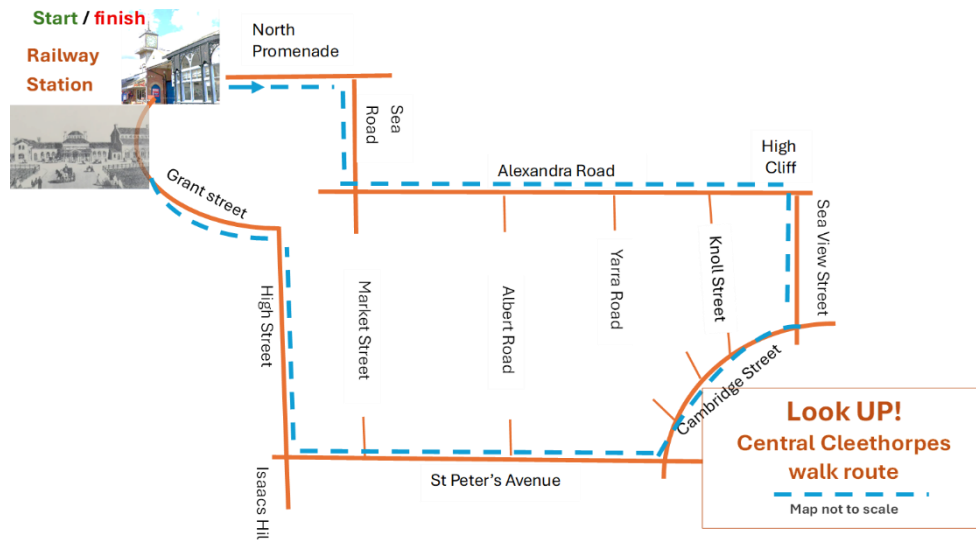


Allow at least ¾ hour for this **LOOK UP!** tour of Central Cleethorpes

Supporting information about points on the Tour is available online at <https://www.grimsbycleecivsoc.com/> While it is not essential for taking part in the Tour, it may be read before, during, or afterwards to provide additional context and understanding.



Along the way, there are **visitor plaques** in either blue or green which you may come across where you see this sign

Visitor plaque

STARTING AT CLEETHORPES RAILWAY STATION:



Look Up! station clock tower and Mermaid fish and chip cafe

Built 1884 by Lockerbie and Wilkinson of Birmingham when station was enlarged. Clock topped with intricate openwork iron *volutes* and Café built as the station's refreshment rooms. Both have had recent extensive renovations.

Visitor plaque



Looking through the station forecourt you can see, to the left along Platform 1, the original station buildings of 1863. This tour will end at these buildings.

Walk TOWARDS the Pier, as far as road junction



The Pier Built in 1873, has had a varied life (and is shorter than originally built!) but has been Papas Fish and Chips since 2016. The **semi-circular window clearly seen at the front of the pier**, is of 3 owls – denoting the 3 'thorpes of Clee' – Oole, Itterby and Thrunscoe. (see Supporting information)

Walk up Sea Road to the road junction

Visitor plaque

On the Pier

The Dolphin, straight ahead



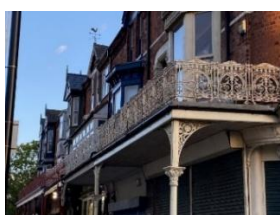
Built 1820s to accommodate the resort's increasing popularity as a fashionable health resort for "taking the waters". *The Dolphin* used to advertise the availability of bathing machines to enable guests to go sea bathing with modesty. A very recent full make-over partly funded by the *National Lottery Heritage Fund* greatly improved the building's appearance but has yet to return to being a hotel.

Empire to the left



Built as a theatre around 1895 with an auditorium on the ground floor for 620 people and 2 upper floors for smoking (!), billiards and entertaining. The upper floors have remnants of its musical hall and theatre days, although these areas are not available to the public – but you never know what the future may bring!

WALK ALONG Alexandra Road past The Empire



Itterby Road was renamed Alexandra Road in 1885 after a visit by Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's Consort, and named after his mother!

A recent funding initiative has meant shop fronts, balconies and bay windows are being restored to their original Victorian splendour. Another phase of restoration is due to start on additional

properties.

Visitor
plaque

Baptist Church

CONTINUE ALONG Alexandra Road, past the library to corner of Yarra Road



Old Post Office look for the 'stamp' mural on the building's side

Built in 1907, this was the first purpose-built Post office in Cleethorpes before a 'new' one was built on High Street – and that has since closed leaving the town without a Post Office at all. Look Up! to see the oriel window and, original to the building is a weathervane on the roof.



Visitor
plaque

CONTINUE along Alexandra Road

The Knoll Grade II listed

Built 1898 as a private villa and now home to Armed Forces Event Team, Blighty's Café and



Humberside Police Community Hub. Look Up! and see the miniature cast-iron balustrades on the roof and semi-circular bay window. See Supporting information for link to virtual tour of the interior



Walk further up Alexandra Road to the junction with Sea View Street (you will be going down Sea View Street)



You are now at High Cliff, stabilised by the promenades and Cliff Gardens (currently under redevelopment).

Looking towards Leisure Centre in the distance, hopefully you'll be able to see **Mouse in the Moon, Brighton Slipway!** This illumination has been the backdrop to many photographs of generations of locals and visitors alike.

Start of Sea View Street



Look Up! and see **fanlight** windows - glazing that radiates like an open fan and often seen above house front doors to allow light into hallways.

