Key points of interest

A) Major General Sir Henry Havelock

Henry Havelock was born in Bishopwearmouth, the son of a shipbuilder. Much of his life was spent soldiering in India and he is most noted for his involvement in the Indian Mutiny of 1857. Another statue of Havelock can be seen in Trafalgar Square in London.

B) Bede Tower

An Italianate building built in 1851 for Anthony John Moore who was Mayor of Sunderland. In 1890 it was in use as a boys' school and during the First World War it served as a military hospital.

C) Carlton House

This building, now part of Sunderland High School, was the childhood home of Captain George Allan Maling VC (1888-1929). Maling is the only Sunderland born winner of the Victoria Cross, which he was awarded for rescuing and treating 300 men during the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915.

D) Langham Tower

A suburban imitation of Cragside in Northumberland, this building was designed by local architect William Milburn. It was built in the late 1880s for local shipbuilder William Adamson.

E) Synagogue

This synagogue, combining ancient Byzantine style with 1920s Art Deco was built in 1928 for Sunderland's Jewish population. It was the last and grandest of the synagogues in Sunderland.

F) Backhouse Park

This park lies along the length of Hendon Burn and was owned by the Backhouses, a Quaker banking family who lived at Ashburne House, which dominates the eastern edge of the park. After the First World War, the Backhouse family left the park to the town and it opened in 1923.

G) Ashbrooke Sports Club

This historic club was founded in 1887 as the Sunderland Cricket and Football Club. In 1878 local man Henry Kayll was selected to play Rugby for England against Scotland at the Oval.

H) St John's Wesleyan Methodist Church

Built in 1888, this church dominates the skyline of Ashbrooke. It was designed by London architect John Curwen.

I) Christ Church

Completed in 1864 this is one of Sunderland's best Victorian churches. Designed by architect James Murray, it is now a centre for the Sikh community.

J) The Esplanade

The Esplanade is a fine example of mid 19th century terraced housing.

K) Masonic Lodge

Mowbray Lodge No.5373 was consecrated in 1932. The impressive row of houses to the right, constitute Douro Terrace and date from the early 1850s.

Facilities & Accessibility:

Toilets: Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Catering: Eden Café in Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Ashbrooke Sports Club

Parking: Civic Centre Car Park, charges applicable

Accessibility: suitable for wheelchairs pushchairs

Heritage Trails East Area

Walk 10

Ashbrooke Circular

Walk Distance & Time:
1.95 miles or 3.1 km - 45 mins (approx)

Start and Finish Point:
General Havelock Statue
Mowbray Park

active Sunderland

All together Sunderland!

Walk 10

Ashbrooke Circular

Walk Directions

From the Havelock statue follow the path down to the traffic lights on Park Road.

Cross at the lights onto Burdon Road passing the church on the corner on the left and continue walking until after a short distance Bede Tower appears on the left.

Continue walking down Burdon Road to the junction with Mowbray Road. Turn left onto Mowbray Road, Carlton House is on the right. Back track to Ryhope Road, Langholm Tower appears on the left.

Continue on Ryhope Road, passing the Synagogue to the junction and traffic lights at Villette Road. Cross here to reach the entrance to Backhouse Park.

Follow the path past the children's play area, round the park, up the bank and to the exit on the left. At the exit turn right onto Ashbrooke Road. Follow Ashbrooke Road to West Lawn. Walk down West Lawn, passing Ashbrooke Sports Club on the left and turn right onto The Grove. St John's Methodist Church is on the right.

Turn left onto Ashbrooke Road.

Turn right onto Mowbray Road.

At the Sikh Temple turn left onto Stockton Road. Continue along Stockton Road passing the Esplanade on the right.

Cross at the traffic island onto Park Road and continue on this road, passing the Masonic Lodge and back to the lights below Mowbray Park.

Key:

- Toilets
- Catering
- Parking