

= Carr Hill =

Carr Hill is a suburb in the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead in Tyne and Wear , England . It is bordered by Felling to the north , Sheriff Hill to the south , Windy Nook to the east and Deckham to the west . It lies 1 @. @ 5 miles ( 2 @. @ 4 km ) south of Gateshead , 2 miles ( 3 @. @ 2 km ) south of the city of Newcastle upon Tyne and 13 miles ( 21 km ) north of the historic City of Durham . Once a village in County Durham , it was incorporated into the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead by the Local Government Act 1972 on 1 April 1974 .

One of the less populous of the former villages that comprise the metropolitan borough , Carr Hill has a long history and was first developed by the Romans . During the Industrial Revolution it became the centre of pottery making in Tyneside , and numerous stone quarries , glass makers and windmills were set up . It also had a large reservoir providing water to several areas of Gateshead and Newcastle upon Tyne .

Industrial decline from the turn of the 20th century , coupled with the building of Gateshead 's first council estate , saw Carr Hill transformed from an industrial settlement into a residential suburb of the Gateshead Council ward of Deckham . Governed locally and nationally by the Labour Party , the suburb is economically disadvantaged compared to other areas of the borough and nationally , with high levels of unemployment and low levels of income . It is served by Carr Hill Primary School . There are two small parks that contribute to the social activity of the area , as does the Elgin Centre at Elgin Road . Two historic venues , both now closed , face uncertain futures , as does the parish church .

= = History = =

= = = Early history = = =

The origins of the name " Carr Hill " are subject to speculation . In the 18th and 19th centuries the village was usually referred to as Carr 's Hill , a possessive form suggesting that , like Deckham , the name stems from a notable family in residence . It is more likely however that the name was taken from the Scottish Gaelic carr , meaning " rocky shelf " .

Parts of the early village were in Upper Heworth , and the remainder in Gateshead Fell , a wild and treacherous area of common land notable for the criminality of the tinkers and hawkers who lived there . There is some evidence of Roman occupation ; a proposed enclosure map of Heworth Common from 1766 charts a Roman Causeway running between Carr Hill Lane ( now Carr Hill Road ) and Blue Quarries in Sheriff Hill . The likely explanation for Roman interest in the area is Swan Pond , twice the size of the pond at Saltwell Park , the fresh water from which might be used to fill bathhouses and flush latrines . Indeed , in 1697 , William Yarnold obtained a lease for the laying of cisterns and pipes to bring water from " the Great Pond at Carr 's Hill " , shown on ordnance survey maps as Swan Pond , to Newcastle upon Tyne .

= = = Industrial period 1740 ? 1860 = = =

The most important event in Carr Hill 's formative history occurred in 1740 , when John Warburton established a pottery at Carr Hill Lane . Warburton 's pottery , later referred to as ' Carr Hill Pottery ' and widely credited with bringing white earthenware to the region , transformed the village into one of Gateshead 's potting epicentres and encouraged workers and traders to move to the area . Warburton passed the pottery to his son @-@ in @-@ law Issac Warburton in about 1760 , and by the time John Warburton died in June 1794 it was the largest in the Tyne Valley , commanding a rent of £ 100 per annum ; by comparison , the Tyne Pottery on Felling shore paid £ 20 . When placed for sale in 1812 , the advert described Carr Hill Pottery as " valuable and extensive " .

Carr Hill by 1820 was a modern and populous village , situated on hill , still isolated from Gateshead and Felling . A variety of industries had developed alongside Warburton 's pottery and were

prospering ; a flint glass manufacturer , under the management of Alexander Elliot , three corn mills - Carr Hill Mill , Felling Windmill and St John 's Mill ( the latter built after an earlier mill was destroyed by a mysterious fire in 1824 ) ? and a fire brick kiln . There were also three inns and " some neat houses occupied by respectable families " . By 1840 Carr Hill Reservoir had been built and , under the management of the Newcastle Water Company was the major water supplier for residents in Carr Hill , Sheriff Hill and Windy Nook , and freestone quarries , similar to Kells ' Quarry in Windy Nook , were producing Newcastle Grindstone of excellent quality . In 1856 a Methodist Chapel was built . During the mid @-@ 19th century , the increasing population led to calls for social amenities to be improved ; footpaths were a particular concern , although an examination of ordnance survey mapping demonstrates the continued isolation of the village generally . The success of Warburton 's pottery resulted in a street being named after him , but the lack of residential development is evident . Carr Hill glassworks and quarries are still clearly marked , along with Swan Pond and a public house , The Free Gardeners Arms . By the mid @-@ 19th century Carr Hill Reservoir was in the hands of the Whittle Dean Water Company , and in 1883 was converted into a 10 @-@ million imperial gallon ( 45 million l ; 12 million US gal ) open reservoir .