Look Up! and see the stone *balustrade* at the top

Sea View street which you are going down is one of the older parts of Cleethorpes, being the Thorpe (or hamlet) of Itterby

Visitor
plaque

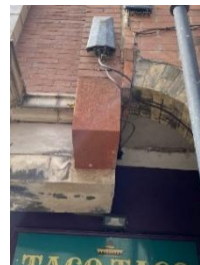
Visitor
plaque



Casa Nosta (ex-Queens Hotel)

Nearing the end of Sea View Street, **Look Up!** and see the older, rounded arch on the right, and the clumsy butting-up of the 1936 re-build. If there's ever proof of re-build, this is it!

This large building is a 1936 rebuild in Art deco style and its striking brick and **faience** exterior is reminiscent of some London underground stations. Designed by Cleethorpes architect Walter Willis for Sheffield brewers *Duncan Gilmour & Co* – **Look Up!** and see the prominent 'BigG' on the roof line (and 'Gilmour's' in the tiled entrance floor). (Another Walter Wallis building comes up soon – note the similarity of the stonework 'scrolls')



Round the corner on Cambridge Street, **Look Up!** to see where craftsmen of 1936 have incorporated lovely bunches of grapes into the façade – not bad for a brewery!



CONTINUE ALONG Cambridge Street towards Town Hall *continued over*

Civic Offices (for Sale)

The Cleethorpes Civic Offices opened in 1987. Designed by William Saunders & Partners for Cleethorpes District Council, to complement Cleethorpes' 'Council House' next door, **Look Up!** to see *cupolas, dormers* and *oriel windows*.

Once North East Lincolnshire unitary authority was formed in 1996 with Grimsby as its administrative centre, these offices became largely redundant. (There is also an older *oriel window* at the top of Yarra Road on the right).



Cleethorpes' Town Hall



An Urban District Council from 1894, Cleethorpes opened this red brick 'Council House' by local architect Herbert Scapling.. in 1904-5. Again, **Look Up!** to see *cupola, balustrades, and ornate stonework*.



Look Up! and see *acanthus leaves* in the stonework: acanthus symbolizes enduring life, immortality, and resilience because it's a plant which thrives in harsh Mediterranean soils.



During the 1980s and *Cleethorpes District Council*, it became known as the "Cleethorpes Town Hall" but as part of *North East Lincolnshire Council* this title is no longer relevant.

However, its attractiveness has no doubt helped its popular new role with Registrars' Office and 3 licensed wedding rooms.

CONTINUE ALONG Cambridge Street, past the Town Hall



St Peters Church Hall

Another 1930s building by local architect Walter S Willis, (Casa Nostra / Queens Hotel). This hall was built on the site of the original National School of 1856; **Look Up!** the plaque above the Church Hall doorway on Cambridge Road is of Cleethorpes' first rector Rev. W. P. Jones' coat of arms that was on that School.

Turn right onto St Peter's Avenue



St Peters Church and Former Vicarage,

Reverend William Price Jones came to Cleethorpes, a Methodist stronghold, in 1850 at the age of 29. He oversaw the building of this new parish church in 1866. Opposite,

Look Up! the roof of the Grade II listed former, large Vicarage (1851-2) can just be seen over St Peter's

Academy school fence. Designed by Grimsby architect Edward Micklethwaite, it became part of the school buildings in 1960s.



St Peter's Avenue

Originally Oole Road (Oole being one of the 3 hamlets of Clee), the Avenue was once a residential street of terraced, semis and detached houses with front gardens and very few shops. **Look Up!** it is only the upper floors that gives any idea of how they looked originally. Many of the buildings were built from Chapman bricks – from the brick pit now known as Chapman's Pond at the water tower on Cleethorpes' skyline (can't be seen here!).

CONTINUE ALONG St Peters Avenue then STOP at the junction with High Street

LOOK to the left Old Library Care Home, Isaacs Hill



Built as *Cleethorpes Technical Institute* in 1902, it also housed the first Public Library in the town from 1926 (in the 'Manual or Clay Modelling Room'!). The library moved into the purpose-built library on Alexandra Road in 1984 and *The Old Library Care Home* opened in 1990.

Look Up! Spot the cupola (there might even be a seagull as in this image!)

TURN RIGHT, go along High Street towards the sea

ON THE LEFT, Wetherspoon's, High Street



In 2014, this building became the popular pub it is today. Built as the Coliseum Picture House in 1914, it had a reopening in 1920 – **Look Up!** the date is clearly seen at the top on the façade. Before Wetherspoons, *The Coliseum* had a wildly varied life (including being a burnt-out shell!):

- boxing hall for troops of the Manchester Regiment during WW1
- British Legion Club
- Woolworths
- snooker hall
- auction room
- indoor markets
- amusement arcade
- nightclub
- live music venue

Look Up! 'Ghost sign' of early 20th century's *Waby's Outfitters* of Riby Square, Grimsby

CONTINUE to roundabout and Old Vic, straight ahead



Built in 1871 as Victoria Hotel The original hotel's 19th century mock-Tudor side elevation on the right, **can still be seen**. The separate brick garage also bears a stone inscription: 'Victoria Hotel garage'.



LEFT, down Grant Street



The **high, rounded wall** of this now private house, is the wall of Cleethorpes' 1872 Prisoner exercise yard. Cleethorpes' first 'Police House' was built in 1872 near to the Railway Station and originally consisted of two cells, an exercise yard and a guard room, as well as accommodation for the Inspector and family. Additional cells were added in 1901 – no doubt due to the increased popularity of Cleethorpes as resort.

Take the road to the right



Original Railway station buildings

These are from 1863 when the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway (MS&LR, later the *Great Central*) extended the line from Grimsby – and helped create Cleethorpes as the resort we have today.

Visitor
plaque

Walk through the station forecourt to return to the start.

You have now completed this **Look Up! Tour** of Cleethorpes' centre

**For supporting information visit
www.grimsbycleecivsoc.com/news-events**

