



Brent Biennial Walk Dollis Hill → Willesden → Kensal Rise

Google Map: <https://bit.ly/38Fo2el>



↑ John Rogers at Kensal Rise Library . @Thierry Bal

1 Dollis Hill GPO Research Station & PADDOCK Air Raid Bunker

Opened in 1933 by Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald, the GPO research centre was at the cutting edge centre of telecommunications technology. The world's first digital electronic computer was built at Dollis Hill. The Colossus, designed by Tommy Flowers, played a vital role in the breaking of Nazi codes during the Second World War. The speaking clock and transatlantic telephone cables were also developed here. This was the site of a bomb-proof Cabinet War Room built in 1939 codenamed PADDOCK, a last resort Citadel' in the words of Winston Churchill.

2 Dollis Hill House and Gladstone Park

Huckleberry Finn author Mark Twain stayed at Dollis Hill House in the summer of 1900 and wrote that, "Dollis Hill comes nearer to being paradise than any other home I ever occupied". It was also a favourite country retreat of former Prime Minister William Gladstone. The park that opened in 1901 was named in his honour. The footprint of the house and some of its gardens still remain.

3 Cricklewood Film Heritage

From the bridge over the railway, you get an excellent view of the chimney of the majestic Cricklewood Pumping Station. The interior was used as the engine room of the Titanic in the original 1958 Pinewood film, *A Night to Remember*. We are looking towards the site of Cricklewood Film Studios which once produced epics such as *The Secret Kingdom* (1925) and *Dick Turpin* (1935).

4 Cricklewood Community Library

The original library was built on land owned by All Souls College Oxford, who held lands in the area dating back to at least the 15th Century. Along the route you will see many references to All Souls in the street names. It's also worth taking time to admire the fine art deco apartment block of Oman Court next door to the library. Many of the streets around Gladstone Park were developed in the early 20th Century.

5 Lost hamlet of Sherrick Green

The hamlet of Sherrick Green seems to have disappeared at some point during the 20th

7 Willesden

Willesden was recorded in 939 as Wellesdune, believed to mean 'hill of the spring'. It was part of the Ossulstone Hundred and remained a rural chain of hamlets into the 19th Century when it experienced rapid growth fuelled by the coming of the railways. The parish church of St. Mary's had been a pilgrims making their way along nearby Roman Watling Street. Willesden was a municipal Borough of the County of Middlesex from 1933 to 1965 when it merged with Wembley to form the London Borough of Brent, which is named after the river that flows through the area.

6 Light artwork in tube subway

Century. In 1720 it had 4 ratepayers, a brook bearing its name and covered land that stretched across Dudden Hill Lane. It is mentioned by author Thomas Burke in his 1921 book *The Outer Circle*. But now only this street carries its memory.

12 Site of Queens Park Rangers football ground

QPR played at a number of grounds around the Kensal Rise and Kensal Green in their early years including a stint at the Athletic Grounds in the 1920's that occupied the site around Whitmore Gardens. At the time this would still have been a semi-rural area with the streets to the north being built on fields and allotments. Listen to a QPR fan talk about this period of the club's history in one of John Rogers audio recordings.

13 Brent Biennial: John Rogers Kensal Rise Has A Story, Kensal Rise Library

John Rogers has produced an audio-visual portrait of the local area surrounding Kensal Rise Library, drawing on people's lived experiences and memories. Rogers uses the methods of psychogeography to present stories that encompass people's subjective viewpoints and experiences of place. The self-guided audio trail can be found on the streets of Kensal Rise and Kensal Green and a map is available outside Kensal Rise Community Library. The original Reading Room was opened by Mark Twain in 1900.



8 FOR NOW – Brent Biennial, Willesden Jewish Cemetery

"Commissioned by The United Synagogue and inspired by Italo Calvino's novel "Invisible Cities", artistic duo Joey Morris and Susanna Grant have built a sonic city, full of life and stories that will wash over the cemetery as the listener wanders its expanses. Invisible City transports you to a land of memory, as Arthur, the cemetery foreman, with a chorus of relatives and people from around Willesden, draw you in."