= = = Carr Hill House = = =

Carr Hill House was the largest estate in the village ; a freehold mansion house on Carr Hill Lane . The date of building is unknown , but it does not appear on an enclosure map of 1766 , suggesting it was built after that date . There is strong evidence that it was once a lunatic asylum ; in 1770 an advertisement in a local newspaper declared :

#### LUNATICKS

Carr 's Hill House on Gateshead Fell

To The Public

We beg Leave to inform the Public that we have opened the above HOUSE pleasantly situated about a mile distant from Newcastle , which we have fitted up in an elegant manner , with every Accommodation for the reception of LUNATICKS in genteel or opulent circumstances : in this House Persons entrusted to our Care shall be treated with the utmost Attention and Humanity . The terms are reasonable . R. Lambert , W. Keenlyside , H Gibson , R. Stoddard ( surgeons to the Infirmary ) , Newcastle 1767 .

By the turn of the 19th century Carr Hill House was a residential property and farm , and in 1806 Matthew Atkinson responded to an advertisement in the Newcastle Courant and purchased the 12 @-@ acre ( 4 @-@ 9 ha ) estate . In 1858 the house was in the hands of G. J Kenmir , town clerk of Gateshead from 1855 until 1856 , who occupied a 26 @-@ acre ( 11 ha ) estate on which he kept a large number of pigs .

= = = Industrial decline and modern development = = =

By the late 19th century the village was in steep decline . In 1894 , Whellan described Carr Hill as " a scattered village , which ... was dotted with windmills , now fallen into ruins , as are many of the houses . " Carr Hill Pottery had operated throughout the 19th century , but the once thriving pottery had by 1860 become little more than a cottage industry , employing a mere 8 employees and paying just £ 15 per annum in rent . Ownership subsequently transferred to Thomas Patterson , of neighbouring Sheriff Hill Pottery , who eventually closed the Carr Hill works in 1893 . The buildings were demolished completely in 1932 ; only the Old Brown Jug public house and a street named in honour of Warburton survive as reminders of the area 's rich pottery heritage . Carr Hill Quarry on Elgin Quarry was infilled and replaced by a school , and although the windmills still stood , none operated as a going concern by 1890 , and were instead used as tenement property or storehouses Carr Hill Mill was demolished between 1919 and 1939 as was the last remaining mill in 1963 . Elliot 's glassworks suffered a similar fate , closing in about 1900 and demolished in 1932 . Carr Hill House fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1921 . Carr Hill Reservoir survived until 1973 , but by then the whole of Gateshead and Newcastle were supplied by the Newcastle and Water

Company from Catcleugh and Whittle Dene in Northumberland and it had become redundant , and was covered soon after .

Carr Hill today is shaped by the housing development of the 20th century . A building boom begun in Gateshead at the start of the 20th century ; large tracts of development at Deckham were matched by development in Carr Hill at Mafeking , Methuen and Baden Powell Streets . In 1911 an offer to build Sutton Dwellings was made to Gateshead Council and was staunchly rebuffed and in 1917 Parliament made a further proposal which was again rejected . However , a Gateshead Council survey concluded in 1919 that " overcrowding in Gateshead was at dangerous levels , that landlords were scrimping on repairs and improvements " and that housing levels were unsustainable in light of rapid population growth . When in February 1919 the Town Improvement Committee recommended the purchase of 214 acres ( 0 @. @ 87 km<sup>2</sup> ; 0 @. @ 334 sq mi ) of land between Dryden Road at Low Fell and Carr Hill under the Housing Act 1919 , the Council finally yielded and purchased 65 acres ( 0 @. @ 26 km<sup>2</sup> ; 0 @. @ 102 sq mi ) of land in Carr Hill and Sheriff Hill at the cost of £ 19 @, @ 000 . The result was that , in 1921 , a large council estate was built in Carr Hill at Iona Road and the surrounding areas . The estate remains largely unchanged and shapes the suburb today , with only the width of Carr Hill Road ( indicating a village green ) , the ' Old Brown Jug ' inn and some stone cottages at Co @- @ Operative Terrace remaining of the industrial village which once stood in its stead .

