

**Safety First: cross roads carefully, using the pedestrian crossings at main roads.**

**Start outside the main Library entrance (A on the map).**

**Rock Road Library is located in an area to the south of an ancient Roman route from Colchester to the midlands. Until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the area was dominated by huge open fields and common land. To meet the demand of an expanding population following the arrival of the railway in 1845, new suburbs were built in Cambridge. The Rock Freehold Land Society was established around 1884 to develop 'a splendid building estate' – not all the plots were developed at the same time and building continues to this day.**

**Read more on the Library Web-site: <https://friendsofrockroadlibrary.wordpress.com/library-history/>**

- 1 Look at the plaque on the library wall above the windows of the Library.**

**In what year was 'Rock Road Branch Library' built? .....**

**Unusually, the Library's iron railings were not removed during the Second World War for scrap metal – look closely at the gate posts.**

- 2 Where were the gates manufactured? .....**

**The Library is built in a typical Art Deco style – a popular modern architectural style first shown at an exhibition in Paris in 1925.**

- 3 On the sketch page (last page), draw the pattern of the windows above the main Library entrance doors.**

**Outside the Library, turn left and carefully cross Blinco Grove. Then go to the letter box.**

- 4 Who was the monarch when this letterbox on Blinco Grove was installed?**

**VR, Queen Victoria .....**

**ER, Edward VII .....**

**GR, George V .....**

**ER, Elizabeth II .....**

- 5 Where was the manufacturer of the letterbox based?**

**.....**

**Carefully cross back to Rock Road, to the opposite side to the Library (even house numbers). Stop opposite the Library at the large lime tree.**

- 6 On the sketch page, draw the shape of a leaf.**

**Walk a little further and stop at no. 56; look at the low brick wall to spot traces of the metal fence removed to support the war effort.**

- 7 How many metal remains are in the wall of no. 56? .....**

- 8 In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, building plots were sold to small building firms who chose the details of each house and gave them names which are often carved in the stonework.**

**What are the names of the houses at no. 54 and no. 52 Rock Road?**

**54: ..... 52: .....**

**Continue along the same side of Rock Road, admire the splendid blue-painted railings at no. 50.**

*The Victorians liked to decorate their buildings with carved stonework.*

9 What plant is represented on the 'key stone' above the front door at no. 46? .....

*Carefully cross Hartington Grove and continue along Rock Road. Stained glass front doors were very popular in Victorian times but the glass in the door at no. 34 Rock Road is 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

10 What can you see in the middle of the front door at no. 34? .....

*Not all the houses in the street were built at the same time. Most were built in Victorian times before cars were invented which is why they have no garages. Some houses are more modern in design and some are new houses disguised as old! Look at the plaque on no. 28 Rock Road.*

11 In what year was the house at no. 28 built? .....

*Carefully cross Rock Road. The stained glass in the door at no. 31 is also modern.*

12 What colour is the door at no. 31 painted? .....

*Walk to the top of Rock Road. Stop outside Blazing Saddles cycle shop. There are several clusters of small shops in the area that were important before households had cars and supermarkets appeared.*

*The shops regularly changed – along this stretch, in last century, there used to be a butcher, greengrocery, launderette, pharmacy building society, baker, shoe, lighting and toy shops.*

*Carefully cross Cherry Hinton Road at the pedestrian crossing, turn left and stop on the pavement near the car parking area. Look up at the old advertisement for bread painted on the gable wall.*

13 On your sketch page, copy as many words as you can from the advertisement on the wall.

*Continue along Cherry Hinton Road and look in the windows of the new interior design shop – admire the ornate, curved glass display windows.*

*Walk a little further to the top of the Cambridge Veterinary Practice driveway. There used to be tennis courts at the end of the drive - when the Victorians built the first houses in the area, tennis was a new craze!*

*Turn around and retrace your steps along Cherry Hinton Road. Stop at the letterbox near to the corner with Derby Road.*

14 Who was the monarch when the letter box was installed?

VR, Queen Victoria .....

ER, Edward VII .....

GR, George V .....

ER, Elizabeth II .....

