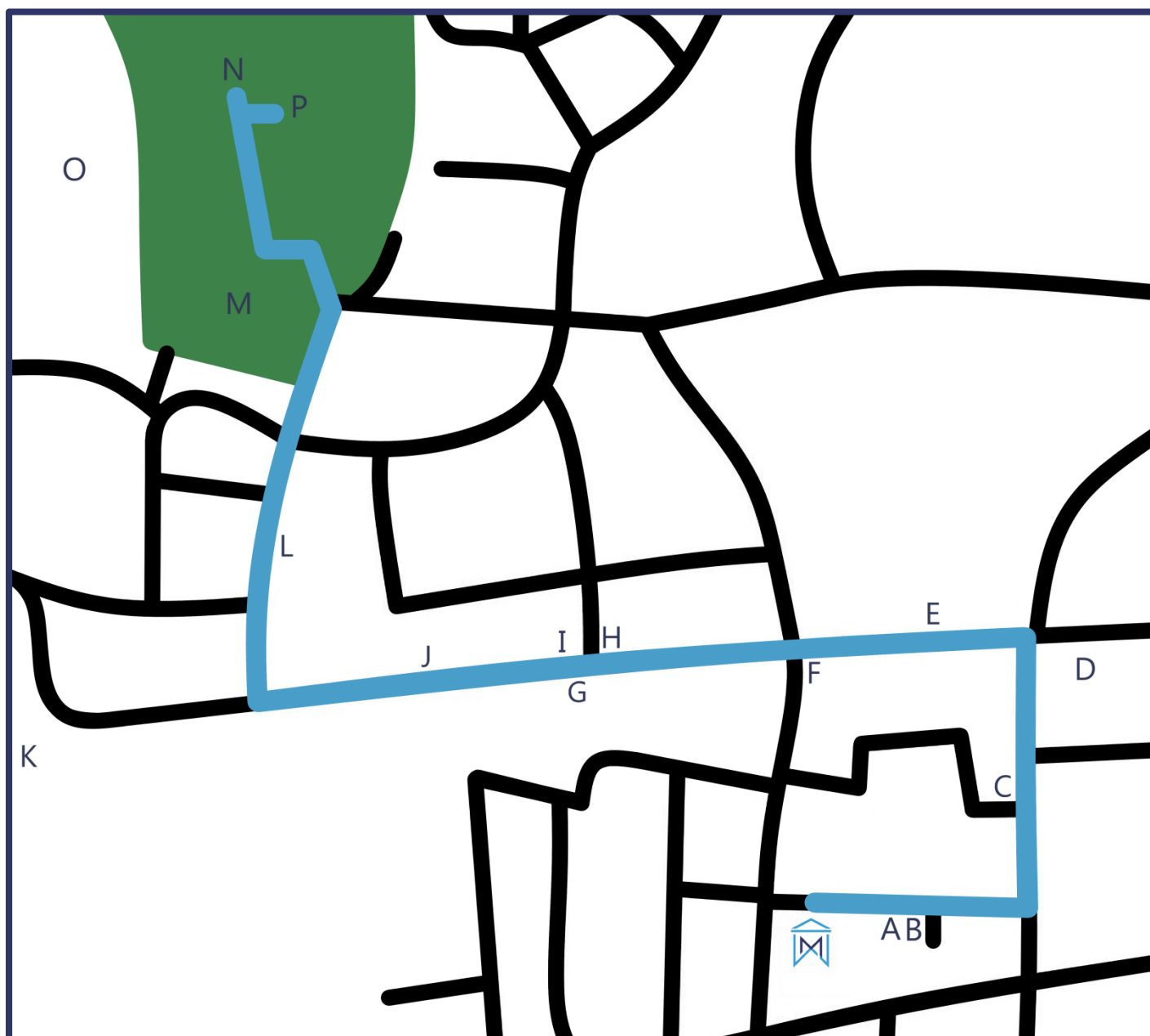




Know Your Place is an effective online resource for discovering the background to this trail. You can explore old maps and view photographs of historic sites that may no longer exist or may have changed use. There is a dedicated Learning Pack on the website, available to download as a PDF, which is designed to support Know Your Place as a tool for local history and local heritage learning. The pack includes guidance on using digital maps; navigating the website; understanding the history of your school and the area around it; exploring the local area, landscape and landmarks, and place. For further information, please go to www.kypwest.org.uk/learning-pack.