= = Governance = =

Carr Hill is in the council ward of Deckham in the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead . This ward is approximately 1 @. @ 5 square kilometres ( 0 @. @ 58 sq mi ) in area and has a population of 9 @, @ 228 . It is represented by three councillors . In June 2012 , they were Brian Coates , Martin Gannon and Bernadette Oliphant .

Carr Hill is part of the Westminster parliamentary constituency of Gateshead . It was previously in the Gateshead East and Washington West constituency which was abolished by boundary changes before the 2010 UK General Election . For many years the MP was Joyce Quin , who retired on 11 April 2005 and was awarded a life peerage into the House of Lords on 13 June 2006 and is now Baroness Quin .

The present MP Ian Mearns , is a member of the Labour party and his office is in Gateshead . He replaced Sharon Hodgson who successfully campaigned in the newly formed constituency of Washington and Sunderland West . In the 2010 UK General Election , Mearns was elected with a majority of 12 @, @ 549 over Frank Hindle . The swing from Labour to the Liberal Democrats was 3 @. @ 9 % .

Carr Hill is in a safe Labour seat . Mearns ' success in 2010 followed of Sharon Hodgson , who in the 2005 UK General Election polled over 60 % of the votes cast whilst in 2001 , Joyce Quin was returned with a majority of 53 @. @ 3 % .

= = Geography and topography = =

Carr Hill , at latitude 54 @. @ 9469 and longitude ? 1 @. @ 58548 , is " pleasantly situated " 1 @. @ 5 miles ( 2 @. @ 4 km ) south @- @ east of Gateshead and 255 miles ( 410 km ) from London . It lies on a bed of sandstone and clay and the land is steep in places , slopes from south to north and reaches a height of around 140 metres ( 460 ft ) above sea level at the southern fringes . This distinctive , steep topography means that Carr Hill sits atop " a lofty hill " and , where not spoiled by house building , this provides residents with good views to Newcastle upon Tyne in the north , the north @- @ west and north @- @ east towards the North Sea . Around 25 % of the land is open space and 70 % residential .

Documents indicate that the settlement boundaries lie at the Split Crow Road in the north , Nursery Lane to the east , Hendon Road to the west and Sheriff Hill to the south . Carr Hill was part of County Durham until it was incorporated into the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead by the Local Government Act 1972 . It is now bordered by settlements which are also part of the metropolitan

borough . These are Sheriff Hill to the south , Deckham to the west , Felling to the north and Windy Nook to the east .

The climate in Carr Hill is temperate like much of the north east of England . The mean highest temperature , at 12 @. @ 8 ° C ( 55 @. @ 0 ° F ) , is slightly lower than the England average ( 13 @. @ 1 ° C ( 55 @. @ 6 ° F ) ) though the mean lowest temperature , at 7 @. @ 2 ° C ( 45 @. @ 0 ° F ) , is somewhat higher ( 5 @. @ 6 ° C ( 42 @. @ 1 ° F ) ) . The total annual rainfall , at 643 @. @ 1 millimetres ( 25 @. @ 32 in ) , is significantly lower than the national average of 838 @. @ 7 millimetres ( 33 @. @ 02 in ) .

#### = = Demography = =

According to the United Kingdom Census 2001 , Carr Hill has an approximate population of 3 @, @ 200 ? 53 % of the population are female , slightly above the national average , whilst 47 % are male . Only 1 @. @ 4 % of the population are from a black or other minority ethnic group ( BME ) , as opposed to 9 @. @ 1 % of the national population . Relatively few pensioners live in the suburb , 12 @. @ 2 % as compared to 15 @. @ 9 % nationally and 17 @. @ 3 % in the borough .

Carr Hill Nook has a high proportion of lone parent households at some 19 @. @ 3 % of all households . This is the fourth highest figure in Gateshead and compares with a borough average of 11 @. @ 5 % . Some 36 @. @ 9 % of households have dependent children , as opposed to 29 @. @ 5 % nationally and 28 @. @ 4 % in Gateshead . This is also the fourth @-@ highest figure in Gateshead . The Index of Multiple Deprivation , which divides England into 32 @, @ 482 areas and measures quality of life to indicate deprivation , splits Carr Hill into halves and lists one half in the top 5 % of all deprived areas in England in 2008 . The other half is listed in the top 20 % of all deprived areas .

In 2011 , Carr Hill had a population of 3 @, @ 465 , compared with 9 @, @ 938 for the wider Deckham ward .

