

Places of interest in and around St Ives

1 The carved boulder:

Hollowed out in the shape of a coffin, but that is unlikely to have been its purpose. It has stone steps to the side and a group of standing stones near the top. Its origins and true function are unknown.



2 Home Farm:

Originally a tenanted farm, it now houses a café and private residence. Adjacent buildings contained a mill with two stone wheels for grinding corn. The field behind hosted an annual cricket match, villagers versus Ferrands.

3 Coach house: Built in 1906, it now houses part of the Sports Turf Research Institute. In the outside wall of the barn between the Coach House and Home Farm there are two stones engraved with initials and dates. Such stones were often salvaged and reused during building work.

4 Ice house: Many believe this low gabled building was an ice house, used in the nineteenth century to store ice from Coppice Pond in winter for preserving food. Ice houses generally were built underground, whereas this one has a large exposed roof which would have rendered it less effective. It is now used as a pumping station. The actual ice house is north of this building.

5 Golf course and cottages: Established as a nine-hole course in 1931, and extended to 18 in 1935. The two cottages adjacent to the 18th tee were originally the clubhouse. The woodland alongside the 8th fairway is reputedly where casualties of the Civil War skirmish were buried.

6 Pylons: From 1935 the national grid was established to ensure security of supply nation-wide and end local power cuts. These pylons link Lancashire and Yorkshire power stations.

7 Druids' Altar: Allegedly the scene of human sacrifice in ancient times although there is no evidence for this. Its grandeur and location probably gave rise to its fanciful title, with its wonderful view of Bingley and the Aire Valley. Victorian Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli used it in his novel "Sybil" as a setting for a meeting of revolutionary trade unionists.

8 Pheasant rearing: Near the 12th, 13th and 14th fairways are traces of the pens where pheasant were reared for shooting parties.

9 Home Guard hut: During WWII the local Home Guard met here. They were often called out to search for enemy parachutists supposedly being dropped on Harden Moor.

10 Fairfax Entrenchments: Reputedly, in the early 1640s during the English Civil War, General Fairfax, a Yorkshireman and Oliver Cromwell's Second-in-Command, was surprised by Royalists on his way to lay siege to Skipton Castle. The stone table at which the General sat to list his casualties is now preserved in Harden Memorial Hall.

11 Obelisk and Lady Blantyre's Rock: The obelisk commemorates William Ferrand, MP for Knarborough 1841-1847, and his campaigning on behalf of oppressed workers and the poor, particularly opposing the repeal of the Corn Laws. He was instrumental in abolishing the truck system which allowed employers to pay workers in tokens that could be redeemed only in the company's own shop, often at inflated prices.

A stone tablet commemorates Lady Fanny Mary Stuart Blantyre, who became Mr Ferrand's second wife in 1847, and loved the view from this spot. With her husband she was responsible for planting 400 acres of woodland.

12 Coppice Pond: Used as a boating lake by the Ferrand family. There was a stone-built boathouse at one end with ornate crenulated gables, of which only the inlet and part of the footings survive.

13 Ornamental bridge: This is neither a packhorse nor a drovers' bridge, but a pre Victorian folly, a fashionable way of decorating one's estate with imitations of historic buildings.

14 The old manor house: Probably the oldest building on the estate, built in 1636 by Robert Ferrand, a cloth merchant. An old stone beacon dominates one end of the roof. The attached cottage may have been licensed for Protestant Dissenters' worship in the 1720s.

15 The mansion: Home of the Ferrand family, it was erected, altered and then enlarged at least twice in the early 1800s. The family owned two homes in Harden, called St Ives and Harden Grange. In 1859 the names were exchanged, the present Harden Grange being in the valley on the other side of the Harden to Bingley road.

St Ives

St Ives has a wealth of beautiful and interesting features including Druids' Altar, Baxter's Pond, Betty's and St Ives Lodges and The Old Manor House to name just a few.



To help you get the most out of your visit we have chosen three walks that should give you an excellent flavour of St Ives Estate. All the walks are circular and can be started at any point. Using the interconnecting paths it is possible to create your own routes within the estate.

The walks vary in distance and they each have their own attractions. The times for completion of the walks are approximate. Why not take longer and spend some time discovering more about this historic estate?

How to get there



By Bus

Catch the 616 from Bradford Interchange or the 727 or the 729 from Keighley Bus Station to Harden.

By Car

Follow A650 to Bingley then take the B6429 Harden Road to St Ives Estate.

For more information on St Ives Estate please contact

Trees and Woodland Manager

Tel: 01274 434826

General Enquires

Tel: 01274 437789

Or visit the website

www.bradforddistrictparks.org



Walks in Parks and Woodlands

Produced in Association with
The Friends Of St Ives

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St Ives Estate
Three routes around
St Ives taking in
historic features of the
estate.



