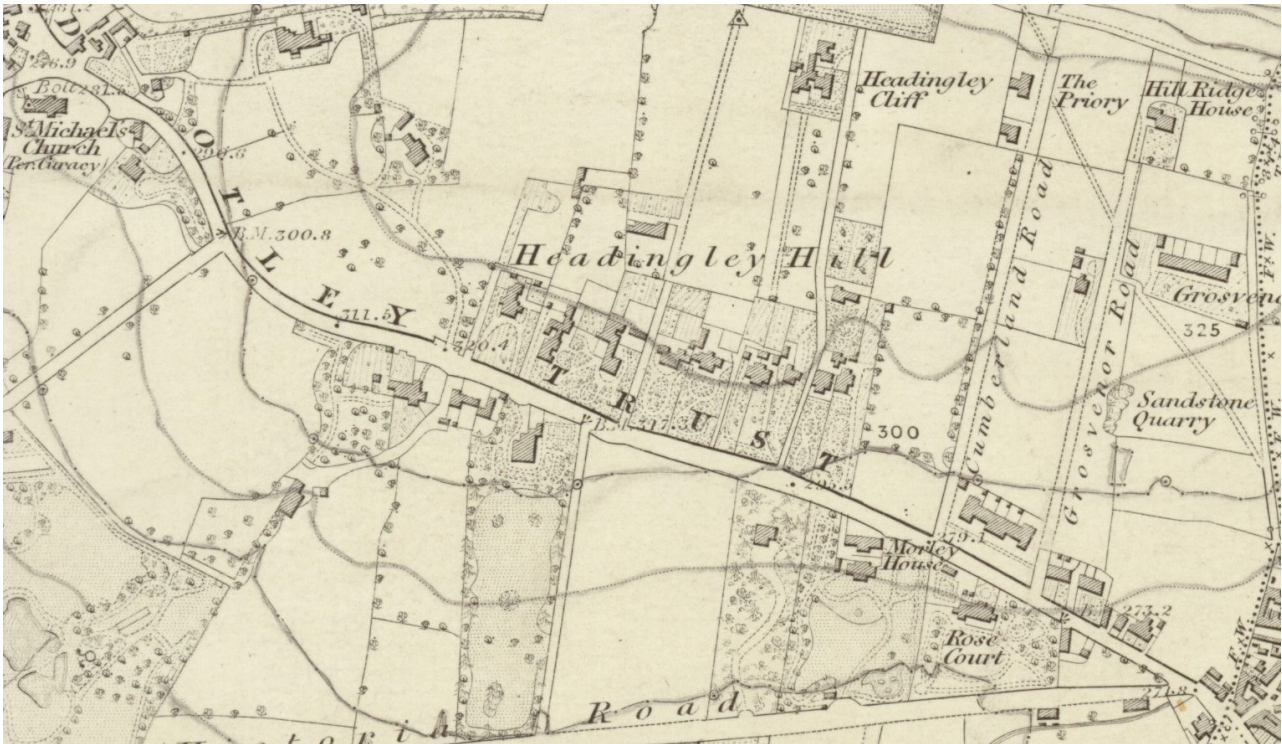


A LISTED LANE HEADINGLEY



Headingley Lane, Ordnance Survey, 1850

“Headingley has the most important group of large and small villas and mansions in the city” (Susan Wrathmell, *Leeds*, Pevsner Architectural Guides, 2005, p245), which makes Headingley the finest suburb in Leeds. Over a hundred buildings and monuments between Hyde Park and West Park are Listed. Astonishingly, nearly a quarter, or two dozen of these, are located along Headingley Lane – which makes it the finest street in the finest suburb! And counting individual houses (within Listed Buildings) there is in fact an unbroken sequence of 23 houses which are Listed. Thus, Headingley Lane is lined with Listed Buildings.

