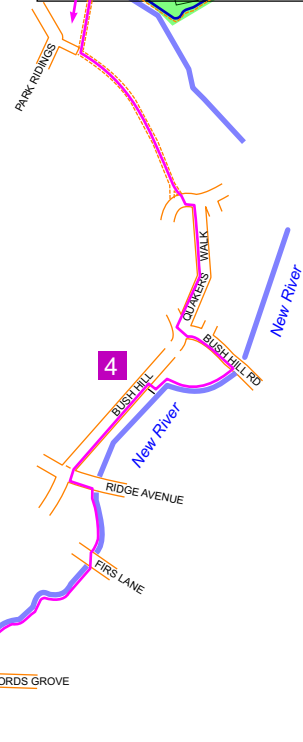
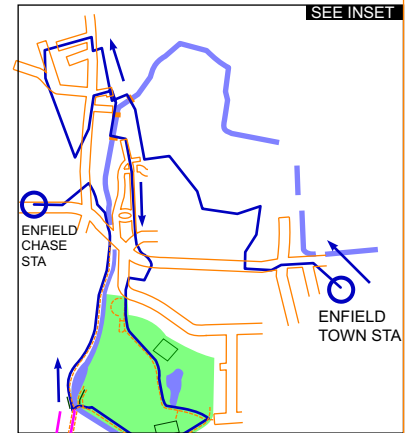
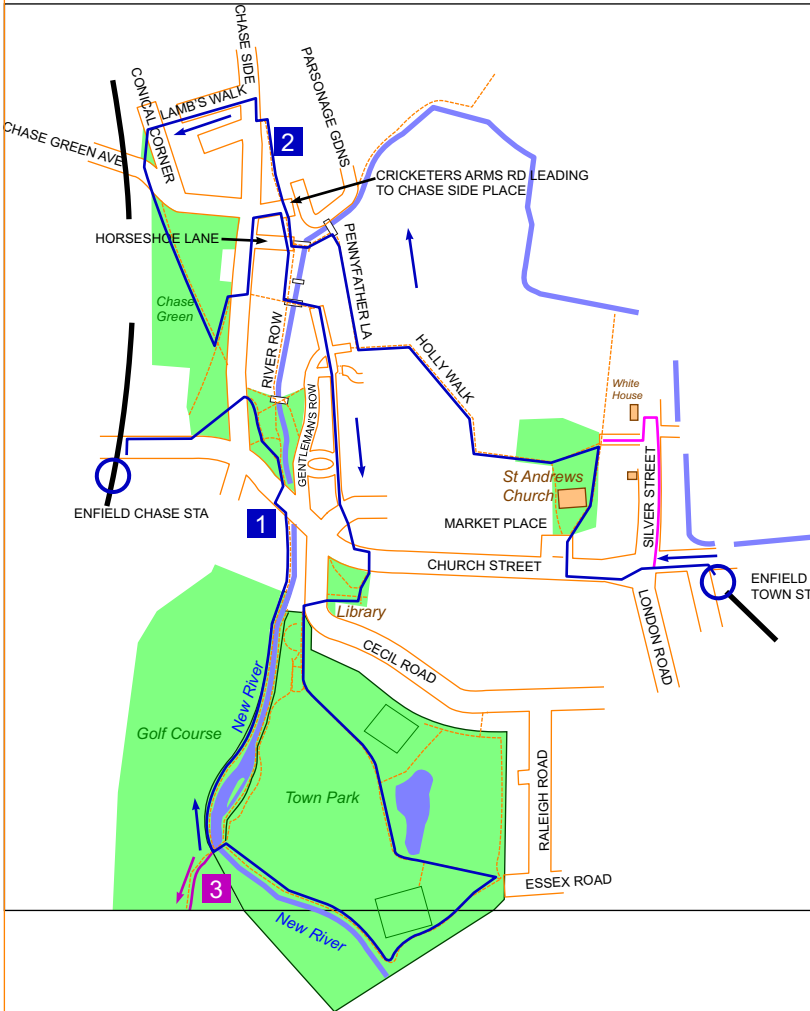


This map shows two walks. One is an Enfield Town walk; the other continues to Southgate via New River and Grovelands Park

Enfield Town, New River, Grovelands Park, Southgate

- 1 To return via Enfield Town walk down Church Street
- 2 Note plaques on Charles Lamb's cottages
- 3 The walk continues along the New River Path but with a deviation via Quakers Walk. Caution: the first sign after Quakers Walk was incorrectly rotated.
- 4 On the west side of the road is a gate to Clarendon Arch which takes the Salmon Brook below the New River.
- 5 The path in the wood is unclear; avoid dropping down too far to the right..

