



Surrey Docks Farm

History Trail



This history trail was created from the research and contributions of dozens of volunteers and local people, and the findings of investigations with the Thames Discovery Programme, as part of a Heritage Lottery Fund project at the Farm in 2013/14. All of the photographed objects on this panel were found by project participants on the Rotherhithe foreshore, many alongside the Farm itself. Further information and resources on the site's history are available - see www.surreydocksfarm.org.uk.



Supported by
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Follow this trail to learn about when the Farm's site was part of a great shipyard, then a timber wharf associated with some important Victorian characters, and later a River Ambulance Receiving Station for transporting smallpox and fever patients. Find out what happened here in World War II, and how the Farm came to be here – and see the evidence of this fascinating history all around the site and on the Thames foreshore.

There are six information panels, at the numbered locations. There are also instructions on each panel to help you find your way to the next one.

1. THE SHIPYARD

On the railings just outside the Farm's riverside gate, at the end of Acorn Passage.

2. THE TIMBER WHARF

On the brick pillar along the riverside path, parallel with the tower.

3. THE RIVER AMBULANCE SERVICE

At the side of the blacksmith's forge.

4. SOUTH WHARF RECEIVING STATION

On the path between the orchard and vegetable plots, just past the beekeeping shed, and alongside the brick wall on the right.

5. WORLD WAR II AND THE RIVER FIRE STATION

On the side of the wooden lattice fence around the wildlife garden and pond, just off the riverside path.

6. THE URBAN FARM

At the far end of the Farm's riverside path, alongside the bronze animals and the wooden bench.

Illustration by Sandra Doyle

