

9. Continue down Margaret Road, turn left into Victoria Road and then right into Park Road. A little way down on the left is Victoria Recreation Ground. This park used to be part of Folly Farm, run by local butcher and councillor Eli Frusher. He kept pigs and provided much needed food during the First World War. The farm was also a popular spot for Londoners to come to enjoy a walk in the countryside, the fun of a fairground (including slides, helter-skelters and donkey rides) and the Frusher's home-made ice-creams and ham teas. After the Second World War Folly Farm was gradually developed: 1200 houses were built and Victoria Park opened; later a school was also built on the site (replacing one in Victoria Road which had burnt down – see no. 13).

10. From the entrance to the park you can see a large gasometer. This is a surviving link with the former East Barnet Gas and Water Company that was established in Albert Road. In 1872 it amalgamated with the Potters Bar Gas and Coke Company and the Barnet Consumers' Gas Company.

11. A short distance into the park is a fountain which at one time stood next to the New Barnet War Memorial at the Triangle (where Station Road and Station Approach meet). On one side of the fountain are the words 'Honest water which ne'er left man in the mire. The gift of T. Morgan Harvey'. On the other side it reads 'Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association'. There was a drinking trough for cattle and horses next to the fountain when it was on the Triangle.

12. Turn right out of Victoria Recreation Ground back into Park Road and on your right is the Pymmes Brook. It runs under much of New Barnet, on its course from Jack's Lake in Hadley Woods down to the river Lea at Edmonton. It takes its name from the Pymme family through whose Edmonton estates it passed during the medieval period.

Map showing the route of the Walk