Along the trail route you will see many buildings that have changed use over time. The purpose of the trail is to encourage children to observe, question, and think about change. It takes approximately 60 minutes to complete, and is mostly on level ground. Each child will require a pencil and clipboard. Weather-appropriate footwear and clothing should be worn.

THE TRAIL ROUTE



ON THE TRAIL

TEACHER'S NOTES

1. Stand outside the museum, which has occupied this building since 1975. As can be seen by the words carved on the front, it was originally the Gaslight Company's workshops and stores. Do the children know what gaslight was? (A form of artificial lighting in use before the introduction of electricity)



Facing the museum, turn to your left and walk to the end of Burlington Street. Just beyond the museum building is Clara's Cottage **A**. Part of the museum, this is a Victorian terraced house decorated and furnished as it would have been in 1901 when Clara Payne and her family moved in. Next door is number 9 **B**, built in 1866 as a Methodist chapel and recently converted into a house.

2. Turn left onto Alfred Street and walk up to the Lambretta Museum **C** (no. 77) on the corner with Prospect Place. Can the children see the words on the stone arch above the brown door? This is the former Christ Church Parish Hall. The hall was a mission room and meeting room for parishioners of Christ Church, and was also used at one time as a dining hall by the pupils from Christ Church School.

3. Across the road is Weston's original General Hospital **D**. The building directly facing you is the oldest part, and dates from 1865. The complex of buildings behind was opened in 1928, forming the Queen Alexandra Memorial Hospital. The hospital closed in 1986, and moved to its new site at Uphill. These buildings are now flats.



Continue to the top of Alfred Street and turn left onto The Boulevard. Boulevard is a French word meaning a wide street in a town or city, usually lined with trees. Weston's Boulevard, today lined with cherry trees, was laid out in 1860.



4. Stop outside the Zen restaurant, with the exotic stone creatures either side of the door. Look across The Boulevard to the large block of flats. This was the site of The Tivoli **E**, one of Weston's cinemas, which was destroyed by bombs during World War II. Explain that when you see a modern building among older ones in Weston, it is often because an older building that once stood there was destroyed by bombs. Can the children think of other reasons why buildings disappear and are replaced by new ones?

5. Continue along The Boulevard until you come to the building at the junction with Orchard Street, which is a former Methodist chapel **F** built in 1875-76. Look up above the ground floor. Can the children see the top of the arch that formed the original entrance, and the outline of the large arched window higher up?

6. Cross over Orchard Street and walk along The Boulevard until you reach the Weston Mercury offices **G**. This building dates from 1885, and was designed by local architect Hans Price. Ask the children to give the thumbs up when they have found the carved dragons holding shields (they are to the left and right of the Funeral Directors sign). **Question 1 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.**

7. With the Mercury offices behind you, look across the road to the building on the corner. This was originally the St Kew Masonic Lodge **H**. Built in 1881, it is another building designed by Hans Price and is now the Constitutional Club. There is a statue of St Kew above the door on the side of the building. The statue is of a man but the actual St Kew is thought to have been a woman. Can the children guess which local village is named after her (Kewstoke)? The tower originally had a wooden turret on top. Does the tower remind the children of other types of building (e.g. castles)?



8. Across Waterloo Street from the Mercury building is the United Reformed Church **I** with its tall green spire. Completed in 1959, this building replaced the Congregational Church which was built in 1876 and destroyed in World War II.



9. Walk on a little further, and look across the road again at the Waterloo Gospel Hall **J**. Ask the children to put hands on heads when they have spotted the date on the building (1877).