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Versions of an inscription on the rear of the mansion are also found on the Grange, Leeds Metropolitan University, Headingley, Leeds and Bemerton Rectory near Salisbury.

The present St Ives remained home to the Ferrands until the whole estate was sold in 1927 to Bingley Urban District Council for £39,500.

The house was divided into flats and function rooms, golf club and Sports Turf Research Institute premises. The present St Ives mansion is currently used as a unit for young disabled people.

16 Old beech tree: This magnificent purple beech was planted about 1890 and is now coming to the end of its natural life.

17 Water garden and pond: Made for the Ferrand family but overgrown since the 1950s. Water flowed from the pond behind the mansion. The garden consisted of a series of ponds, waterfalls and streamlets leading to the so-called fish pond, now a swamp.

18 Cuckoo Nest cottages: Apparently built for the gamekeeper, curiously it had a large cellar with leaded glass windows and individual masons' marks on the stonework. Later converted to cottages for estate workers.

19 Baxter's Pond: Originally collecting surface water from Home Farm, it silted up and filled with leaves over the years. Bradford MDC began cleaning it in 2001.

20 Kennels and garden: The kennels housed the Ferrands' hunting hounds. Hunts took place on Harden Moor and were attended by the Ferrands' aristocratic friends. The adjoining gardens provided produce for the estate.

21 Lodges: Situated east to west at each end of the road through the estate they are named Betty's and St Ives Lodge (also known as Beckie's Lodge) respectively.

22 Commemorative woodland: £22,000 was donated by local people and organisations to the BradfordCAN Appeal towards cancer research and treatment, with a proportion to meet the cost of the trees. A plaque in the wood lists those commemorated. The trees are a mixture of oak, rowan and birch, and almost encircle a disused reservoir.

23 The Ferrands Oak: Following a disastrous York Minster fire an appeal was launched for suitable oaks to rebuild the south transept. The magnificent Ferrands Oak was donated in 1985, a plaque marks its original location. Weighing 12.5 tons, how it was transported to York is another story!

24 Sports Turf Research Institute: Founded in 1929, it was originally housed in the mansion until the 1980s when it moved into the present building. The Institute advised the Aztec Stadium in Mexico for the Olympic Games and the World Cup, and is consulting for the new Wembley Stadium. Other clients include royal palaces, Royal Ascot and Wimbledon.

Want to know more? Look out for the forthcoming illustrated booklet about St Ives, its people, wild life and history, including more memories, suggestions for further reading, activities and lots of beautiful photographs. Join the Friends of St Ives (subscription only £5 for individuals) and get a copy of the booklet at a discount price!

