

LOCOMOTION

NEW SHILDON AND THE STOCKTON & DARLINGTON RAILWAY

DISTANCE: 1¼ MILES (2KM)

Start: Collection Building, Locomotion

Finish: Collection Building, Locomotion

Circular walk on pavements and
footpaths. Some slopes.
Approximately 45 minutes

OTHER FREE TRAILS AVAILABLE

see locomotion.org.uk for details

A range of other trail books are on sale
from the Locomotion Gift Shop

LOCOMOTION
SHILDON DL4 2RE
locomotion.org.uk

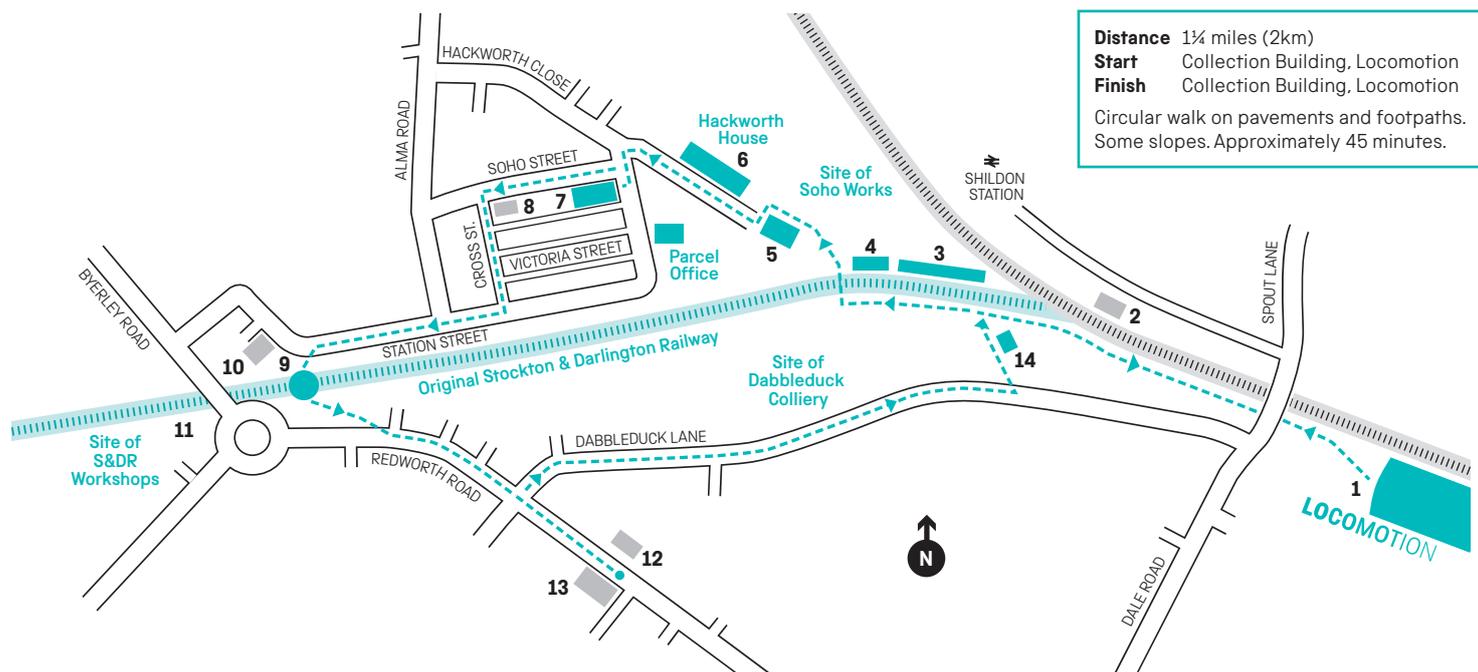
RAIL TRAIL 1
SHILDON

SHILDON RAIL TRAIL 1

NEW SHILDON AND THE STOCKTON & DARLINGTON RAILWAY

This is a walk around New Shildon, looking at landmarks of the original Stockton & Darlington Railway and the expanding town which developed around it.

1



Distance 1¼ miles (2km)
Start Collection Building, Locomotion
Finish Collection Building, Locomotion
 Circular walk on pavements and footpaths. Some slopes. Approximately 45 minutes.

DIRECTIONS

From the Collection Building (1), follow the museum's central path under Spout Lane Bridge, keeping the children's play area on your left.

You are walking alongside the route of the original 1825 Stockton & Darlington Railway (S&DR), one of Britain's pioneering railways.

After you pass under Spout Lane Bridge you will see a Signal Box (2) built in 1887. This is still being used by the railway to keep trains running safely.

Continue along the path past Shildon Station to the Coal Drops (3). These were used to fuel locomotives on the S&DR and later the North Eastern Railway (NER).

Keep following the path to the Black Boy Stables (4). The stables were the meeting point for the S&DR (1825), Black Boy Colliery (1827) and Surtees Railway (1831).

Then follow the path which crosses over Locomotion's railway, and head towards the Soho Shed (5).

The Soho Shed, a former warehouse, is probably New Shildon's oldest surviving industrial building. It was later used by the North Eastern Railway (NER) as a paint shop for locomotives.

Continue to Timothy Hackworth's house (6), then bear right at Locomotion's Sunday School Building (7) onto Soho Street.

At the end of Soho Street, you will find a Wesleyan Chapel (8) now called Sudbury House.

Timothy Hackworth was a keen Wesleyan Methodist. He built two chapels in New Shildon and helped Methodism develop a strong base in the new town. This chapel was built in 1865 to serve a growing population.

Locomotion's Sunday School Building, built in 1888, was originally the Sunday School for this Wesleyan Chapel.

At the end of Soho Street, turn left and walk down Cross Street. You will pass Victoria Street with its mid-19th century terrace houses built by the S&DR for the railway workers.

Then turn right onto Station Street. This area is the oldest part of New Shildon.

Continue along Station Street, with the stone boundary wall on your left. At the end of the road, follow the footpath on the left to the Shildon stone marker (9) which commemorates the opening of the Stockton & Darlington Railway.

Cross the circular landscaped area and head for The Crossings pub (10). Formerly the Masons Arms, this is on the same site as an inn that was used as a ticket office, waiting room and committee meeting room in the early days of the S&DR.

Here, where the railway originally crossed the road, was where George Stephenson's Locomotion No. 1 started its journey on 27 September 1825 and became the first steam locomotive to pull a passenger train on a public railway.

Beyond the crossing lay S&DR workshops (11) built just after the railway opened in 1825. Timothy Hackworth, Locomotive Superintendent for the S&DR, built his Royal George locomotive there in 1827.

The workshops gradually spread west and were used as wagon works up until 1984. Some of them are in use today as light engineering factories.

Now turn left, along Redworth Road, and continue as far as the New Shildon First World War Memorial (12).

Across the road is the Railway Institute (13). Opened in 1913, this building offered educational and social activities for railway workers, and replaced an earlier institute in Station Street.

Now turn back along Redworth Road, going downhill to the junction with Dabbeduck Lane. Follow the road through Dabbeduck Industrial Estate.

This is on the site of Shildon's Dabbeduck Colliery, opened in 1866.

Continue along this road to the very last path on your left. Follow this path back onto Locomotion's central path, at the Light Engine artwork. (14)

Turn right and follow the path back to Locomotion's Collection Building.