

Swannington Heritage Trust

Walk 1 – Main Street Dash – 1.5 miles/2 km

For all abilities (Walking on pavements). 1 hour duration.

Discover the history of the village Main Street

Aristocracy

Bull baiting, butchery and tanning

Early Mining

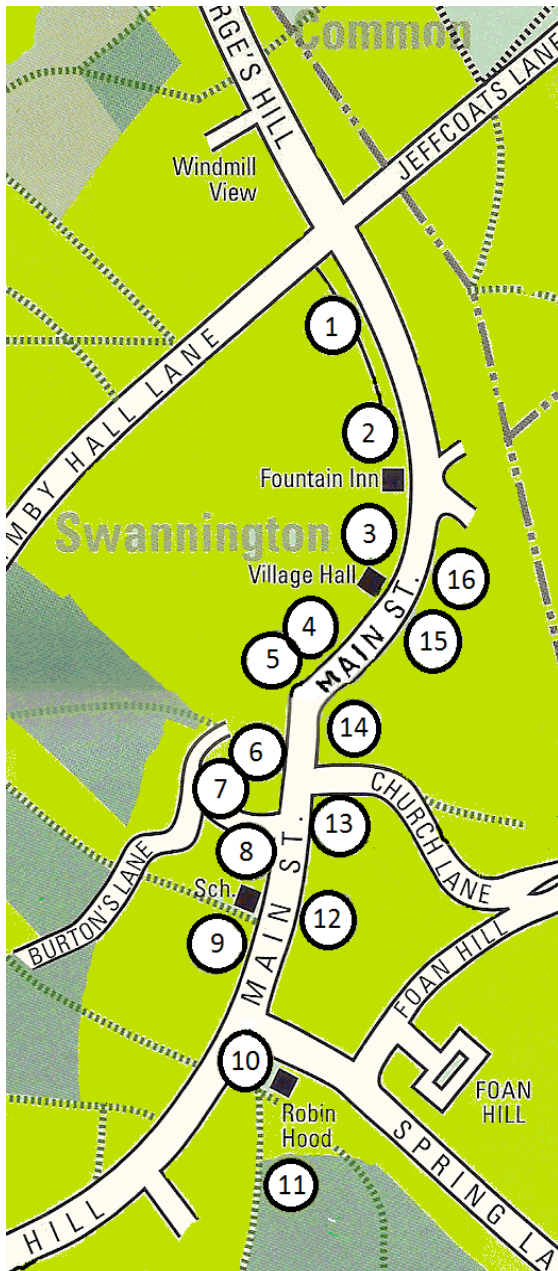
Farming

Possibly the most expensive take-away

Quaker Sufferings

Transportation

Wyggeston's Hospital



- 1 Horse drawn Tram Road
- 2 Fountain Inn
- 3 Village Hall
- 4 Bulls Head Inn
- 5 Stone House
- 6 Atkins Winery & Spirits Dealer
- 7 Burton Lane
- 8 New Methodist Chapel
- 9 Swannington CoE School
- 10 Village Sign
- 11 The Robin Hood Inn
- 12 Centre Farm
- 13 Quaker Smithy
- 14 Manor House
- 15 Site Railway Inn and Tan Yard
- 16 Site of Dower House



1. Horse drawn Tram Road – The Califat (Coleorton No 2) Colliery operated from 1855-1873 to the west of St. George's Hill. There were three sets of rails at the Califat which merged and went behind the Fountain Inn then across Main Street to the bottom of the Incline to join the Leicester and Swannington Railway.
 2. Fountain Inn – A former 19th century Colliery Proprietor's house, long since became a public house that once had a tennis club in the grounds.
 3. Village Hall – Wyggeston Hospital provided the land in 1931 for the Miners Institute which was taken over by the Parish Council in 1949.
 4. Bulls Head Inn – The inn closed in 1969 and is now a private residence. The inn style bay windows are still a significant feature.
 5. Stone House – One of the oldest houses in the village, possibly built on the site of the former Grange.
 6. Atkins Winery & Spirits Dealer – Next to the Stone House is the former grocers shop. They also sold gunpowder which they kept stored in various magazines in the fields.
 7. Burtons Lane – One of the village's green lanes used to take midden waste to the fields, it takes its name from a long established farming family. The Burton family were involved with the building of the Old Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. The Rev. Henry Burton laid the foundation stone of the new chapel in 1908.
 8. New Methodist Chapel – The Wesleyan Chapel opened in 1909 then became the Methodist Chapel when the Wesleyans and Primitive Methodists merged. It closed in 1998 and is a private residence.
 9. Swannington Church of England School - Wyggeston Hospital provided the land in 1861 for the school which opened with 108 pupils in 1862. The two storey school house became part of the school in 2005.
 10. Village Sign – A 1997 National Forest Company funded walk through building with hand carved hardwood panels of village scenes.
 11. Robin Hood Inn – The "Robin Hood and Little John" was built in the 19th century to replace a thatch roofed inn that was destroyed by fire.
 12. Centre Farm – One of the oldest farms in Swannington.
 13. Quaker Smithy – The two sides of Church Lane were the centre of a Quaker Community in the 17th and 18th centuries. The tablet on the wall marks the marriage of Edward Muggleston to Priscilla Moseley in 1706.
 14. Manor House – William Talbot was Lord of the Manor in 1278. After the manor was bought by William Wyggeston in 1520 to provide an income for his hospital for the poor in Leicester, the Court Room was used for the Court Baron and Court Leet.
 15. Site Railway Inn and Tan Yard – The Railway Inn was built in 1832 as a booking office and inn for the Leicester and Swannington railway. Demolished in 1958 the site next to the post box is empty.
 16. Site of Dower House – The Dowager Lady Beaumont lived in Swannington House which eventually succumbed to subsidence. Replaced in 1983 by 4 detached brick houses set back from the road.
- More information on these buildings and other historical sites in the village are included in the Swannington Village Trail booklet published by Swannington Heritage Trust.

Walks are downloadable on www.swannington-heritage.co.uk.