Headingley Lane starts at Hyde Park Corner (originally Wrangthorn hamlet, on the edge of Woodhouse Moor) and runs to the old village green in Headingley. From the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837, the Lane was steadily settled by the well-to-do moving out of town, as the fields flanking the Lane were acquired for development. Most villas were built within a decade or so, by the middle of the nineteenth century (the mid-century map shows villas alternating with fields). Another half-dozen were built later in the century (by the turn of the twentieth century, few fields remained; now, in the twenty-first, only one is left). The majority were built along the north side of the Lane, facing south; those on the south side have their backs to the Lane. A couple of Listed Buildings originated outside the Victorian era.

A walk along Headingley Lane visits all of these. Many are set back from the road, and the road itself is one of the busiest in Leeds – so to get a better view, it’s worth considering catching a bus at Hyde Park Corner (any except Service X84, which is boarding only), and finding a seat on the right-hand side of the upper deck. (The first regular bus service in Leeds ran up Headingley Lane, and Service No1 still takes this route.) The journey runs west along the Lane, first viewing buildings on the north (right-hand) side, then it returns east along the Lane, to view those on the south side.



38-44 Headingly Lane



36 Headingly Lane



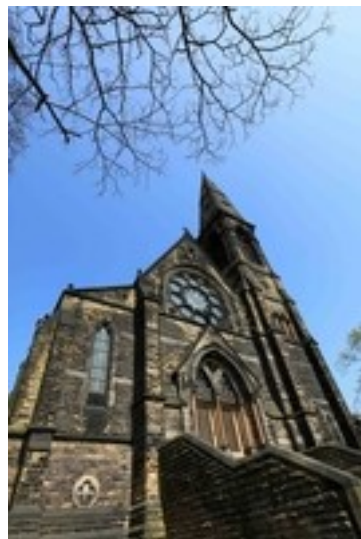
32-34 Headingly Lane

The journey starts at the cross-roads at Hyde Park Corner, passing the Hyde Park pub and a couple of parades of shops and offices abutting the pavement, and comes to the first series of Listed Buildings set back from the road. This series comprises rather plain, sturdy houses, all built about 1840, with plain windows and classically-framed doors. The first two are a pair of semi-detached houses, numbers 32-34. No32 is a letting agency (one of many at Hyde Park Corner), while no34 has been adapted to flats. Number 36 is a detached house, used for accommodation around the turn of the century by the Davitt House Trust. Numbers 38-44 are similar in style, though with hipped roofs. Originally they were known as 1-4 Mount View (in reverse order), and the backstreet behind is still called Back Mount View. All have been converted to flats.

Go across Grosvenor Road, to Headingly Terrace, comprising five houses, with a private service road along the front. Also built about 1840, the terrace entrances have Tuscan columns supporting entablatures, and prominent gables over the central and outer bays. There's a garden studio to the rear of no5, also Listed.



Headingly Terrace



44a Headingly Lane

Cross Cumberland Road. The church at no44a is a landmark along Headingly Lane. The Headingly Hill Congregational Church was built in 1866, designed in Gothic Revival style by Cuthbert Brodrick, famous for Leeds Town Hall and other notable buildings in Leeds. The congregation moved to Headingly St Columba United Reform Church further along Headingly Lane in 1978. Converted to offices, the building was returned to religious use in 1996 and renamed the Ashwood Centre by the independent Pentecostal City Church. But due to falling congregations, this closed and it has been vacant since at least 2014. It currently has planning consent for conversion to apartments.

From the church, cross Ashwood Villas to 46 Headingly Lane on the opposite corner. This is the beginning of a second, much more ambitious series of buildings, oscillating between classic and gothic in style. No46 is actually a pair of semi-detached houses, with 1 Ashwood Villas, built soon after the church in 1870, also in Gothic Revival style. No46 is now flats, while no1 is used for accommodation by St Anne's Community Services.



46 Headingly Lane



Ashwood

Next door at no48 is Ashwood itself (which gave its name to the Villas), built in 1836 by John Child (who also designed Headingley Castle, up the road, as well as the original Catholic cathedral in Leeds centre). The house is in Perpendicular Gothic style, with impressive octagonal chimneys. It was built for Joseph Austin, a woolstapler; his son Alfred grew up here, and later became poet laureate. The house is now apartments.

