Yate Heritage Map

Lower North Road: Mining Communities

The Yate mining area was concentrated around North Road and it became a thriving community supporting several mines.

From the 1850s, pubs, chapels and shops came into being. Miners' children attended the British School on North Road and were taught basic reading, writing and arithmetic.

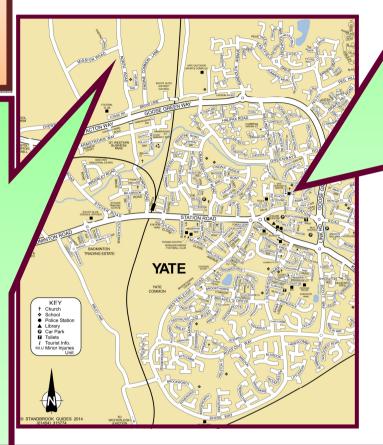
There are many pubs in the area: the former Colliers' Arms and Engine Inn indicate the mining link. The Codrington Arms and Cross Keys pubs were key parts of the community.

Miners also attended their local non-conformist chapels around the North Road area rather than go to grander Anglican churches elsewhere, such as St Mary's, Yate. The North Road Baptist Chapel

opened in 1909 and closed in 2001. In the 19th century, there were several non-conformist chapels in Yate parish alone. Remnants of mining such as the dramway (below) can still be seen today.

Produced by Brimsham
Green Students with
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Heritage Centre

North Zone



Lawns House (see below)

Lawns House first appears on the 1842 tithe map and was associated with the Sturge family, who were local Quakers. From the 1940s, A.J. Newman owned the property. The Newman family owned one of the two major factories in Yate – Newman Industries. A.J. Newman used Lawns House to house Belgian refugees during the Second World War. Newman lived in the house until the 1960s. It has been a public house since the 1970s.



St Mary's Parish Church has been at the heart of community life in Yate since the 12th century. The church is large for the size of parish and has some Norman walls and several features from the late Medieval times including the font and the earliest

bell in the tower.

Farming in Yate

Farming was at the centre of Yate life for centuries. In the Middle Ages, local farmers grew crops such as corn, peas and beans and also kept animals, especially sheep. Regular livestock and produce markets took place between the 1880s and 1970s. From the 17th century, numerous dairy farms dominated agriculture in Yate and most local people were involved in some aspect of farming.

After 1945, new housing estates and factories took over former farm land and many farm workers moved to local factories. By the 1970s, many dairy farms, such as Wellstead Farm made way for the new housing developments. As farming diminished, Yate Market finally closed in the mid-1970s. Some former farmhouses can still be seen around Goose Green and North Yate (see right).