Carr Hill is an area of Deckham and a sub area of the town of Gateshead . In 2011 , 6 @. @ 4 % of the population were non white british , compared with 7 @. @ 7 % for the wider area and ward of Deckham . The ward is split into three sub districts , Central Deckham , Carr Hill and Mount Pleasant . Carr Hill is in the south of the ward and is less ethnically diverse than Mount Pleasant and Central Deckham . But the area is more so than nearby Pelaw and Windy Nook .

#### = = Economy = =

The decline of industry in Carr Hill and the rapid building of residential property transformed the village into a residential estate . There is a small commercial area at the junction of Carr Hill Road and Pottersway , which provides some employment and which has become a " social landmark " , but there is no major employer . A Tesco Extra store at the eastern fringe of the boundary with Windy Nook opened in 2012 and also provides employment to residents .

Carr Hill performs poorly in comparison to the wider borough in terms of economic activity and opportunity . Some 42 % of children in the ward live in poverty , the second @-@ highest figure in Gateshead . The adult unemployment rate is 7 % , compared to 5 % borough @-@ wide , the joint third @-@ highest figure in Gateshead . Youth unemployment is 10 % , also the joint third @-@ highest in the borough . The income of residents is £ 24 @, @ 000 ; £ 3 @, @ 000 below the regional median . Carr Hill has only 70 VAT @-@ registered businesses , compared to a borough average of 230 . Only 2 @. @ 6 % of residents are self @-@ employed , compared to 4 @. @ 5 % of the borough and 8 @. @ 3 % nationally . Overall , Carr Hill falls within the most deprived 20 % of regions in England according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation in 2010 .

#### = = Leisure and recreation = =

There are no libraries in Carr Hill , though Gateshead Central Library , the largest in the Metropolitan Borough of Gateshead , is nearby . Gateshead Leisure Centre in Shipcote and Saltwell

Park are close by .

== Parks ==

There are two parks in Carr Hill . The first is Carr Hill Park , a small play area at the junction of Northway and Carr Hill Road known by locals as " the Top Park " Previously an under @-@ used resource , the play area was rebuilt in 2009 ? 10 at a cost of £ 148 @,@ 000 . It now includes spring @-@ mounted play items , rope walks and other play equipment , whilst improvements to lighting , pathways and drainage to the football area were made . The park has become a valuable social open area ; in April 2011 it hosted a ' community play ' event , organised by Gateshead Council to encourage physical activity , attended by almost one hundred residents whilst in 2010 it hosted the first annual " Mark Turner Memorial Day " ; a fundraising event begun after Turner , a Sheriff Hill resident , was killed whilst on duty in Afghanistan . Around 1 @,@ 000 guests attended , including Michael Hood , the Mayor of Gateshead .

The second park is Carr Hill Reservoir Park , which occupies the site of the covered reservoir at Carr Hill and Ruskin Roads . This is a larger park containing a play area and contained sports area paid for by fundraising by local residents . There is also a full @-@ size football pitch , which is the base of Sheriff Hill Football Club ; a mixed @-@ sex club of around 125 players which is substantially funded by Gateshead Council .

== Venues ==

There is some evidence that there were at least two inns during the 18th century , although their precise locations and names are unknown . In 1827 , Parson and White 's Directory listed the Brown Jug , adjoining Carr Hill Pottery at Carr Hill Lane and it is likely that this venue is one of those earlier inns . The second is likely the Old Fellows Inn , located near the Brown Jug at Carr Hill Lane , listed in 1844 , but later listed as ' The Free Gardeners Arms " . By 1856 , both the Brown Jug and the Free Gardeners Arms were well established and thriving and continued to prosper well into the 20th century , under the slightly different names of The Old Brown Jug and The Gardeners Arms .

Despite one document referring to both as " social landmarks " , they have experienced a significant downturn in recent years and their future is extremely uncertain . The Brown Jug has been closed and derelict for several years ; in 2009 an application was made to convert the property into a block of six apartments . Although the application was declined , the pub and surrounding locale became something of a " no @-@ go " area , and a new application by Yorkshire Homes to convert the public house into a single residential property was approved in 2011 . The Gardeners Arms continued to trade until 2011 but was vacant when , on 1 July 2012 , the inn was gutted by fire . It was immediately put up for sale by the owners .

== Culture and community ==

There are no structures listed by English Heritage in Carr Hill , although the buildings at 179 ? 185 Carr Hill Road were listed locally by Gateshead Council ; in 2004 Our Lady of the Annunciation Church was added to the local list .

