



Statue of Sturge, Five Ways, 2006. (Brigitte Winsor)

The statue of Joseph Sturge was unveiled in 1862. Carved into the stone around the statue are the words 'Peace', 'Temperance' and 'Charity'. Two symbolic angel figures stand guard, one holding a laurel leaf, the other reaching towards the figure of a child, indicating a young slave. A further inscription reads: 'He laboured to bring freedom to the negro slave, the vote to the British workman, and the promise of peace to a war worn world'. Sturge formed the Birmingham Anti-Slavery Society in 1826 and worked alongside the already functioning Birmingham Ladies Society for the Relief of Negro Slaves and a number of black abolitionists including Frederick Douglass.

If you have time leave the Five Ways roundabout onto Islington Row and turn right along George Road to see the Edgbaston Quaker Meeting House 15. Turn left into St James Road and left onto Wheeley's Road to the Edencroft flats 16.

A blue plaque marks where Sturge's house once stood. He lived at 64 Wheeley's Road until his death in 1859. His home was visited by anti-slavery activists from around the world, including Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Continue along this road and look out for the blue plaque on the left marking a Cadbury home at 17 Wheeley's Road 17. Turn left on Islington Row to Five Ways Station, a short ride to New Street Station.

This leaflet contains two trails that can either be taken separately or done together as a single heritage trail through the city centre.



Town Hall and Congreve Street, 1833. [Misc Prints/51]

Front image: The Old Bull Street Entrance, courtesy of Central England Quakers. Other images courtesy of Birmingham Archives and Heritage Service.

Trail compiled by Pamela Williams.
Design by Brigitte Winsor.


Further Reading:

The Quaker Lloyds in the Industrial Revolution, H. Lloyd.
The Galtons of Birmingham, B. Smith.
A Century of Birmingham Life, Vol 1, Langford.
Memoir of Joseph Sturge, H. Richard.
Women Against Slavery, C. Midgley.

www.connectinghistories.org.uk
www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk

Further Information:

0121 236 2644
www.centralenglandquakers.org.uk

 Birmingham City Council

Quaker Trail Map

This map is an approximate guide. It is advisable to undertake the trail with a Birmingham A-Z, or other similar map.

