

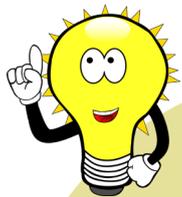
Historic development of Memorial Square

Before you think about the way Memorial Square is going to look in your new design you need to learn how the area evolved. A good way to do this is look at old maps and record the changes that you see.

Before the Memorial Clock Tower was built the area that is now Memorial Square was a road junction with fields to the west.



Above: Extract of the 1880s Ordnance Survey map. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC-BY-NC-SA) licence, educational use.



On the maps we can see buildings that are still standing today.

Can you spot them?

Have they altered?

Can you find buildings that have disappeared?

Where do you think people worked?

Can you see schools?

How did people travel?

Can you see religious buildings?

The photography below shows a view towards the town with the lower Snibston Colliery buildings. The houses on the right were built for tradespeople such as blacksmiths, harness makers, rope makers and tool sharpeners.



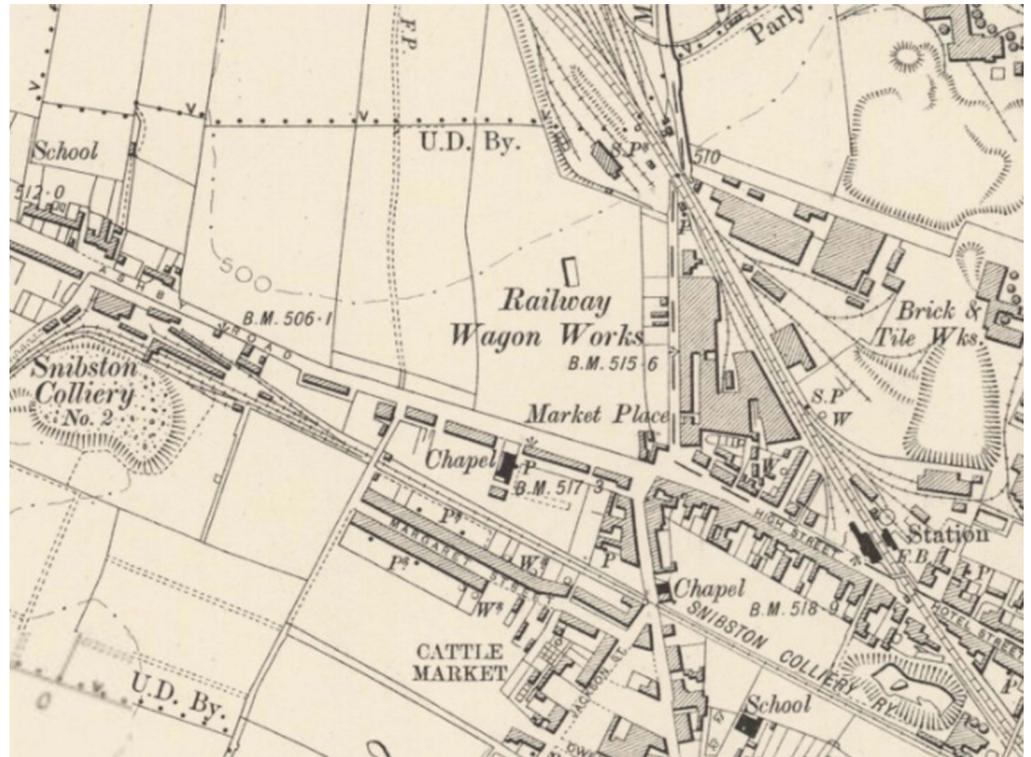
Above: A view towards Coalville's town centre c.1900. © Coalville Heritage Society

Historic development of Memorial Square

By the 1900s there have been changes in the town but the Memorial Clock Tower and Memorial Square have not been built.

The area in which they will be located is now called Market Place.

What are the other big changes that can be seen?