Next to Ashwood is Hilton Court, a complete contrast, in classical style, a symmetrical Greek villa, built around the same time as Ashwood, about 1840. The house faces Headingley Lane, but the entrance is actually at the side, at 2 North Hill Road. It's currently occupied by *We Are Wellness*. Opposite, at 1 North Hill Road, but also facing Headingley Lane, is Holmfield, another contrast, built in Tudor style in 1835 by J Calvert. The house now comprises apartments.



1 and 2 North Hill Road



Highfield House



Beech House

The next two houses on Headingley Lane return to classical style. Nos50-52 are a pair of semi-detached houses, now combined as Beech House, with bays on either side and a large pediment in the centre, also mid-nineteenth century. It was home to Laurieston School, 1951-1988, and is currently flats. Next door, at no54, is Highfield House, built about 1830, with Tuscan features, for George Bischoff. He was a woollen merchant/property speculator who bought land on Headingley Hill, and probably built this house as a speculation (as Samuel Glover, a druggist, bought the house soon after); Bischoff also laid new roads on Headingley Hill, to allow for further development. The House was used as a hall of residence for Leeds Polytechnic, and is now student flats. With a large, unsympathetic modern extension at the back, it has been given a new name and an extended address, Portland Place at 54-56 Headingley Lane.



North Grange

Two more houses face Headingley Lane, but again have side entrances, on North Grange Road.



Virginia House

Both are from the early nineteenth century period of development, and both are in a plain classic style. Next to Highfield House is Virginia House, at 2 North Grange Road, which has a cast-iron and wooden pump at the back, included in the Listing. Over the road, at no1, is North Grange itself. Both houses are now converted to flats.



At this point, there is a break in the hitherto uninterrupted sequence of Listed Buildings along Headingley Lane. The Lane passes Orville Gardens and The Poplars before coming to the grandest building on Headingley Hill – Hinsley Hall. The Hall was built as a Wesleyan College in 1868, in elaborate Gothic Revival style. It was designed by the architects Wilson and Wilcox of Bath and constructed using Potternewton stone from the local Meanwood quarries. The contractor was Mr Whiteley of Leeds. The main feature is the clock tower, which rises above a gabled porch with a moulded Gothic arch; the tower is in three stages, with first a three-light traceried window, then an arcaded clock stage, finishing with a conical stone dome on short columns and a bud finial at the top. The building was a Methodist training college, until it closed with the outbreak of the Great War in 1914. During the war it was used by Leeds Education Committee, and then in 1924, it was leased to Leeds University for use as a Hall of Residence, the first iteration of Devonshire Hall. The college re-opened as a Methodist training centre in 1930 but closed again during the Second World War and from July 1943 until January 1946 it was occupied by the Women’s Royal Naval Service and operated as HMS Headingley. In 1969 the Methodist Church sold the college to the Little Sisters of the Poor who renamed the building the College of the Blessed Virgin. In the mid-1990s, the Sisters sold the College to the Diocese of Leeds, which redeveloped the building as a Diocesan Pastoral and Conference Centre, opened as Hinsley Hall in 1999 (named after Cardinal Hinsley). The grounds also include two Grade II Listed houses, which are not visible from the road.



Headingley Castle



70 Headingley Lane



62 Headingley Lane

The final series of Listed Buildings along Headingley Lane might be termed the Castle complex, as the buildings are mostly associated with Headingley Castle. Guarding the entrance to Hinsley Hall is a lodge, now 62 Headingley Lane. This lodge was originally built for Headingley Castle, about 1846 in Tudor style. It served both the Castle and a house named Highfields, built about the same time. The latter has been demolished, but its stable block and coach house survive, also Listed, now used as the warden’s house and administration block to the Oakfield sheltered housing complex. The beginning of the drive to the Castle and Highfields is still there, the road is now named Oakfield, just behind the lodge. The lodge itself was adopted by the new Wesleyan College in 1868. Beyond the lodge, along Headingley Lane, lies the last field in Headingley. (It’s commonly known as the Grazing Field [as that is its use], but it might better be known as Headda’s Field, as

