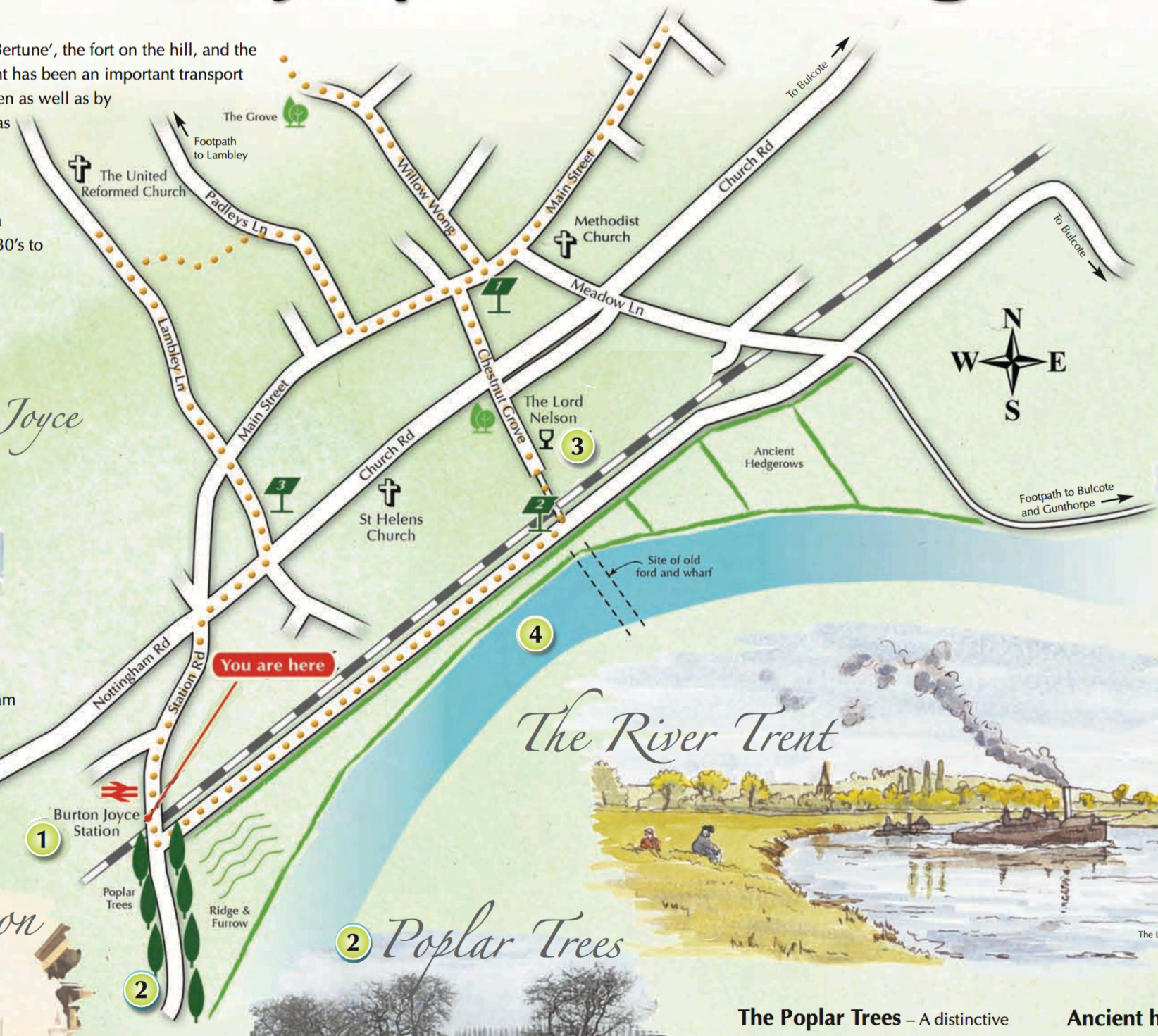
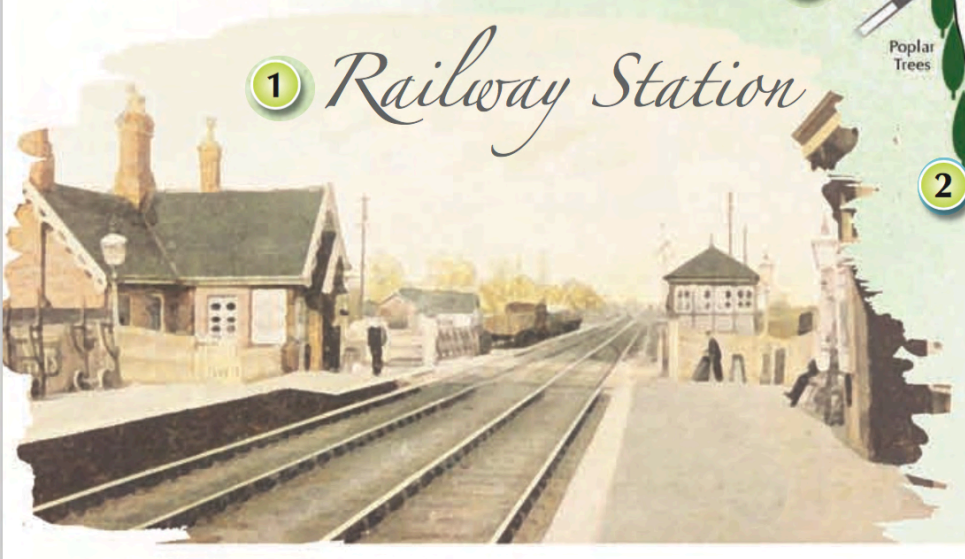
Burton Joyce Heritage Trail