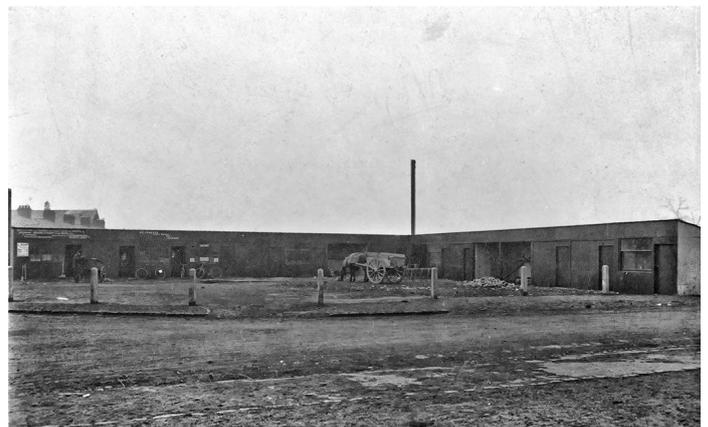


Above: Extract of the 1900s Ordnance Survey map. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC-BY-NC-SA) licence, educational use.



© Coalville Heritage Society

The photograph above shows the public toilets that were located on the edge of the road in front of the Market Place. Given the name, **Green Man** they were demolished when the Memorial Clock Tower was built.



© Coalville Heritage Society

The photograph above dates from 1909 and shows the lock-up buildings on the market area. It was taken from approximately where the Hermitage FM Cafe is today and looking west.

On the left-hand side you can see the roof of the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Historic development of Memorial Square

The Ordnance Survey map of the 1920s now shows the Memorial Clock Tower and Memorial Square with the traffic island marked with a dotted line.

To the west side of Memorial Square, you can see that the Post Office has been built.

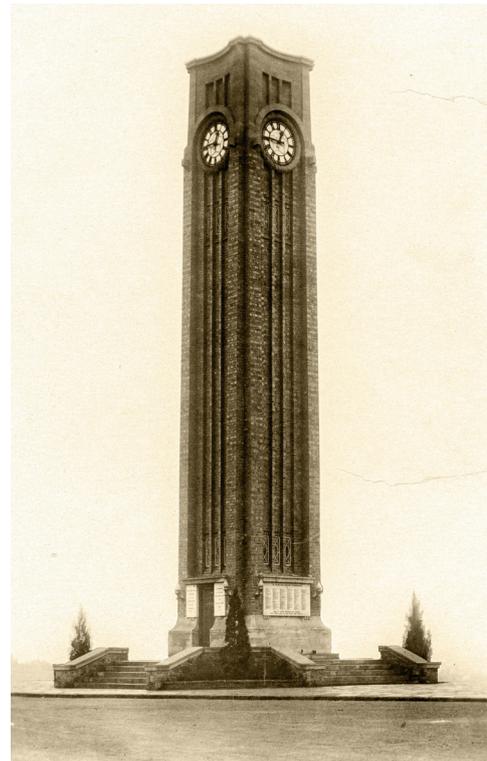
On the map P.H. is marked several times - what do you think this indicates?



Above: Extract of the 1920s Ordnance Survey map. Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC-BY-NC-SA) licence, educational use.

The photograph on the right shows the Memorial Clock Tower not longer after it was unveiled by Mary Booth in 1925. You can see that it is standing within a traffic island that is formed with kerbs and Yorkshire crazy paving.

What types of transport did people use at this time?



© Coalville Heritage Society

## Historic development of Memorial Square

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[EPW015171] Memorial Square and environs, Coalville, 1926, [www.britainfromabove.org.uk](http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk) © Historic England  
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The aerial photograph above was taken on the 13 April 1926 and shows Memorial Square and the surrounding area.

To the north of the Square, you can see the Railway Wagon Works and beyond at the top left of the image the Brick and Tile Works. To the east, the Snibston Colliery Railway, to the south, the Market and to the west the Woollen Factory.