‘Head-ing-ley’ means ‘Headda’s-sons’-fields’, from the Anglo-Saxon who gave his name to the village.) Built in 1966 in the next field along is Headingley St Columba United Reformed Church, with its own lodge – which was originally built exactly a hundred years before. When the Castle’s original lodge was taken over by the Wesleyan College, this new lodge was built in Gothic Revival style to replace it, for the new owner of the Castle; it’s now 70 Headingley Lane. Now this too has been appropriated, by the Church. So, the Castle has now lost both its lodges, and is instead accessed by a drive from Headingley Lane, just past no74. It’s hardly visible actually from the Lane, but is a grand building, designed by John Child in Tudor style, with impressive chimneys and battlements (he also designed Ashwood at no48). The Castle was built in 1846 for Thomas England, a corn merchant of Park Square, Leeds. In 1866, it was bought by Arthur Lupton, of the Lupton family (who probably built the second lodge). During the nineteenth century, it was renamed The Elms. From 1909 to 1943 it was the home of entrepreneur and art collector Frank Harris Fulford, millionaire director of the company selling the hugely successful patent medicine, Bile Beans (he was a founder member of the Leeds Art Collections Fund, and some of his collection is now at Temple Newsam). The house was converted into a school for the blind in the 1960s, which closed by 1993. It was used as offices by Leeds City Council which sold it in 2000, and it has been converted into apartments.



The last Listed Building on Headingley Lane is the oldest: Ivy Lodge at no74 was built long before the Victorian era, early in the eighteenth century, and is one of the oldest buildings in Headingley.

Ivy Lodge

The journey has now arrived at the terminus of Headingley Lane, the old village green, surrounded by the church, not one but two pubs, and the village school, all of which are Listed (as well as three telephone boxes, also Listed!). Walkers should cross the Lane by the crossing opposite St Michael’s Church, and turn back along the Lane. Bus-riders should alight at the Church and cross the Lane to the bus-stop opposite (by the phone boxes), and there catch any bus back to Hyde Park Corner (any except Service X84, which is alighting only). Again, find a seat on the right-hand side of the upper deck. The journey now returns east along the Lane, to view the buildings on the south side.

The south side of Headingley Lane has far fewer Listed Buildings, but an interesting history nevertheless. From the Church, cross Bainbrigge Road, named after Mary Bainbrigge, owner of a large estate on both sides of Headingley Lane, which was sold in plots for development during the early nineteenth century. Pass 57 and 55 Headingley Lane, two substantial Victorian houses, both now converted to flats; the former was built by the so-called ‘Headingley Miser’, the philanthropist Robert Arthington.



Cross over Spring Road, which was originally laid to provide access when the Leeds Zoological & Botanical Gardens were opened in 1840. At 53 Headingley Lane is Spring Bank, built in Jacobethan style about 1857 by John Fox for Robert Ellershaw. Additions and alterations were made in 1877-78 by CR Chorley for James Kitson, politician, of the Kitson engineering family, who lived here from c1871-85. His Monkbridge Ironworks built engines for the steam tramcars introduced to the Headingley tram route in 1883.

It was altered and extended again in 1885-6 by William H Thorp (who designed the City Art Gallery and other Leeds buildings) for William Harvey, a notable local Quaker, living here 1885-92. He was followed by Charles F Tetley, of the brewing company, a Conservative and Lord Mayor in

1897. During the twentieth century, the house became institutional accommodation, first of all, temporarily for the students of the new Leeds Training Collage at Beckett Park. Then, in 1924, St John's Home moved here from Chapel Allerton, providing a home to up to forty orphaned and destitute boys and girls. It closed in 1933, when Spring Bank Nursery moved in, until it too closed in 1966. Spring Bank then became the John Taylor Teachers Centre. Finally, around 2007, the building returned to residential housing and was converted to apartments. The grounds originally extended down to the old Zoological Gardens; the lower part is now the site of Spring Bank Primary School.



