN WHINNERAH INSTITUTE, FIRE STATION, WELFARE CENTRE.

Cross over Ramsden Square on its right edge to stand in front of the bank. Then proceed around the corner and along the south side of Abbey Road, past the junctions with Dalkeith Street and Dalton Road, finally reaching The Duke Hotel (8).

RAMSDEN SQUARE, DALKEITH STREET, FURNESS RAILWAY PUB, OXFORD CHAMBERS AND DUKE HOTEL.

Cross over to the northern side of Abbey Road and walk back to Ramsden Square.

BAPTIST CHURCH AND WAVERLEY HOTEL, TECHNICAL SCHOOL, RAMSDEN BATHS.

Pass in front of the library (9), turning right into the northern extension of Duke Street. At the end of the church grounds, cross over Duke Street and

walk towards the rugby ground (10). Walk round the rugby ground until halfway along Clive Street. LIBRARY, ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRAVEN PARK.

Continue along Clive Street (11), then cross over the main road and return to the Dock Museum. DOCK MUSEUM.



Dock Museum