

# Troopers Hill Area - Timeline



Friends of  
Troopers Hill

2007	New Management Plan adopted. Troopers Hill LNR awarded a Green Flag for the first time.
2006	End of Wildspace! Project, launch of Nature in the City led by Sally Oldfield.
2005	Centenary of Air Balloon School
2004	Management and Action Plan launched, Awards for All Lottery Grant awarded
2003	Formation of Friends of Troopers Hill
2002	LNRO appointed funded by Wildspace! through English Nature and the Lottery
2000	
1995	Troopers Hill Designated as Local Nature Reserve 22nd June
1994	Start of photographic monitoring
1991	Resurfacing of paths, erection of perimeter fence
1990	
1987	Crews Hole Methodist Church closed
1982	Tar Works site cleared
1981	Tar Works closed
1980	
1976	St George Church demolished
1974	Sublimed naphthaline plant closed as explosion risk after Flixborough
1970	1 April Ownership of Bristol & West Tar Distillers passed to British Steel
1968	Flood to 6 inches below 1894/1960 level 10 July
1962	Southwestern Gas Board become sole owner of Bristol & West Tar Distillers
1960	Flood to 1894 record level 5 Dec
1956	14th Sept Freehold of Troopers Hill purchased by Bristol City Council for £600
1952	Formation of Bristol & West Tar Distillers - Southwestern Gas Board own 25%
1950	
1948	3rd April Troopers Hill sold by J W Ballard to Frank Viner for £600
1940	
1936	21st April Joseph John Ballard (owner of Troopers Hill) dies
1932	24th March Allotments including Troopers Hill Field purchased by BCC for £3,165
1930	
1924	5th Sept Troopers Hill sold by B E Somers to Joseph John Ballard for £515
1924	Stone & Timsons Muriate of Ammonia Works closed - incorporated into Tar Works
1920	30th Sept Freehold of Troopers Hill offered for sale by auction (20 acres or thereabouts)
1910	
1908	Troopers Hill Fireclay mine closed
1905	Little St Aidan's and adjoining school closed - bought by the Tar Works
1904	Conham Chemical Works closed - incorporated into Tar Works
1900	Bull Inn rebuilt in new location
1900	William Butler dies 6 October
1897	St George becomes part of the City and County of Bristol
1896	Troopers Hill Fireclay mine employs 9 underground workers
1894	River flood 15 Nov
1890	
1889	William Butler retires
1886	Troopers Hill leased to Bristol Fireclay Co by Elizabeth Somers

1880 1880 OS map uses name of Troopers Hill, this name was authorised by 3 local residents  
1878 First record of Troopers Hill Fireclay mine. 22 Dec Fire destroys St George Church

1873 St George Local Board formed

1870

1863 Tar Works Fire - Works sold to William Butler

1860

1853 Crews Hole Methodist Church built

1850

1845 'Troopers Hill' shown on Tithe Map Troopers Hill coal mine closed by this date  
1843 Crews Hole Tar Works established by IKB with local financiers and William Butler as mgr  
1841 GWR opened from Bristol to Paddington  
1840 1840 Lander's Electoral Map shows 'Truebody's Hill' GWR opened from Bristol to Bath  
1838 Patent for preserving timber with creosote by John Bethell  
1835 Construction of the Great Western Railway starts  
1833 Scenes in our Parish by a Country Parson's Daughter (Elizabeth Emra) published in NY  
1831 Bristol Riots 31st October

1830 1830 First recorded use of name 'Troopers Hill' on the first OS map  
1828 Brass Company sells Crews Hole abandoned site for £1,880  
1826 Drawing commissioned by GW Braikenridge shows Troopers Hill Chimney

1820

1819 Crews Hole Pottery closes

1813 'Truebody's Hill' offered for sale.  
1812 Anthony Ammat builds Crews Hole Pottery (it was beside the river opposite Lamb Hill)

1810 1810 Kennet and Avon canal completed linking Bristol to the Thames  
1809 } Revd John Emra becomes vicar of St George (to 1842)  
} Construction of Floating Harbour and Feeder Canal  
1804 } Troopers Hill colliery established at about this time?

1800 1800 Sale of glassworks (the glassworks was near the bottom of Strawberry Hill)

Troopers Hill Chimney built?

1790

1784 St George civil parish formed  
Crews Hole and Conham Copper Works leased by Elton and Tyndall?

1780 1780 Copper Smelting moved to Warmley and Crews Hole site leased to various businesses

1777 William King, glassmaker dies  
1774 William Reeve bankrupt, Arnos Vale and Black Castle sold

1770

1766 Crews Hole bottle glasshouse advertised for sale occupied by William King & Co

Black Castle built using copper slag blocks from Crews Hole by William Reeve

1760

1758 25 March Sir Abraham Elton sells 'Harris's Hill alias Truebody's Hill' to Brass Company  
1754 49 copper smelting furnaces reported at Crews Hole  
1752 3 March St George Church foundation stone laid  
1751 Ecclesiastical parish of St George created

1750

Manufacture of copper slag blocks started to dispose of this waste material

1742 49 Copper Furnaces

1740  
1738 George Whitefield and John Wesley preach at Hanham Mount

1730  
1728 River Avon Navigation opened from Bristol to Bath  
1725 Crews Hole producing 150T copper/year from 24 furnaces employing 33 men

1720

1712 Crews Hole Copper Works established by Bristol Brass & Wire Company

1710

1704 'Harris's Hill alias Truebody's Hill' purchased by Abraham Elton from Lancelot Dobson  
1702 Baptist Mills Brass Works established (now under M32 J2)

1700  
1698 Copper works established at Conham owned by Abraham Elton

1690

1682 20th Aug Br Edward Terrill ordered banks like a gallery to be cut above Crews Hole

1680

1670

1660

1650  
1645 Civil War - Prince Rupert forced to surrender Bristol to Parliament, 10 September  
1643 Civil War - Royalist's Capture of Bristol, 26 July

1640

1630

1620

1610  
1610 Map of Kingswood showing Harris Hill

1600