*Turn left into Derby Road; at the end, follow the right-hand passage emerging in Sterne Close and look around you.*

*Sterne Close was developed between 1939 and 1955 when more people owned cars and it became more usual to build garages next to the houses.*

*Look around and find what looks like a 'lamp post' but which has no lamp! This is actually a 'stench pipe' to vent dangerous methane and other unpleasant gasses from underground sewers – the pipe is tall to get rid of both the gas and the smell produced by bacteria in our 'poo'!*

15 What other 'street furniture' is there in Sterne Close? Tick the ones you can see:

- |                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| .... Bollard        | .... Gas Marker                   |
| .... Lamp Post      | .... Green Telephone Exchange Box |
| .... Litter Bin     | .... Dog poo bin                  |
| .... Parking Sign   | .... Post Box                     |
| .... Speed Sign     | .... Street Sign                  |
| .... Telegraph Pole | .... Telephone Kiosk              |

*Walk to the right-hand junction with Fanshawe Road.*

16 What overall shape is the manhole cover in the grass verge?

.....

*Ahead of you is Coleridge Park. Turn right onto Fanshawe Road and continue to the junction with Coleridge Road. Turn right and walk towards Cherry Hinton Road.*

17 Which company is based in the building at no. 152 Coleridge Road?

.....

*Retrace your steps and cross Cherry Hinton Rd using the pedestrian crossing. Walk to the Post Office.*

18 Write down three reasons for visiting the Post office:

- (i) .....
- (ii) .....
- (iii) .....

19 Who was the monarch when the letter box outside the post office was installed?

- VR, Queen Victoria .....
- ER, Edward VII .....
- GR, George V .....
- ER, Elizabeth II .....

*Look above the shops, some of which used to be houses.*

20 What can you buy for lunch in 'Ray Bert Cottage'?

.....

*The pub next door, built in 1896, is named after the company which developed the estate: the Rock Freehold Land Society' - why the company chose its name is unknown – perhaps a link to the Rock of Gibraltar – it certainly has nothing to do with minerals or music!*

21 Who is the licensee of the Pub? (It is displayed, by law, outside the pub.)

.....

**Carefully cross Blinco Grove, continue along Cherry Hinton Road, walking in the direction of Hills Road. Stop outside the Sorrento Hotel.**

**22 In which country is the town of Sorrento?**

.....

**Continue along Cherry Hinton Road and cross Hartington Grove at the pedestrian crossing. On the corner is a church built in 1904 in the Arts & Craft style made popular by William Morris, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century designer, who objected to mass production of goods in factories and promoted the work of craftsmen.**

**23 What is the name of the church that meets in this building today?**

.....

**24 On your sketch page, draw one of the window panels in the main (corner) building entrance.**

**25 According to the notice board on the corner gate, how old was Wally Reynolds when he died?**

.....

**26 Who donated the left-side gate?**

.....

**Turn left along Hartington Grove (odd numbers).**

**27 Which group holds meetings at numbers 91-93 Hartington Grove?**

.....

**Cross Hartington Grove carefully. For safety, do not cross too close to the bend in the road. Continue along this side (even house numbers).**

**28 What is on top of the weather vane at no. 76?**

.....

**The houses at no. 64 – no. 68 were built in the 1960s in a modern style.**

**29 Write down two features of the houses that are different to the Victorian buildings.**

(i).....

(ii).....

**What was on the site before these new houses were built? (The answer is on the wall hanging in the Library Community Room).**

.....

**Look for the entrance to the small passageway (a track) adjacent to no. 68 Hartington Grove.**

**30 How many new houses have been built in the back garden of Forum House?**

.....

**Walk along the passage and stop outside the workshop at no. 70a.**

---

**31** On the sketch page, draw the sign (hidden in the roses) hanging outside the workshop at 70a.

What do you think is made in the workshop? .....

***At the end of the passage, turn right onto Blinco Grove, stop at the corner. The shape of the windows show that the building on the corner used to be a shop.***

**32** What was the shop used for in the 1930s? *(The answer is shown on the wall hanging in the Library Community Room).*

.....

***Turn into Rock Road and return to the Library. If it is open, enter the Library and go into the Community Room.***

*(You may have to come back another time – the Library Assistant will advise when would be a good time to return if the community room is in use.)*

**33** When was the WWI Rock Estate wall hanging completed?

.....

**Congratulations, you have reached the end of the trail!**

**'Know Your Place!' Quiz Trail Sketch Page**

**Question 3:**

**Window above Library Main Entrance**

**Question 6:**

**Tree Leaf**

**Question 13:**

**Bread Advertisement**

**Question 24:**  
**Arts & Crafts Church Door Window**

**Question 31:**  
**Passage Workshop Sign**