Spring Bank Nursery

The entrance to the house is guarded by a lodge, also Listed.

Go past Spring Bank Crescent, which was built when one of the last fields along the Lane was developed in the 1930s, and cross Richmond Avenue to Norville Terrace, a fine Victorian terrace, now businesses and HMOs. There are more terraces behind, built in the grounds of the Old Manor House (probably built for Mary Bainbrigg in the late eighteenth century) and the New Manor House (built next door later; both were demolished in 1900) and in the grounds of Richmond House (mid-nineteenth century, still standing), which have given their names to the terraced streets.



Cross Richmond Road to the former Elinor Lupton Centre, the newest Listed Building on Headingley Lane and the only one built in the twentieth century, the first of what might be called the Girls School complex. It was originally a Christian Science Church. It was begun in 1912, when what is now the west wing was built as a Sunday School, to designs by William Peel Schofield, in Egyptian and Classical Revival style.

Work was interrupted by the Great War, then resumed in 1923, when the main building, the Church, was added, opening in 1935. Eventually, thirty years later, in 1986, the Church was sold to Leeds Girls High School (further along Headingley Lane). School and Church shared the building until 1992, when the Church finally moved away, and the building became the School's performance centre, the Elinor Lupton Centre (named after Elinor Lupton, a school governor, who funded the purchase of the Centre). The Centre closed in 2010, as the School had merged with Leeds Grammar School and moved away from Headingley. It was vacant for a decade, but was bought by a pub chain, and opened as a pub in 2021.

The former Church was built in the grounds of Buckingham House, which stands next door at no41. The House is the first in a sequence of mansions built along the south side of Headingley Lane, eastwards towards Hyde Park Corner, with grounds running down to Victoria Road (all were on lands once part of the Bainbrigg estate, but since acquired by Rev Richard Fawcett, and sold in building plots 1837-42).



It was built a hundred years before the Church, soon after the accession of Queen Victoria (like many of those on the other side of the Lane), in Classical style, for James Hargreaves. It was later the home of George Taylor, ironmaster of Leeds, and then his son, Thomas Albert Oakes Taylor, also an ironmaster. Before the Great War, like Spring Bank, it was a temporary hostel for the students of the new Leeds Training College at Beckett Park. When Sir Michael Sadler was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds, 1911-1923, this was his home: his Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings were displayed in a picture gallery, and he received many cultural figures

like Roger Fry and emerging artists like Henry Moore and Jacob Kramer. Later, the House became offices of the Council's Social Services Department. In 2003, it was bought from the Council and converted to apartments. Its grounds originally extended down to Victoria Road, but they were developed as housing in the 1920s and '30s.



Cross Buckingham Road. Behind a high wall stand Buckingham Villas, a grand pair of semi-detached houses: they back on to Headingley lane, but the entrance is at the side, on Buckingham Road. They were built in the later nineteenth century in Gothic Revival style for Mrs C Kirk and Mr John Kirk, a stover and dyer. In 1920, the Villas were bought by Leeds Girls High School, and renamed Ford House, for its Junior School.

In 2005, the School merged with Leeds Grammar School, and in 2008, the Junior and Senior Schools moved to Alwoodley; meanwhile, the Infant School moved from Rose Court and (confusingly) the House was renamed Rose Court also. Finally, in 2020, Rose Court Nursery and Pre-Prep School joined the Grammar School at Leeds, at Alwoodley. The building was bought by the Council, renovated, and leased to West Oaks SEND School, which moved here in 2022, and returned the building to its original name; the grounds down to Victoria Road remain a playing field.

