

## The Terry Firm

Having trained as an apothecary, Joseph Terry (1793- 1850) joined Bayldon and Berry's business, selling mainly sweetmeats. By 1824 he owned the business, by then in St Helen's Square, and expanded the range of confectionery made. On his death, his son Joseph, later Sir Joseph, (1828- 1898) continued to develop the firm. By 1864 the works had moved to riverside buildings at Clementhorpe. Having begun with boiled sweets, the variety of products increased hugely but the firm later became exclusively makers of chocolate. A new factory, on Bishopthorpe Road, was completed in 1926. After a series of takeovers, it was closed in 2005 by Kraft. Chocolate Oranges and the All Gold assortment continue to be made, outside the UK.

## Noel Goddard Terry MBE, JP

Noel Terry (born 1889), grandson of Sir Joseph Terry, joined the family firm in 1911 after having worked for a local bank. He devoted his life to Terry's where he modernised sales techniques and office administration. He retired in 1970 after 59 years' service and was succeeded as Chairman by Sir Charles Forte. Noel served with the 3rd/5th West Yorkshire Regiment in the First World War; he sustained very serious injuries to his right leg in 1916 and was invalided out of the army. He married Kathleen Leetham (born 1892) in 1915 and they had three sons and one daughter, Betty. Noel and Kathleen died within a few months of each other in 1980.

Further information about the content of this leaflet can be found in:

*Bartholomew City Guides: York* - J Hutchinson and D M Palliser

*The Buildings of England : Yorkshire : York and the East Riding* - N Pevsner and D Neave.

*English Heritage* : Listed Buildings details

*The Story of Terry's* - Van Wilson

*Discovering Dringhouses : Aspects of a Village History* -

Dringhouses Local History Group

*Brierley in Yorkshire* - P Nuttgens

*The Noel Terry Collection of Furniture and Clocks at*

*Fairfax House* - P Brown

## In the city centre

**Former Terry's shop** in St Helen's Square: site of original 19th-century shop and works; replaced 1923-4 by a ballroom and restaurant behind a shop of which the frontage can be seen, including three huge columns, bronze window frames and the name Terry.

**Fairfax House**, 27, Castlegate (Grade I listed): the finest Georgian town house in England, with interiors by John Carr. Restored in 1983-84, as a home for Noel Terry's collection of English furniture, clocks, etc, by York Civic Trust of which Noel was a founder member and Treasurer for 25 years. Open to the public.

See [www.fairfaxhouse.co.uk](http://www.fairfaxhouse.co.uk)

In the Castle Museum, **Terry's sweet shop** is one of the premises re-created in Kirkgate, a Victorian street. There is a large display of labelled jars containing Terry products of the period when boiled sweets predominated.

## Useful information

First buses 4, 12 and 13 and Coastliner services run from York railway station via Blossom Street to Albemarle Road and along the A1036 with bus stops at frequent intervals.

Park and Ride service 3 is non-stop between Blossom Street and Askham Bar.

Pedestrian crossings and refuges can be found along the whole of the route.

Refreshments are available in Dringhouses and at Tesco.

*This leaflet has been prepared and distributed by the Dringhouses Local History Group.*

*Our website is: <http://dlhg.weebly.com>*



# A TERRY TRAIL

Noel Terry, of the famous chocolate firm, and his wife Kathleen, née Leetham, lived in Dringhouses, York.

This leaflet offers some biographical information and a description of the buildings and features most closely associated with them, their immediate family and the firm of Terry's.

The majority of the locations are linked by the A1036: The Mount, Mount Vale and Tadcaster Road as far south as Dringhouses Cemetery.



*Dringhouses Local History Group*

**1. Elm Bank Hotel** (Grade II\* listed), c. 1870. The home of Sidney Leetham of the famous York flour-milling firm; uncle of Kathleen. Notable internal features, including Art Nouveau stained glass (1898).

**3. No. 12, St George's Place** (1886): the first marital home of Noel and Kathleen. Semi-detached, some half-timbering, and a sunflower on the roof.

**4. Bishopsbarns: No. 27, St George's Place** (Grade II\* listed), 1905. Designed by York architect Walter Brierley for himself; a fine house in the Arts and Crafts style. Brierley, called by some 'the Lutyens of the north', later designed Goddards, the second marital home of Noel and Kathleen.

**6. No. 294, Tadcaster Road** (Grade II listed). Mid-19th-century villa. Family home of Joseph Terry, Noel's grandfather, who was Lord Mayor of York in 1874, 1885, 1886 and 1891; knighted 1887. The house, sometime known as Hawthorn Villa, was variously a private dwelling, a hotel, flats and offices during the 20th century. A family home since 2011. Good views across the Knavesmire racecourse to the grandstands and the Terry clock tower behind.