== The Elgin Centre ==

The Elgin Centre , on Elgin Road at the south ? east boundary between Deckham and Carr Hill , provides " the key cluster " of community provisions for residents . These facilities contribute to the regeneration of the suburb .

The facilities are utilised by the Route 26 Community Project , a registered charity based at the centre that works towards the betterment of lives in Deckham and neighbouring wards . The project works with Gateshead Council and the Gateshead Housing Company to provide a community cafe promoting healthy eating ( the T ? Junction ) , a gymnasium , indoor sports hall , outdoor Five @-@

a @-@ side football pitches and a meeting place for resident groups . The project has education provision for young children as a registered day ? care provider and it also offers adult education and training . The project hosts the Carnival on the Hill / Deckham Festival , a collaborative enterprise between Route 26 , Gateshead Council and Home Group , offering free activities such as go @-@ karting and children 's soft play , against the backdrop of a steel band . The second Carnival on the Hill was held on 3 September 2011 and attracted more than 1 @,@ 000 visitors , including the Mayor of Gateshead and BBC local weatherman Paul Mooney .

= = Transport = =

The principal roads in Carr Hill are the local distributors : Carr Hill Road to the south , Coldwell Lane in the east and Nursery Lane , which bisects the suburb centrally . Journey time by car or bus to Gateshead town centre is ten minutes and fifteen minutes into the centre of Newcastle upon Tyne . Residents have a comparatively low level of car ownership , 46 @.@ 9 % as compared to a borough average of 56 @.@ 8 % . Some 27 @.@ 3 % of residents travel to work by public transport .

Carr Hill is on a bus route into Gateshead and Newcastle upon Tyne served by two bus services : the Orbit 51 , which travels to Heworth Interchange and terminates at Gateshead , and the 68 . All buses serving Carr Hill are operated by Go North East under the administration of Nexus .

The nearest Metro station is Felling , and the nearest railway station is Heworth Interchange . The nearest airport is Newcastle International Airport , some 7 @.@ 4 miles ( 11 @.@ 9 km ) away .

= = Education = =

Carr Hill Community Primary School , at the western end of Carr Hill on Carr Hill Road , caters for pupils in the 3 ? 11 age range . It is a larger than average school where almost two thirds of the pupils are eligible for schools meals , well above the national average . The school has made steady and sustained improvement ; in 2008 an OFSTED inspection found the school to be " good " and in 2010 the school was rated ' outstanding ' , with excellent teaching and leadership noted and praised . Carr Hill Primary is the only school in the suburb , after Elgin Secondary Technical School , built in 1962 , was closed in the 1990s . The majority of children aged 11 ? 16 now will attend Thomas Hepburn Community Academy in Felling .

Carr Hill compares unfavourably with the wider Gateshead area in respect of adults with educational qualifications . 43 @.@ 5 % of adults have no educational qualifications , compared to 38 @.@ 4 % across the whole of Gateshead and the England average of 28 @.@ 9 % . Only 30 @.@ 4 % of adults have five or more GCSE 's or equivalent at A \* ? C ( compared to 36 @.@ 9 % across Gateshead and 47 @.@ 6 % nationally ) whilst 13 @.@ 4 % of adults in the suburb have two or more A @-@ Level 's or equivalent .

= = Religion = =

According to the 2001 UK census , 78 @.@ 9 % of Carr Hill residents identify themselves as Christian . This is marginally less than the regional average of 80 @.@ 1 % but is higher than the national figure of 71 @.@ 7 % . About 0 @.@ 1 % of residents identify as Buddhist , slightly fewer as Sikh , 0 @.@ 4 % as Muslim , and around 0 @.@ 2 % with another unstated religion . No residents identified themselves as Jewish or Hindu . The percentage of residents who have " no religion " is 13 @.@ 6 % ; 6 @.@ 7 % of residents did not state any religion .

= = Our Lady of the Annunciation Church = =

Built in 1950 , this modern , Roman Catholic church is located at Millway , and is the only place of worship in the suburb . It was also a social hub , hosting regular events such as Christmas fayres . In 2009 however , parish priest David Taylor was arrested in connection with a number of indecent assaults on young boys in his care and was suspended from his joint parish of St Peter 's , Low Fell

and the Annunciation . Taylor admitted five charges at Durham Crown Court in 2009 and was given a prison sentence . On 20 April 2012 , a final mass was held by the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle and the church was closed . As of 2012 the building remains standing , although property company GVA are inviting tenders for the church and adjoining land .

= = = Academic and other texts = = =