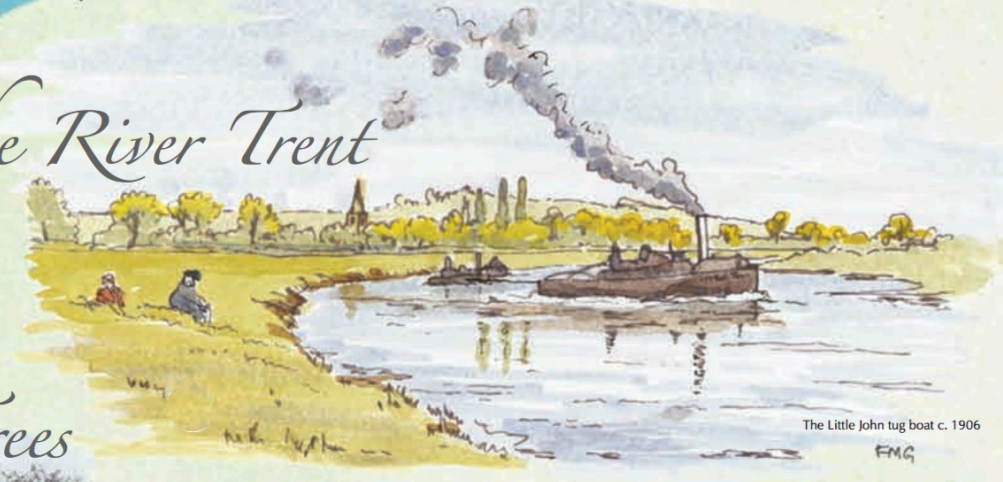
Introduction – Burton Joyce derives its name from 'Bertune', the fort on the hill, and the Jorz family who were Lords of the Manor. The River Trent has been an important transport route for centuries. Barges would have been hauled by men as well as by horses. **The Lord Nelson** once had stabling for horses and was a resting place for bargees. Later, petrol barges regularly carried their cargoes from Immingham to Nottingham until the 1970's. There used to be a small wharf here, and bricks were unloaded in the 19th century for house building in the village. There was also a ford across the river to Shelford. The ford was broken up in the 1930's to allow bigger barges to pass.

The Railway – came to the village in 1846 when the Nottingham to Newark line was built. There was a siding at the station for unloading goods and loading farm produce. In the 1870's there were day trips from Nottingham for 1½d return, and families would come from the city to picnic and hire rowing boats. On Bank Holidays as many as 2000 people would line the river bank.



Stoke Farm – was developed to the west of the village in the 1870's to deal with sewage and effluent from Nottingham and its suburbs. When the farm was extended to Bulcote c.1906, the 'night-soil' was carted along this track to spread on the fields. For many years settlement ponds covered vast areas of the surrounding fields, but modern treatment methods have allowed the fields to be returned to agriculture.





The Poplar Trees – A distinctive feature of the riverside, this line of trees was planted in 1919 to commemorate the fallen of the Great War. The avenue was extended in 2000 to mark the millennium.

Ancient hedgerows – The hedgerows leading down to the river mark field boundaries dating from the 16th century.

4 The River Trent – The Trent valley is renowned for its birdlife. Migrating birds follow the valley on their routes. Flocks of widgeon and many other small ducks over-winter here, and resident birds include kingfishers, herons, grebes, and mallards. Whitethroat and reed buntings love the thick hedgerows, and buzzards pass overhead, often being mobbed by local crows. Little egrets sometimes visit, and sparrowhawks can often be seen on the lookout for prey.
There is abundant fish life in the river. In the 1960's the bank would be lined with anglers from Stoke Bardolph nearly to Gunthorpe on Sunday match days.
The old ford was a major crossing point to Shelford until the late 1920s.

Follow the trail towards the village along Station Road to the Millennium Sundial on Church Road, where you will find another information panel (3) and further directions

This panel was produced in conjunction with Burton Joyce and Bulcote Local History Society and Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme.

Nottinghamshire County Council

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