

walk walk walk

an archaeology of the familiar and forgotten

Nightwalk midwinter
21st December 2009



-  Route
-  Green Spaces
-  Churches
-  Train Stations
-  Tube Stations

Things on the walk

Abandoned pubs:

The Seven Stars, Brick Lane
Duke of Wellington, Three Colts Lane

Architectural Oddities:

Frankle Trimmings, Bethnal Green Rd (look right at the end of Buckfast Street)
'Climbing frame' structure of building-in-progress (Parmiter Street/site of former industrial estate)
2 or 3 storey vertical concrete block – abandoned beginnings of a building? Spital Street
Railway Follies/sculptures – visible through fence, under railway arch Pedley Street – extra follies have been made visible, and the spot tidied and tended

Churches and Places of Worship:

St Matthews Bethnal Green, St Matthews Row
Built on the Rock International Ministries, Herald St (note new neon cross)
Good News Assembly, Cambridge Heath Rd
St John Bethnal Green, Cambridge Heath Rd

Interesting Shop Windows:

Banglatown Cash and Carry, Spital St
Shoe shop, Cheshire St
Grocery and Fish Shop, Dunbridge Street
Wedding Shop, Dunbridge Street
Happy Nightmares Bed Shop, Vallance Road
Nuha, Vallance Road
Iqra, Vallance Road

Offices in Makeshift Buildings:

Virsons Ltd, Blue shed at the top of stairs, Dunbridge St
ITC Taxis, Three Colts Lane, near the station
Electrical Substation, Coventry St next to the railway arch
Cudworth Street, right next to the railway line

Places to have a cup of tea:

Rosa's Café, Hanbury St
Pellici's, Bethnal Green Rd
Oxford House Café, Derbyshire St
Daily Café, Three Colts Lane
Arches Café, Three Colts Lane

Places to have a pint of beer:

The Pride of Spitalfields, Heneage St
The Approach Tavern, Approach Rd
The White Horse, Bishops Way
The Carpenters, Cheshire Street

Places to pause:

Footbridge over the railway, Pedley Street, wait for a train to pass underneath
St Matthews church, St Matthews Row – or in the porch if closed
Low brick wall at the petrol station, end of Paradise Row

Miscellaneous:

Ram with silver eyes, Buxton Street
New Bestway
The new shoe trees, Pedley Street
New graffiti, under arch, Pedley Street – white paint love message
Old/Ex council Offices/'One Stop Shops', now empty and derelict looking – one on Cambridge Heath Road, and one on Birkbeck Street

Places to pee:

Bushes in Weavers Fields
Oxford House, Derbyshire St
The Carpenter's Arms – 'For Customer's Only' - Beware
See also: Places to have a cup of tea/ Places to have a pint of beer

Smells:

Drains, Vallance Rd/Fakruddin St
Fried Chicken, Weavers Fields
Urine, railway footbridge

Places to sit:

In the green space, between Buxton St and Pedley St
2nd bench on the right, Weavers Fields (coming from Three Colts Lane)
St Matthews churchyard, St Matthews Row

Places to visit:

Spitalfields City Farm, Weaver St
Repton Boxing Club, Cheshire St
KPM School of Knowledge, Vallance Rd
Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Rd
Burial Ground, Brady St – closed and slightly off the route, but beautiful to look into from the gate

Things on the ground:

Painted green line, Brick Lane Pedley St and Buxton St
Tomatoes, sliced, Parmiter Street
Smashed basins, Glass Street
Onions and Green peppers (kebab?), Grimsby Street

Views into/out of the city:

Derbyshire Street entrance to Weavers fields, looking southwest to the city
Three Colts Lane, outside the station looking directly west
From western end of Bethnal Green Road towards City (slightly off the route) - view of new railway bridge, which forms a concrete wall between the city and Bethnal Green

Places to kiss/mug:

Pedley Street railway arch
Pathways around Weaver's House/Pedley Street/Allen Gardens

Things that have gone:

Ayshford House, Weavers Fields
Wei Hong Oriental Mini Market, Cambridge Heath Rd
Hole in the red wall, Bishops Way
The heap that was Bestway, Bishops Way
Warehouses on Cheshire Street
Mayfield House Coin-Operated Automatic Laundry
Bratley Street
Fight Club in the Joiner's Yard
Smell of pastries/cakes, Glass Street
The red wall, Bishops Way, Russia Lane and Parmiter Street
The bushes, Parmiter Street
The shoe tree on the wire, Pedley Street
The Flying Hut
View from Fleet Street Hill into the railway arch at Pedley St
Access to the main part of Pedley Street
Fleet Street Hill/part of
Abandoned Pub/squat, Dunbridge Street – demolished
Railway arches adjacent to Grimsby Street – listed, used to contain second-hand furniture and clothing shop – not previously on the route
Paint/DIY merchant, Cambridge Heath Road, corner of Witan Street (now Student Accommodation)
Electrical wholesalers, Cambridge Heath Rd (now Sainsbury's Local)
View, from western end of Bethnal Green Road towards City (slightly off the route), of mound of Bishopsgate Goodyard, and tall buildings of city beyond
Hand Car Wash (with hand painted signs), Hackney Road (off the route slightly), now Tesco Express

Stop the walk I want to get off:

Bethnal Green station, Three Colts Lane, to Liverpool St
Bethnal Green tube, Cambridge Heath Rd, to Liverpool St
Cambridge Heath station, Cambridge Heath Rd, to Bethnal Green and Liverpool St
Bus 254, Cambridge Heath Rd, to Aldgate
Bus 8 and 388 Bethnal Green Rd, to Liverpool St