9 Pound Lane

One of the old thoroughfares of the area, the name is derived from the pens or pounds that were used to keep stray cattle and is recorded from the 1500s. It was previously known as Petticote Stile Lane which also seems to have followed Harlesden Road.

10 The Brondesbury Ridge

Listen to a recording of members of the Willesden Local History Society talking about the highest point in the old Parish of Willesden. Here you can pick up the psychogeographic sound trail, Kensal Rise Has A Story by John Rogers as part of Brent Biennial.

11 Possible Source of the Counters Creek

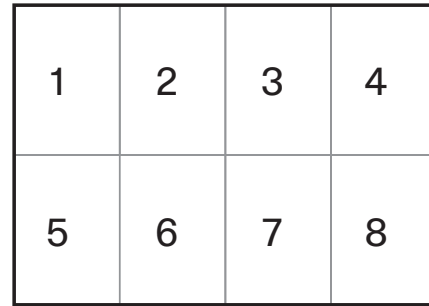
The Counters Creek, one of the lost rivers of London, is traditionally believed to rise in Kensal Green Cemetery. However, it's claimed that the stream is fed by underground springs that percolate through the soil from this high ridge. Look out for the audio recording at the end of All Souls Avenue.

↑ Invisible City by FOR NOW at Willesden United Synagogue Cemetery. © United Synagogue Collection

How to fold your map

1 Fold a piece of paper into eighths

Spend some time folding, as the quality of your folds will determine the quality of your booklet.

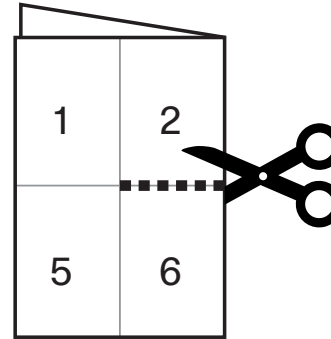


2 Unfold the paper

You will see eight separate panels. These will become the pages of your booklet.

3 Fold the paper short edge to short edge

You should fold the paper in half the opposite way from your first fold.

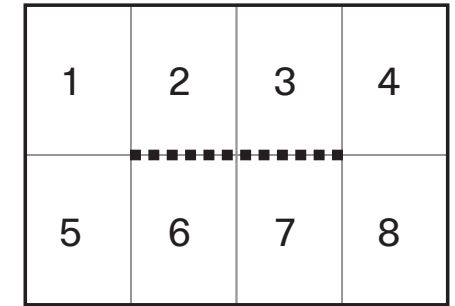


4 Cut the paper

Place the paper so that the folded edge is facing you. Then cut along the vertical fold seam in the middle of the paper until it intersects the horizontal fold seam.

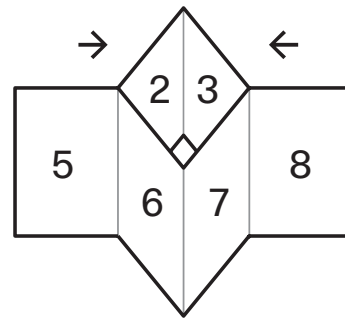
5 Unfold the paper

It should now have the original eight fold panels, but there should be a slit down the center of the paper, between the middle four panels.



6 Fold the paper in half, long edge to long edge

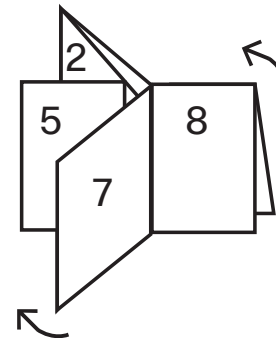
Repeat your very first fold. The cut part of the paper should fall along the middle of the folded edge.



7 Fold the paper into a booklet shape

Turn your paper so that the cut edge is up in the air. Then push the two ends toward each other. Separate the two middle seams from each other.

7.1 You will need to reverse the direction of the fold on one of the seams.



7.2 Choose two adjacent "wings" of the paper and push them towards each other, enclosing the other pages of the booklet inside them.

8 Flatten your booklet

Choose two adjacent "wings" of the paper and push them towards each other, enclosing the other pages of the booklet inside them.

