

CINDERFORD TOWN TRAIL

a discovery walk

Our Town Trail was created by local school pupils researching the history and culture of Cinderford.

The trail follows some of the discoveries that these young people made and is designed to share the treasures that they uncovered with other children, families, residents and visitors.

1. The trail starts at the **Library** and is marked by the first sculpture called *Map*.

The Trail takes you from the library to the Triangle.

2. Palace Cinema – 1909. One of Britain’s oldest purpose-built cinemas. Look up to see the mural of the Forest of Dean miners up on the wall above the Bakery.
3. At **the Triangle** you will see the sculpture of a Forest of Dean Freemaner and the War Memorial.

From the Triangle walk out along **Commercial Street** towards the Soldiers & Sailors Club.

4. Arrow – This marker faces you on the curve of the building and points you in the direction of Church Road.

Continuing along **Church Road** you will pass:

5. The Baptist Chapel - 1865
6. The Nags Head has fine views across the Forest towards Ruardean and beyond.
7. The Methodist Chapel – 1805

Turn right at the corner shop & into **St. John’s Square**.

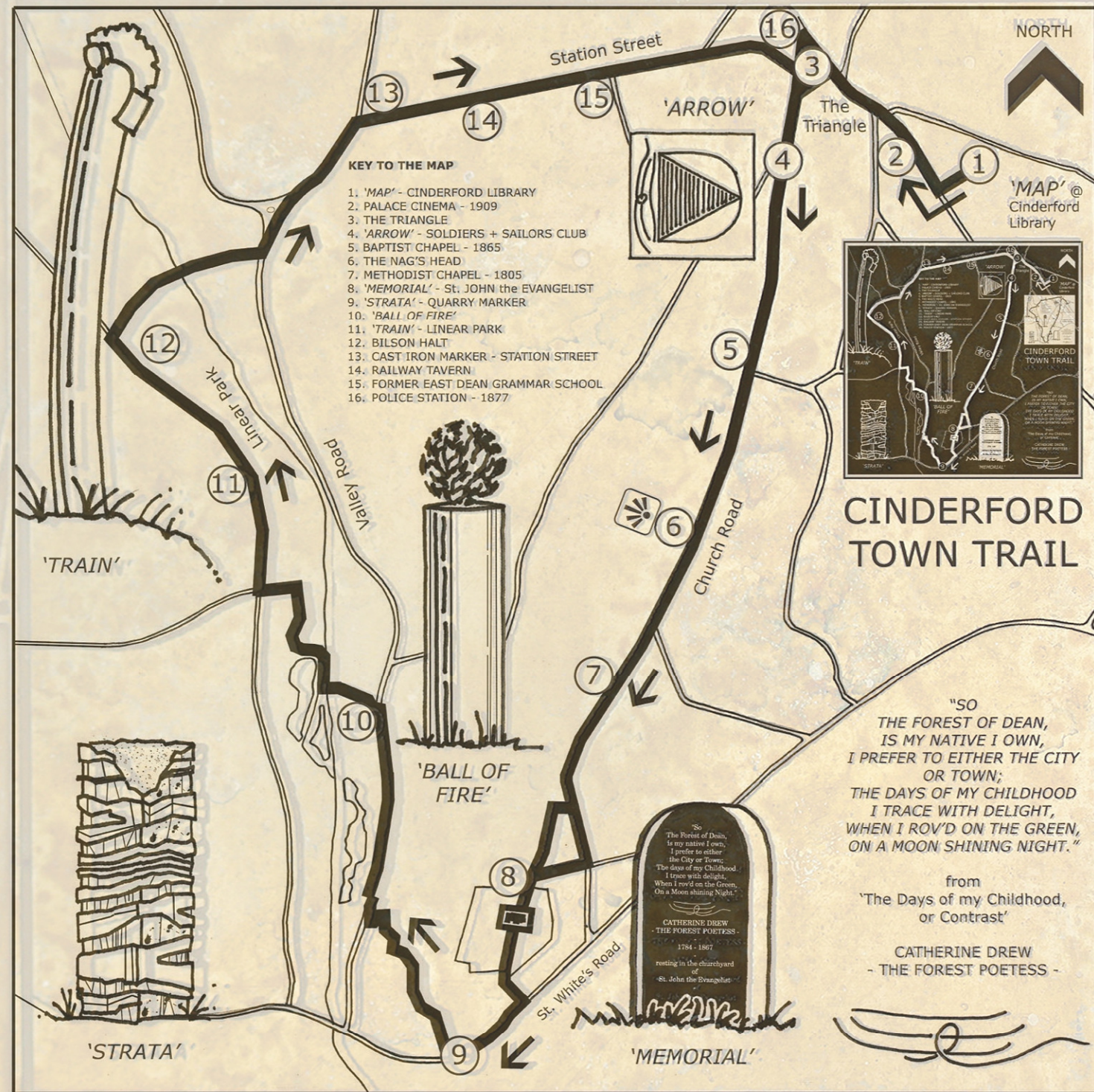
8. *Memorial* – located at **St. John the Evangelist church**. Walk through the churchyard past Cinderford’s first school, built in 1840 by mine owner, Edward Protheroe.

9. *Strata* – marks the route from **St. White’s Road** via a former quarry and down onto **Valley Road**.

10. *Ball of Fire* - located at the entrance to **Linear Park** from Valley Road. Note the remnant cinders close by.
11. *Train* - located on the former railway embankment.
12. Bilson Halt.

13. An old Cast Iron Marker at **Station Street**.
14. The Railway Tavern is the last remaining clue that there was a station here. The Gloucester to Cinderford line closed in 1958.
15. The old East Dean Grammar School. Former pupils include Sir Archibald Russell (British aerospace engineer who helped create Concorde) and Dame Muriel Powell (the most famous nurse in Britain since WW1).
16. Victorian Police Station - 1877.

At the top of the hill you will emerge back at **the Triangle** where you can take a rest on the seats carved with sayings in Forest dialect.



The route is a three-mile circuit along which you will experience some of the rich heritage of Cinderford.

En route you will also encounter six unique sculptures that identify important features of our town and encourage you to pause for thought.

The trail starts at the Library where crayons and paper are available to make your own brass rubbing map.

The trail takes approximately 90 minutes to complete. For further information, including library opening hours, please visit www.fdean.gov.uk/go/towntrail



About the Sculptures:

The family of six distinctive sculptures help to mark the route of the trail. They provide clues to Cinderford's past and were influenced by the research and imagination of local school children.

Map invites visitors to make their own brass rubbing map of the trail.

Arrow is a directional relief plate mounted onto the wall of the Soldiers & Sailors Club.

Memorial is a cast iron memorial to Catherine Drew, the Forest Poetess, located adjacent to the entrance to churchyard of St. John the Evangelist.

Strata is a textural marker that reflects local geology and references the presence of a former quarry.

Ball of Fire symbolises the town's industrial heritage.

Train offers a gentle reminder of past railway activity in Cinderford and the Forest.

Special thanks to:

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the Soldiers & Sailors Club

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HIGHWAYS
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