NEW WALK

In 1849, the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society took over an 1836 Nonconformist Proprietary School building, and founded a museum that evolved into an institution that not only displays dinosaurs and Egyptian mummies, but also fine art including works by Picasso and Francis Bacon.

THE WAR MEMORIAL
Designed by Edward Lutyens and erected in 1923, the quadrilets arch commemora tes those who died during the First World War. It stands at the head of “Peace Walk”.

LUNATIC ASYLUM
Opened in 1837, the oldest part of Leicester University was built as Leicestershire County Lunatic Asylum. Housing approximately 100 patients, the institution closed in 1908. It now houses the university administration and was named the Fielding Johnson Building after a university benefactor.

THE RAILWAY STATION
Replacing an 1840 original, Leicester station, then called Leicester London Road, was built in 1894 by the Midland Railway. Thomas Cook ran his first excursions from the original station.

THE CLOTHIER
Commissioned in 2010 from John Atkin by the Friends of New Walk, this sculpture recognises the valuable roles played in the recent past by the city’s textile and fashion industries.

REV ROBERT HALL
An influential Leicestershire Baptist preacher at the end of the 18th and early 19th centuries.

THE CLICKER
A 2007 sculpture by John Atkin. Based on leather shapes, it celebrates the contribution of the footwear industry to Leicester’s industrial past. The highly skilled “clicker” cut the upper parts of shoes from leather.

NEW WALK MUSEUM
One of the oldest traffic-free walkways in the world, your route between the town centre and the University of Leicester was laid out in 1785, following the line of the Roman road (the Via Devana) that ran from Colchester to Leicester. Originally called Queen’s Walk and then Ladies Walk, the path first ran through open fields, but was gradually surrounded by 19th century development. At its north end, during the 19th century was a racecourse, which was replaced in 1882 by Victoria Park.

WELFORD ROAD CEMETERY
Predating the first of the Burials Acts of 1852-7, Welford Road Cemetery opened in 1849. Intended as an attractive place in which to stroll, the 30 acre private cemetery was originally created to serve dissenters, but was pressured into including Anglicans.