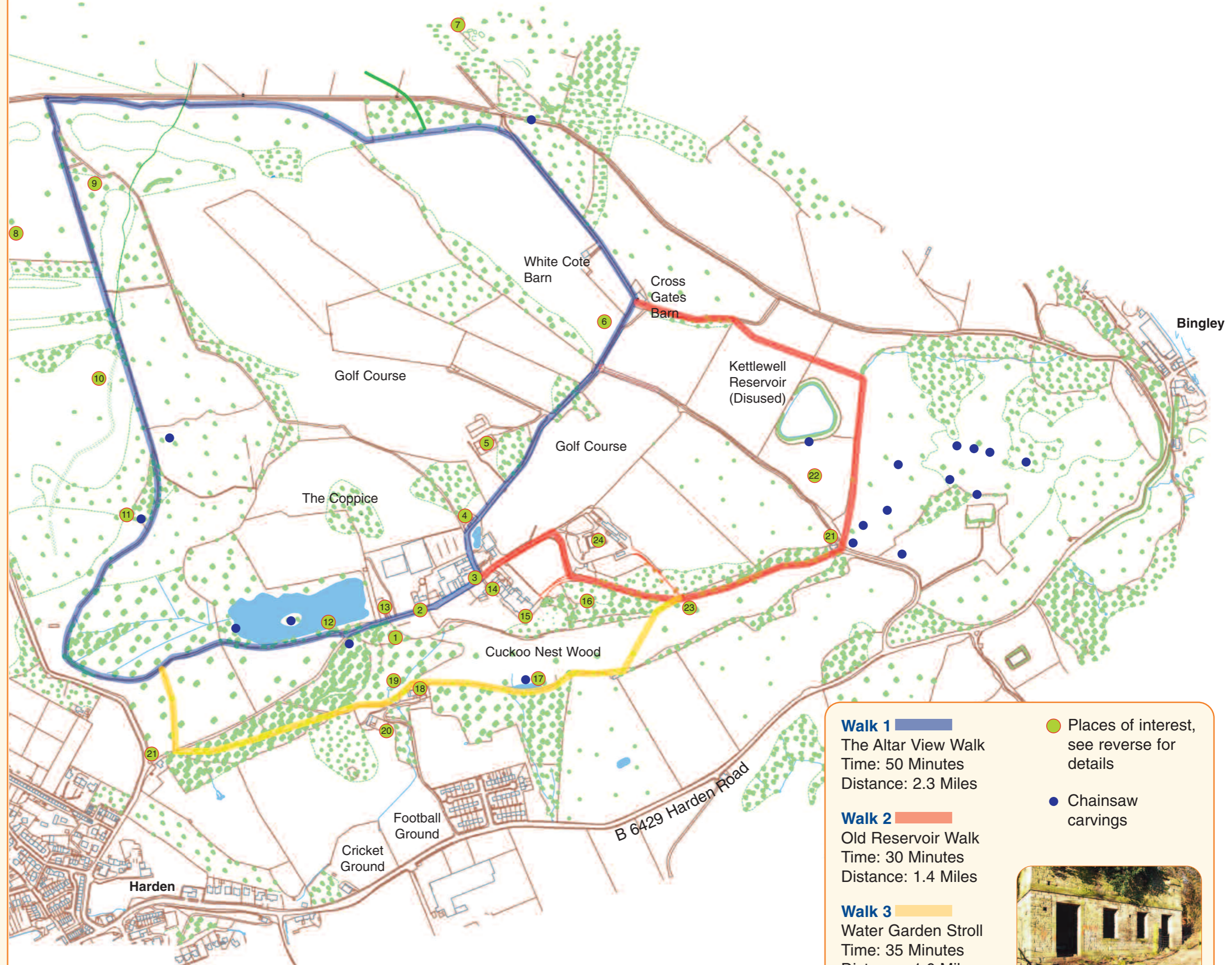
Can you find?

Hidden in various locations around St Ives Estate are mysterious wood carvings. Can you find them all?



St Ives Estate

- 8 "My father was the estate manager and he and I used to take buckets of feed to the pheasant chicks before they were big enough to be released on to the moor."
Donald Copland, born 1927.
- 12 "On Whit Mondays we had a Sunday School treat at the field behind Coppice Pond. Mr Ferrand's son provided and served tea and currant buns. There was a punt on the pond and we'd kick a ball into the water so the punt would have to be taken out to rescue it. It never rained. Aye, they were happy days then."
Jack Ingham, born 1923.
- 15 "On VE Day we had a holiday from war work at the General Electric Company. I took my bicycle and sat in the sunshine under the tree, a place of complete peace and tranquility."
Fay Kramrisch.
- 16 "Around 1917 I went on a Workers' Educational Association summer ramble to St Ives with my parents. We were courteously received by Mr William Ferrand himself who, sitting in his drawing room, told us about the history of St Ives. The high walls made the estate seem to me a kind of Bluebeard's castle but the kindly Mr Ferrand did not seem like an ogre at all!"
Frank Walbank, born 1909.
- "When my mother was about 16, in the early 1920s, she was working long hours every day in the St Ives mansion laundry. Washing was done in cast iron boilers and big items were wrung out in a huge mangle consisting of a trolley fitted with rollers and filled with stones. With the aid of a pulley above, the trolley was hauled over the soaking wet washing by the workers. For ironing she used two flat irons; one heating up on the boiler hearth whilst the other was in use."
Marjorie Copland, born 1930.
- "We had our wedding reception at the mansion in 1969. It was a beautiful day and we walked by the blossoming rhododendrons around the lily pond."
Anne Smith, born 1944.
- 17 "In the 1930s Mrs Chapman, a widowed schoolteacher who lived in the mansion, tended the water garden and spent a lot of money on it. She used to sit there in summer wearing her straw hat."
Donald Copland, born 1927.
- 19 "People just started referring to it as Baxter's Pond because I worked on it. I was really pleased when they said they were going to name it after me."
John Baxter, born 1949.
- 21 "My parents, Arthur and Amy Beckie, moved into the St Ives Lodge in 1928/9. It had an earth closet but no running water, gas or electricity. We had a bath put in the kitchen when the water was laid on."
Nora West, born Beckie 1919.



Walk 1 The Altar View Walk
Time: 50 Minutes
Distance: 2.3 Miles

Walk 2 Old Reservoir Walk
Time: 30 Minutes
Distance: 1.4 Miles

Walk 3 Water Garden Stroll
Time: 35 Minutes
Distance: 1.6 Miles

Places of interest, see reverse for details

Chainsaw carvings

