

# Bluecoat

## Green Spaces of Liverpool: Past, Present and Future

This guide is to help you navigate a route through the accompanying map created by gardener and artist **Andrea Ku**. It features green spaces around Bluecoat and shows how they've changed over the last 300 years.

Modern landmarks will help you find your way and there are tips for nature spotting, such as the range of trees in the city centre including:



Fig,



London Plane,



Oak and



Poplar trees.



Andrea has also charted the flight path bees take to forage for nectar.



We hope this provides new ways of looking at the city and inspires you to discover green spaces, both lost and new.

Here is some information to help you on your journey, starting from the Bluecoat front courtyard:

### St Peter's Church Yard, School Lane/Church Street

*Stand underneath the Liver Bird at the gates, with your back to Bluecoat. Ahead is Church Alley, with the entrance to the Athenaeum on the left. This was the site of St Peter's church that Blue Coat School (or Hospital as it was then called) was attached to.*



Built in 1702 and eventually knocked down in 1922, St Peter's was on the site where the Athenaeum now stands.

There was a large church yard here, with benches and flowerbeds.

Try and imagine the streets then, what might they have sounded like?

### Orchard, Church Street

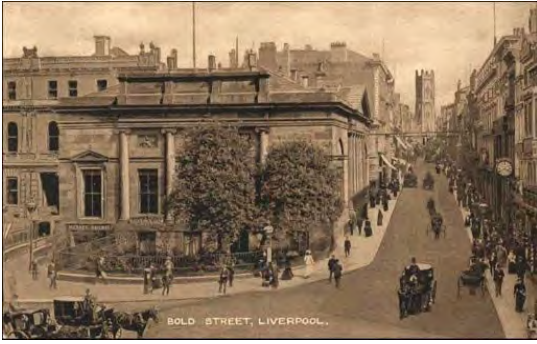
*Walk to the end of Church Alley and onto Church Street. Turn towards Bold Street and look to your right, to Primark and the shops next to it.*

There was an orchard here, perhaps owned by a local farmer. It was one of many places where fruit and other crops were grown to feed local people.

There was also a pond here where you might have seen people fishing, hoping to catch something tasty for their dinner!

Artist Ed Farrell's image here gives an impression of how the orchard might have looked. You can just spot Bluecoat in the top left of the painting.





### The Lyceum Garden, bottom of Bold Street

Walk up Church Street towards Hanover Street, cross over to Bold Street, with your back to the sweet shop and the Lyceum opposite, with the dipped-down area in front of China Dina.

The Lyceum was built in 1802 as a library. The sunken area outside was a garden until about 100 years ago.

### Mr Seel's Garden

Go along Hanover Street towards Tesco on the left, opposite College Lane. In the eighteenth century a large food and ornamental garden occupied this site.

This garden was owned by Thomas Seel, whom Seel Street is named after. He was a merchant who made his money through the transatlantic slave trade.

In Ed Farrell's image here, created from a 1769 map of Liverpool, you can see Mr Seel's Garden just along Hanover Street.

Can you find the map showing this on the side of Tescos?



Many of Liverpool's historic buildings, including Bluecoat, were partly funded by money made through slavery. You can find out more about the connections between Liverpool and the slave trade here: <https://bit.ly/2RzWNsa>

### Secret garden and orchard, Blue Coat School

Return back to Bluecoat through the entrance on School Lane and enter to access our garden.



The garden was re-landscaped in 2007, however we kept many of the old trees including our historic fig tree, which is to the right of the door when you're looking at the building.

Can you spot our insect hotel sheltering underneath? Bugs and insects are an important part of any garden; they help to keep the soil in good condition which helps the plants to grow.

The garden began as an orchard, before becoming a playground for the Blue Coat School children. Now it is a place enjoyed by visitors from all over the world.

We think our garden is a very special place and we hope you return to enjoy it again sometime.

If you'd like to find out more about Bluecoat's ongoing research into its building's origins and relationship to the city's evolution please visit our archive website, [mybluecoat.org.uk](http://mybluecoat.org.uk) to find out more.

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# Green Spaces of Liverpool: Past, Present and Future

Our city is an ecosystem for thousands of invertebrates & birds that provides a lot of hidden habitats & food.

Beehives on Barclays Bank

## Heritage green spaces (now gone)

1. Bluecoat Hospital Gardens c. 1700s - mid 1800s (Today most garden space exists)
2. St. Peter's Church Yard and gardens 1704 - 1922
3. Orchard and fishing pond c. 1700s - 1790s
4. The Lyceum garden c. 1800s - 1960s
5. Mr. Seel's Garden c. Early 1700s - late 1700s

Look out for plants growing in crevices of buildings and pavements. These provide food like pollen, nectar & seeds for many city birds & bees

New & old buildings have many edges, curves & gaps that can collect leaves & dust. These are able to provide habitats for tiny invertebrates like woodlouse, beetles, ants & slugs which are also food for city birds

Some invertebrates you might find



As our city's trees age, they will provide more habitats, shelter & forage for more species of birds, bees, moths, ladybirds and many more in the coming decades.

There will be thousands of dormant seeds from historic gardens & green spaces waiting for the right conditions to germinate

During the 1700s, bees will have filled the air to feed on the city's fruit trees & crops

Dripping drainpipes are perfect for water loving ferns & offer a drink to insects and birds

Typical urban pavement plants: Dandelion, Butterfly Bush, Ragwort & Groundsel

## Green space age, forage and habitat

- Existing 100+ year old green space
- Historic, now removed
- Less than 100 years old
- Existing forage or habitat
- Bee forage flight

## City trees

- Oak
- London Plane
- Liquidamber
- Poplar
- Sycamore
- Fig

## Site today

6. Liverpool 1
7. Primark
8. Brooke's Alley
9. Open space
10. Tesco Superstore
11. Premier Inn
12. EPIC Hotel
13. Wolstenholme Square





Green Spaces of Liverpool map has been designed for Bluecoat by Andrea Ku and funded by Liverpool City Council's Without Walls 2020. With thanks to Ed Farrell for the use of his illustrations.