**11. Aldersyde** (Grade II listed), 1895. Mansion built for Ernest Leetham (brother of Sidney of Elm Bank) as his family home. Red brick with timber-framed upper floors; attached conservatory. Now converted into flats; modern dwellings occupy most of the original garden. Ernest was fully involved in his family's milling firm; he was chairman of Terry's 1915-23, and Sheriff of York 1912-13. He and his wife had three daughters of whom Kathleen was the youngest. For several years Ernest vehemently opposed the idea of her marrying Noel, so they wrote hundreds of letters secretly to each other. Kathleen's sister Constance married Harold Terry, Noel's brother, and her sister Ethel married Major F A Robinson.

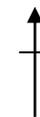


**12. Dringhouses Cemetery.** Near the centre of the cemetery are the Terry graves, surrounded by a yew hedge. Here are buried Noel and Kathleen, their second son Kenneth, DFC, (1920-44), and their youngest son Richard (1928-84).

**Former Terry's factory, Bishopthorpe Road.** Five Grade II listed buildings, in Conservation Area. Over the decades thousands of York people worked there and the firm was woven into the fabric of their lives. The clock tower is visible over a wide area, a reminder of this important part of York's history; the closure of the factory continues to be much lamented. Now a residential site.



To York City Centre



Distance from Albemarle Road to Sim Balk Lane: just under 2 miles (3km).

**2. Trentholme, 131, The Mount** (1833). Bought 1897 and much altered by E P Brett, York brewer and Noel's maternal grandfather. Noel lived here with his parents, siblings and grandfather and it was from this house that he was married. E P Brett died in 1916, just before his 90th birthday. Noel's father died tragically in 1910.

**5. Site of Royal Observer Corps building** on Little Knavesmire. There was a similar ROC building on the Knavesmire near St George's Place and it was here that, during the Second World War, Noel was Controller of Group 9, work for which he was awarded the MBE. The ROC had a vital role monitoring aircraft movements. Now a sports facility.

**7. Curzon Lodge Hotel** (Grade II listed), formerly The Beeches. Peter, eldest son of Noel and Kathleen, lived here with his wife and young family in the 1950s and Ethel, Kathleen's sister, moved here from Aldersyde after the death of her husband.

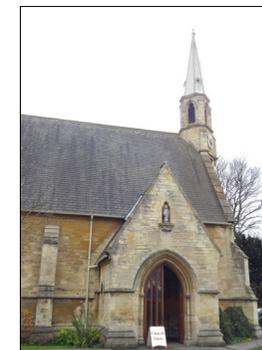
**8. Goddards** (Grade I listed), with carriage entrance (Grade II\* listed), 1927. Arts and Crafts house, and Brierley's last building. Noel and Kathleen lived here until their deaths in 1980, Noel creating his superb collection of 18th-century English furniture, clocks, etc. In accordance with his wishes, it remains as an entity and can be seen at Fairfax House, Castlegate. Goddards, a National Trust property, is open to the public. Telephone (01904) 771930 for details. Several rooms are used to evoke the life of the family and to present information about the factory, which Noel could see across the Knavesmire from his study. Three acres of gardens to explore.



Goddards: rear of the property

**9. War Memorial** (1922), by Brierley. Of the six names added after the Second World War, M H A Robinson was Noel and Kathleen's nephew, killed aged 21 during the Allies' advance across Germany. K T P Terry was their second son, killed over Cardigan Bay.

**10. Church of St Edward the Confessor** (Grade II listed), 1847-9. Replaced an earlier chapel (1725) of which some original floor tiles can be seen by the War Memorial. Interesting monuments and stained glass including a memorial window to Gertrude, Brierley's wife, who died in 1922. Usually open. Noel and Kathleen were married here on 9 October 1915.



**To walk/cycle back to York centre:** From the cemetery, go down Sim Balk Lane and bear left along the TransPennine Trail (National Cycle Route 65). This takes you past Knavesmire Wood and round part of the racecourse to the former Terry's factory, then to Rowntree Park and Terry Avenue (which passes the former Clementhorpe factory site - see small plaque on wall) to Skeldergate Bridge and York Castle. Distance: 3 miles (5km), mostly traffic-free. See City of York Council Cycle Route map (free) or OS Explorer map 90 (York). **Note:** Part of this route is liable to be impassable if the River Ouse is in flood.



To A64