

Haddington GARDEN TRAIL

The trail starts at the John Gray centre, Lodge Street. On leaving the centre, turn right heading away from the shops. 1 Turn left along Neilson Park road and at the end of the road enter 2 Neilson Park. Follow the path straight through the park. At the exit, the private garden boasts a Rocky Mountain bristle cone pine tree, the rarest tree in Haddington and perhaps the largest specimen in the UK.



Victoria Inn and Town Hall from Corn Exchange

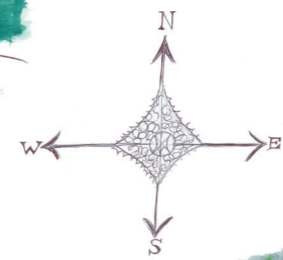


No 2
NEILSON PARK

Exit the park onto Mill Wynd. Turn right and cross the road. After the squash courts, you will find the newly restored 3 Oriental Garden, a small garden by the River Tyne adjacent the old mill. It was restored in 2015 with all labour, plants, bulbs and furniture generously donated by the community. A pond, home to tadpoles and frogs, is incorporated into the garden. A Japanese weeping willow enjoys the corner site of the garden in its most favourable environment by a stream.



No 3
ORIENTAL GARDEN

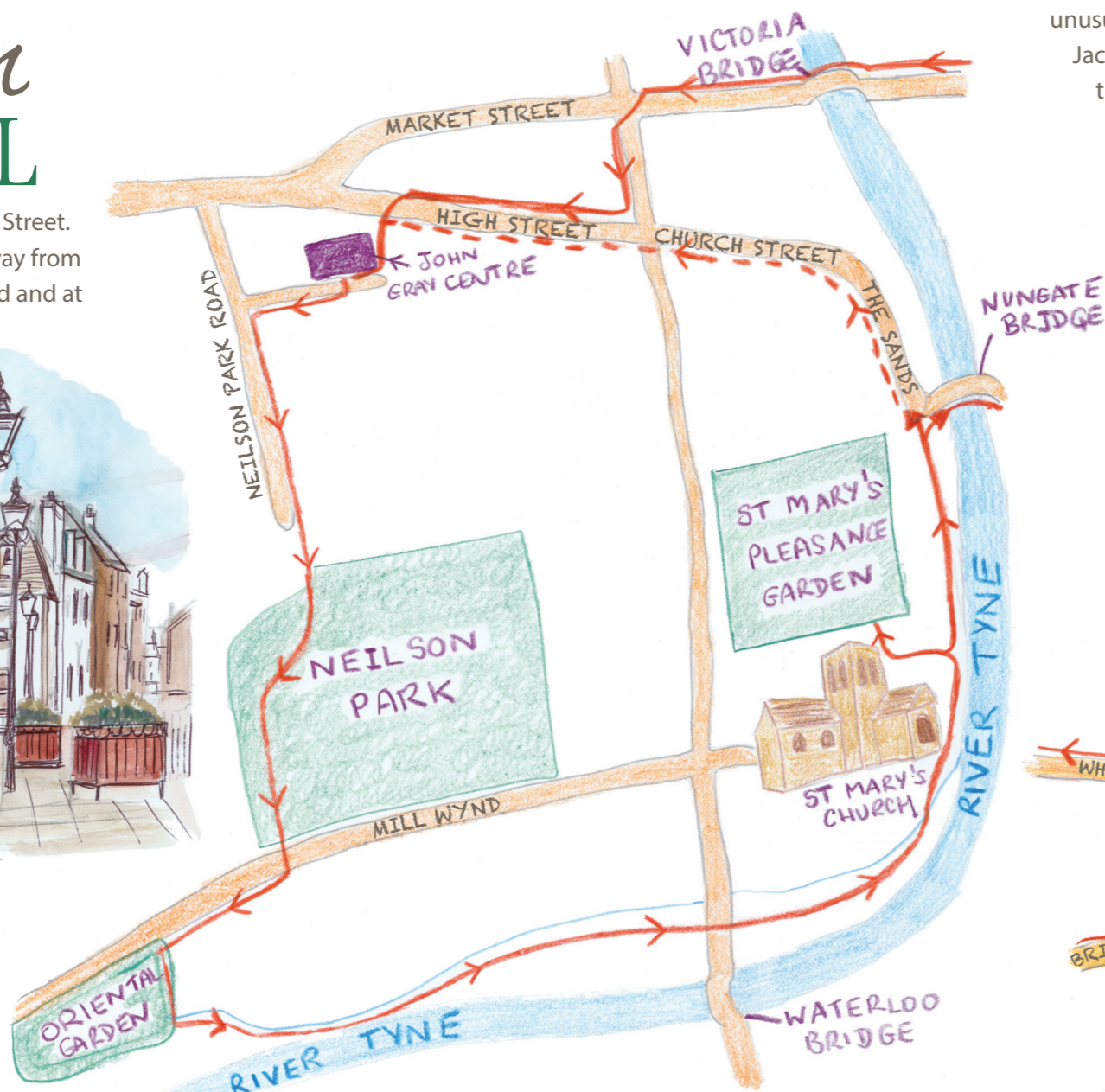


No 4
ST MARY'S PLEASANCE

From the Oriental Garden, follow the lade downstream to where it joins the River Tyne and continue downstream. Notice the horse chestnut tree, planted to Commemorate Queen Victoria's golden jubilee in 1887.

Cross the road and continue on the path along the river. Moorhens, mute swans, mallard ducks and herons are often seen on the river. You may even spot a kingfisher or an otter.

The path passes by St Mary's Church. Enter the churchyard and the entrance to the 4 St. Mary's Pleasance Garden is on the right hand side. St Mary's Pleasance Garden is



unusual in that its design and features reflect what would have been found in a 17th century Jacobean garden. Features such as a laburnum walk, a mount and sunken garden are true to that time while the plants have been selected for their correctness of the period. Most are what plant hunters of the time were introducing, while the orchard of heritage fruit trees and historic herb beds represent what would have been growing in monastery gardens.

From here there are two trail options:

OPTION 1 – 1¼ miles (25 minutes) excluding time to enjoy the gardens. Return to the town centre, continuing along the path by the river, past the doocot (Scottish for 'dovecot'). Walk along The Sands, Church Street and the High Street to return to the John Gray centre.

OPTION 2 – Additional 3 miles. Visit Amisfield Walled Garden which lies a mile to the east of the town via a pleasant walk through the golf course, returning along the river bank.



For Amisfield Garden (check opening times on website)

Cross the Nungate bridge and continue past the Golf Tavern pub. Following the path to the right. Turn left along Lennox Road. Continue to the end of the road and enter the golf course. Continue straight, past the club house and continue on the path past the 17th tee. The path continues through a wooded area and you will see the walls of the garden on your right. 5 For the entrance, follow the wall to the end and turn right. To return to town, exit onto the road, turn left. Take care on the road as there are no footpaths. Cross over the river and turn left to take the river walk back to Haddington. At the end of the riverside path, cross the river at the bridge 100 yards ahead, continue past the sports pitch and turn right onto Whittinghame Drive which takes you back to the town centre.

(Alternatively, Amisfield garden can be enjoyed by driving past the golf course, keep to the left along the road for approximately 1 mile, following the walls of the golf course).



No 5

AMISFIELD WALLED GARDEN