Next along from the Villas was Torridon, built in 1869 by SE Smith for Henry Ludolf, a flax merchant, and beyond that, Longfield House, built at the beginning of Victoria's reign. Torridon was another hostel for Leeds Training College. The Wool Industries Research Association (WIRA) founded in 1918, occupied the two houses. After the Second World War, the two were merged as a business park, and then in the 1980s, both were demolished to make way for Headingley Office Park, originally comprising office buildings (WIRA moved to West Park). Torridon's gates still stand on Headingley Lane. Most of the offices are now converted to apartments (one of which has been named Longfield House).

Beyond Longfield House was Morley House, built about the same time. But it was also demolished, in 1906, and a new building for Leeds Girls High School (founded in 1876) was built on the site. As noted, in 2005 the School merged with Leeds Grammar School, to become the Grammar School at Leeds, and in 2008, the School moved to a new combined location at Alwoodley. The site has now been developed as the Victoria Gardens housing estate, but the original building has been retained and converted (and efforts have been made to have the building listed).

Next along Headingley Lane, at no29 is Rose Court, built in Classic style about 1842, probably by John Clark, designer of many Leeds buildings, possibly for George Smith who was a Leeds banker. It was acquired in 1912 by Leeds Girls High School, as its Infant School. When the main School moved away in 2008, the Infant School moved out to Ford House (formerly Buckingham Villas).



Rose Court concludes the journey from Hyde Park to Headingley, along Headingley Lane. Some two-dozen Victorian Listed Buildings along the Lane have shown Headingley Hill steadily colonised following Victoria's accession by merchants and manufacturers from Leeds. They were followed by educational institutions, especially the Wesleyan College and the Girls School. Now, the majority of these grand buildings have been turned into more modest accommodation and converted to apartments and flats. The journey has now reached its end at its beginning. A few shops and offices lead back to the cross-roads at Hyde Park Corner, where bus-riders may alight.



Headingley Lane, Ordnance Survey, 1908

Further Information

All Listed Buildings are illustrated in the photo galleries for [Hyde Park](#) and for [Headingley Hill](#), not in the same order. Links to the individual Listings on the [Historic England website](#) are in the Appendix below

For the first buses along Headingley Lane, see the article [Suburban Omnibus](#)

Biographies of Arthington and Austen are in the [People in the Past](#) gallery

Information on the Architects can be found in Susan Wrathmell, *Leeds*, Pevsner Architectural Guides, 2005

Information on children's homes is on the [Children's Homes website](#)

For the origins of the Training College, see the [Headingley Campus](#) gallery

Eveleigh Bradford, *Headingley*, Northern Heritage Publications, 2008, is a mine of information on Headingley.

Appendix: Listings

32 Headingley Lane:
 34 Headingley Lane: [1256019](#)
 36 Headingley Lane: [1255977](#)
 38-40 Headingley Lane: [1255980](#)
 42-44 Headingley Lane: [1255981](#)
 Headingley Terrace: [1255944](#)
 44a Headingley Lane: [1255982](#)
 46 Headingley Lane: [1256338](#)
 48 Headingley Lane, Ashwood: [1255984](#)
 2 North Hill Road, Hilton Court: [1375255](#)
 1 North Hill Road, Holmfield: [1375252](#)
 50-52 Headingley Lane, Beech House: [1255988](#)
 54 Headingley Lane, Highfield House: [1255995](#)
 2 North Grange Road, Virginia House: [1375249](#)
 1 North Grange Road, North Grange: [1375247](#)
 Hinsley Hall: [1255946](#)
 62 Headingley Lane, Lodge: [1255959](#)
 Oakfield: [1255956](#)
 70 Headingley Lane, Lodge: [1255962](#)
 Headingley Castle: [1255942](#)
 53 Headingley Lane, Spring Bank: [1255989](#)
 53 Headingley Lane, Lodge: [1255914](#)
 Former Elinor Lupton Centre: [1255938](#)
 41 Headingley Lane, Buckingham House: [1255965](#)
 Buckingham Villas, Buckingham Road: [1255797](#)
 29 Headingley Lane, Rose Court: [1256012](#)

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 Headingley Development Trust
 September 2023