

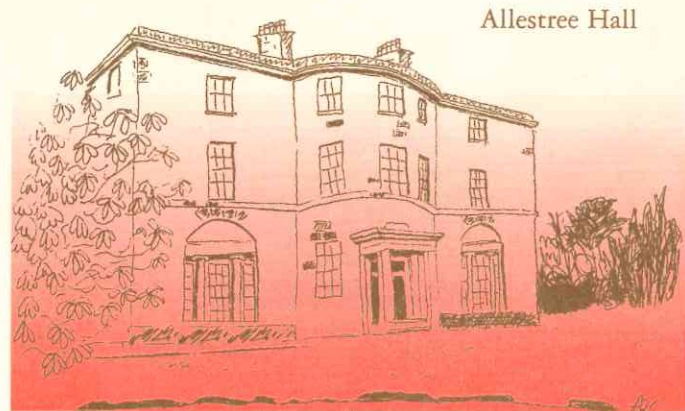
## The Village of Allestree

**A**llestree, in the Domesday Book called Adelardstreu (Adelard's Tree), was originally a 'Berewick' or small hamlet belonging to the Manor of Markeaton. Today it is a pleasant suburb of Derby having gradually expanded from a farming community to a self contained village with its own craftsmen. By the mid 19th century a large number of villagers were employed at the cotton mills in Darley Abbey owned by the Evans family. This walk is centred around the old section of the village, now a conservation area and takes about an hour to complete.

### Allestree Village Walk

**1.** The village walk starts at the Evergreen Club car park. Please park away from the building.

**2.** Walk through the gate at the top of the car park, bear left and continue for 100 yards for a scenic view of Allestree park. Allestree Hall, a grade 2 listed building, can be seen in the distance commanding a panoramic view of the lake and woodlands. The hall was constructed around 1805 on open farmland and remains of the original ridge and furrow cultivation are still evident. In its short history the hall has been home to the Evans, the Gisborne, the Raphael and the Johnson families. During the Second World War it served as home for a detachment of the Sherwood Foresters and subsequently the National Fire Service. The building is currently in the process of restoration.



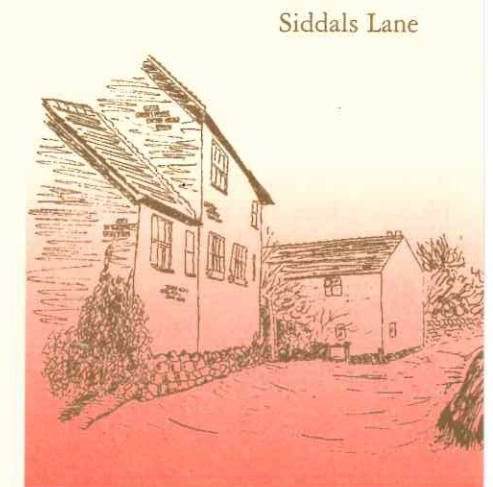
Allestree Hall

**3.** Return and walk through the car park emerging on Cornhill. In the wall of Laburnum cottage which lies to the left as you leave the car park, can be seen the remains of a fire place exposed when half of the original 17th century cottage was demolished.

**4.** Turning left walk with care along Cornhill to the village pump. This is the best preserved of Allestree's wells, having been re-clad in 1975, but it is probably 19th century cast iron with a sandstone block. The cottages behind the pump date from the late 18th century. This area was the original centre of village life.

**5.** Cornhill now becomes Park Lane, a 'hollow way', so called because constant usage over centuries has created a sunken road. It is said to have been part of the Portway, an ancient trail from Little Eaton, over the Derwent at Ford Lane to Mackworth and beyond. Some of the cottages on the left are built on the stone foundations of earlier dwellings. Outside number 42 is an ornate recess type mud-scraper. On the right, up Siddals Lane, can be seen two more cottages built on old stone foundations. The high wall on the left was the boundary of the Hall grounds. Continue down Park Lane where in a cottage garden high up on the right can be seen what is said to be a stone pinnacle from St. Mary de Pratis Nunnery Derby, which was destroyed during The Reformation.

**6.** A small detour up The Poplars is rewarded by the sight of Poplar and Jubilee Cottages, a row of Victorian dwellings built in 1893. Notice the iron finials on the roof, the decorative brickwork under the bargeboard and the substantial front doorways.

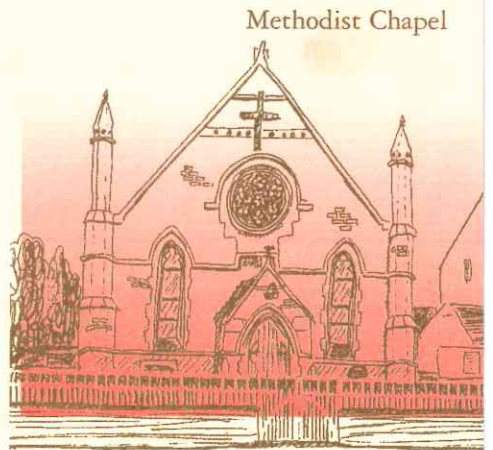


Siddals Lane

**7.** On reaching the A6 turn left into Main Avenue, once the principal approach to Allestree Hall which can be seen ahead. On the open area to the right stood the South lodge, demolished in the 1940s. Return to the corner of Park Lane and turn towards Derby. Above the door of the second shop on the right can be seen a horseshoe, originally this building was the village smithy.

**8.** Pass the mile post which was cast at Handysides Iron Foundry Derby and pause at the Methodist Chapel completed in 1895.

This was mainly financed by Joseph Woolley who owned the woodyard which was opposite. The chapel was designed by John Wills, a renowned chapel architect. Continue past the George V letter box, manufactured by Derby Castings Ltd., and immediately before the garage, turn right into Church Walk, once known as Lovers Lane.



Methodist Chapel