- Enfield Town walk 4.4 km
- with extension to Southgate 9.3 km
- Railway



1kilometre



walk notes

Enfield, New River, Grovelands Park

This starts as a pavement walk but conditions can deteriorate along the New River.

Enfield Town

Enfield Town started out as a collection of hamlets bordering the eastern edge of the 8000 acre royal hunting park known as Enfield Chase, fenced in 1136 and enclosed in 1777. When the New River was constructed between 1609 and 1613 to bring water from Ware to London (38 miles from Amwell Springs in Hertfordshire to Islington) a road was constructed with a single row of houses on the town side which became known as Gentleman's Row it is still the nucleus of an area of fine old buildings and a major feature of the walk.

The manor of Enfield was held by the de Bohun family since 1266, until it came to Henry V, whose father, as earl of Derby, in 1384 had married Mary de Bohun. After 1421 the manor remained with the duchy of Lancaster, except during the Interregnum. The lease was acquired in 1742 by James Brydges, duke of Chandos (d. 1744), and remained in his family until 1795. For hundreds it is believed that Princess Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth I) often hunted on the Chase after she was granted the estate of West Lodge Park by her brother Edward VI in 1547.

The manor of Worcesters, sometimes called Worcesters and Elsing Hall grew out of properties amalgamated by John, son of Henry of Enfield (1298) and his descendents. In 1539 the manor came into the possession of the king in a property exchange. The manor was granted in 1550 to Princess Elizabeth for life. In 1602, as queen, she gave it to trustees for Robert Cecil, later earl of Salisbury. It was demolished around 1656, and its site remained hidden until it was excavated in 1963–6.

In the mediaeval era Enfield Old Park was recorded in documents as 'Parcus Intrinsicus' to distinguish it from the much larger, and unenclosed, Enfield Chase. The name 'Old Park' seems to have been applied from the 15th century. Around this time, the Park, together with the Manor of Enfield, became royal property as part of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Enfield Town Park is a surviving fragment along with Bush Hill Park Golf Course of the pre-Elizabethan Old Park estate of Enfield Manor. Part of the estate later became the estates of Chase Side House, which in the C19th had fine pleasure gardens, and Chase Park. In 1894 Enfield UDC purchased some of the estate lands and the 9.5 hectare Town Park was laid out and opened in 1902, a bathing lake opened in 1905. Along the southern boundary runs part of the New River Loop, separating the public park from the private golf course.

The Parish was entitled, under the Inclosing Act of 1777, to a certain portion of the Chase, amounting "to 1,732 acres, 2 roods, and 6 perches, together with the encroachments, timber trees, and other trees, tellers and sapplings thereon. In 1801 the church wardens obtained "an Act for dividing " and inclosing the open and common fields, common marshes, and lammas grounds, Chase allotment, and " other commonable and waste lands within the Parish," Chase Green originated from settlement in 1803.

Queen Elizabeth I frequently visited Enfield for hunting and stayed sometimes at the Manor House, known as 'Enfield Palace', which stood at the edge of Enfield Old Park, and sometimes at Enfield House (Elsyng Palace). In the early 17th century the course of the New River was laid through part of the Park.

The White House in Silver Street – now a doctors' surgery – was the home of Joseph Whitaker, publisher and founder of Whitaker's Almanack, who lived there from 1820 until his death in 1895. After retiring from the East India Company Charles Lamb moved to Gloucester Place from 1825 to 1833.

New River

The walk continues by tracing a small part of the route of the New River flowing south, visiting the Clarendon Arch built in 1682 and rebuilt in 1725 to take the New River over the Salmon Brook. After passing through Winchmore Hill the walk visits Grovelands Park on its way to Southgate Tube Station. Southgate was a southern gate of Enfield Chase; the station is built in the Art Deco/Streamline Moderne design style and is one of the best known of the many stations designed by Charles Holden.

Grovelands Park

Grovelands Park was a late C18th landscape park owned by the 3rd Duke of Chandos, whose son-in-law sold it in c.1796 (see above) to Walker Gray. Gray had a new house built, Southgate Grove, and was advised by landscape gardener Humphry Repton on the layout of the grounds, whose designs included the lake and probably the ha-ha. Gray's nephew, John Donnithorne Taylor, inherited the property and retired here, renamed the house and proceeded to expand and improve the estate. His son later put up the estate for sale and the southern extension was sold in 1902 but the Lot containing the house and 314 acres of land failed to reach the reserve price. In 1911 26 hectares of grounds were purchased by Southgate UDC, opening as a public park in 1913. Grovelands House was purchased for a hospital in 1921 and is now a private psychiatric hospital.