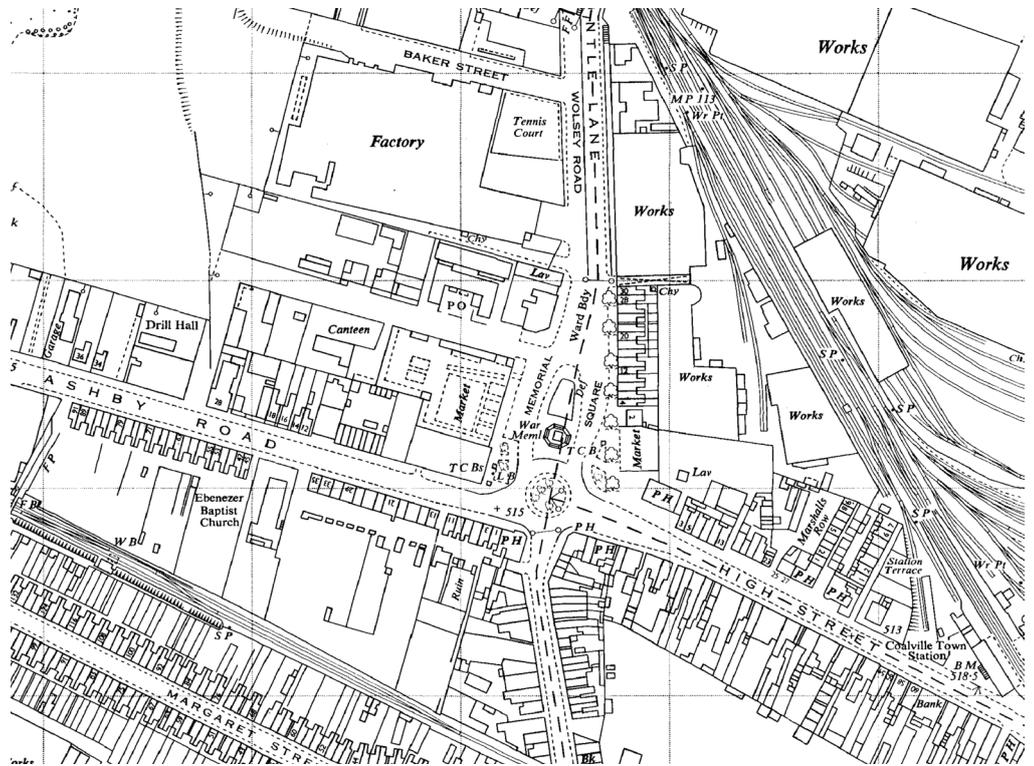
You will notice that there are areas that have no buildings on them. Can you name some of the buildings that have now been built on these open areas?

Historic development of Memorial Square

In the late 1940s the layout of Memorial Square was reconfigured with an island being introduced at the junction of, Ashby Road, Belvoir Road and High Street.

To the north of the Memorial Clock Tower, the area in which the monument stands was extended to include a flower garden that was bounded by a hedge.

On the Ordnance map of the 1960s, these changes can be clearly seen.



Above: Extract of the 1960s Ordnance Survey map. © Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group Limited 2018, Old-Maps.co.uk, educational use.



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The photograph above shows the Memorial Square in the late 1940s with the new traffic island and garden to the north of the Memorial Clock Tower.



© Francis Frith Collection  
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Taken in c. 1955 the post office can be seen behind the traffic island, the market stalls and a row poplar trees.

Historic development of Memorial Square

By the time the 1990s Ordnance Survey map was produced the traffic island at the junction of Ashby Road, Belvoir Road and High Street had been removed.

The area in which the Memorial Clock Tower stands still remains an island with Mantle Lane to the east.

To the west of Memorial Square, the Market has gone and been replaced with a health centre.

Since the 1990s what other changes have happened in Memorial Square?



Above: Extract of the 1990s Ordnance Survey map. © Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group Limited 2018, Old-Maps.co.uk, educational use.



© Google Earth  
Memorial Square 2018

The image above shows Memorial Square as it looks today. If you compare this with the early photographs, you can see the changes since the Memorial Clock Tower was built.

Since the late 19th century the area that now forms Memorial Square has undergone many changes.

Create a timeline with dates and descriptions that record these changes.