10. Continue walking along Waterloo Street until you reach the traffic lights by the Italian Gardens. If you look straight ahead you can see the Royal Hotel **K**, Weston's first hotel. It opened in 1810, when Weston was still a small fishing village, and to begin with was known only as The Hotel.

Cross over at the traffic lights, and head up High Street towards Grove Park.

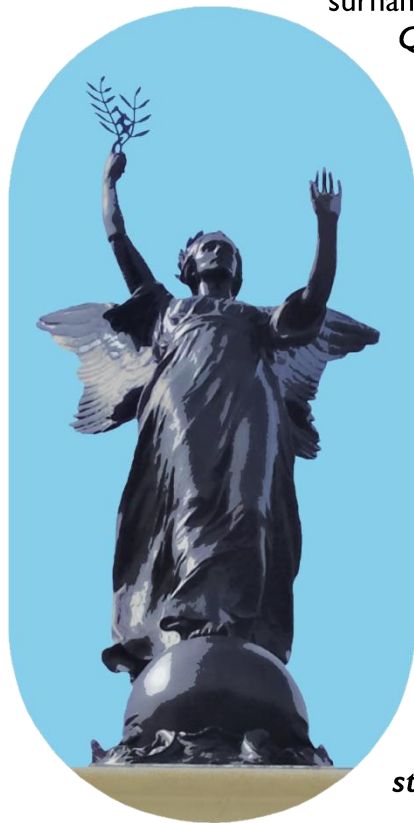
Walk past the Playhouse Theatre **L**, which opened in 1969 after the original theatre was destroyed by fire in 1964. Weston's market hall stood on this site from the mid-19th century, before its conversion into the original Playhouse in 1946.

11. Walk into Grove Park. The bandstand **M** was built in 1890, just before the park was opened to the public. This area was the site of the earliest settlement in Weston. There is archaeological evidence of a farming community dating back to at least the Iron Age (800BC – 100AD, before the Romans). **Question 2 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.**



12. Walk up towards the war memorials **N**. The bronze statue of Victory was erected in 1922 and commemorates 402 Weston men who died serving in the armed forces during the First World War, also known as the Great War. Look at the names on the memorial: do any of the children have the same surnames? The statue is holding an olive branch, a symbol of peace.

Question 3 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.



This part of Grove Park is a War Memorial Garden. Many of these gardens were created after the First World War, as places for people to enjoy after the horrors of war. The War Memorial Garden includes the rock gardens further up the park to the left. There was a small quarry here in Victorian times; the changes to the layout of Grove Park can be seen by using the historic maps on Know Your Place.

13. Walk around the statue and go up the steps to the memorial which commemorates 186 members of the armed forces and 113 civilians who died during the Second World War. Apart from permanent memorials, how else do we remember the fallen (poppies, wreaths and wooden crosses are good examples)?

Look at the plaque with Weston's coat of arms which was in use between 1928 and 1960. The motto Ever Forward is still used today. The figures either side of the shield – known as Supporters – are a fisherman and an Ancient Briton. **Question 4 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.**

14. Go back to the statue of Victory. To the right you can see a view of St John's Parish Church **O**. Most of the original medieval church was demolished in 1824, as it was too small for Weston's growing population, and replaced with the building you see now.

15. Turn left at the statue and go towards the grey stone building. This is all that is left of Grove House **P**, the former home of the Smyth-Pigotts who were Lords of the Manor of Weston from 1696 – 1941. They owned a large amount of land in the area, and were important figures locally. The house's grounds became Grove Park in 1891, and the house was also given to the town in 1893. Grove House was badly damaged by bombs during the Second World War and most of it was demolished. The surviving part is used by Weston Town Council as offices and the Mayor's Parlour. **Question 5 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.**

Congratulations, you have completed the trail! We hope you have enjoyed your walk around part of old Weston. **Question 6 on the trail worksheet relates to this stopping point.**

You can find out more about the history of Weston-super-Mare by going to the Know Your Place website <http://www.kypwest.org.uk/>