

she had become a national heroine who was to be summoned By the time she returned to England less than two years later deaths had been caused by diseases such as cholera. against considerable opposition, to improve conditions. These organisier and a strict disciplinarian, working tirelessly, often angel with kind words and a gentle touch. She was a powerful has become a legend. But Florence was not just a ministering Florence Nightingale as the Lady of the Lamp whose shadow the sick soldiers kissed as she passed through their wards at night and in less than a week she had left London with 38 nurses. Scutari (in fact she had already been planning to go privately) of War wrote inviting Florence to lead a small party of nurses to of the conditions were published in The Times. The Secretary A year later war had started in the Crimea and horrific accounts Distressed Circumstances in London. to manage the institution for the Care of Sick Gentlewomen in nursing institution in Kaiserswerth in Germany. Finally in 1853, that had been written on nursing and she was also able to visit a way. She now spent all the time she could studying everything empty after the death of Florence's Great-Aunt Evans, whom she had also nursed. But Florence was not to be fobbed off in this Bridge House becoming a nursing home. It had recently become were horrified. Eventually, after many angry and hysterical By now Florence knew where her vocation lay but her parents afterwards she looked after her old nurse through her last illness. later she was allowed to nurse her grandmother and shortly begged to remain but her mother would not hear of it. Two years In 1843 when the family was due to return to Embley she her time visiting the poor and sick in their cottages in Holloway. what that service was to be, but soon she was spending much of His service." It was only several years later that she realised

Florence Nightingale was born on May 12th 1820 in the city whose name she was given. Her parents, Fanny and William, had spent the last two years travelling in Europe but in 1821 they returned to England.

Florence's father was born William Edward Shore and became Nightingale when he inherited a considerable estate from his great uncle, Peter Nightingale II. The family fortune had been built up in the eighteenth century, started by Thomas Nightingale and added to by his son Peter I. In addition to extensive lead and mineral rights, they owned land and property in Lea, including Lea Hall and the Lea smelting works. Peter II founded Lea Mills and the hat factory. It was natural that when the Nightingales decided to settle in England they should come to Derbyshire and Lea Hurst was built. However, almost immediately Florence's mother, Fanny, had decided it was inadequate. She found it cold, too far from the social life of London and much too small. Florence herself once told friends, "It has only 15 bedrooms." They acquired another residence at Embley Park in Hampshire and Lea Hurst was used during the summer.

Nevertheless, it was during her visits to Lea Hurst that Florence's commitment to nursing gradually took shape. From a very early age she had been dissatisfied with the empty social life that her mother and sister so much enjoyed and in February 1837 she wrote in her private notes, "God spoke to me and called me to

COMMITMENT TO NURSING

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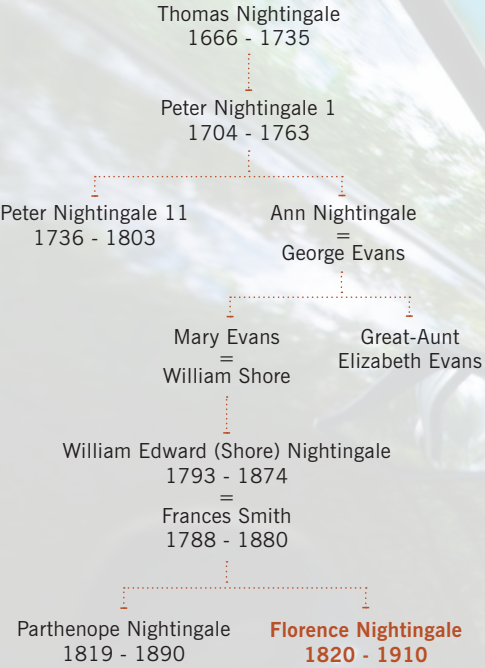
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The Life of Florence Nightingale

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Florence Nightingale Family Tree



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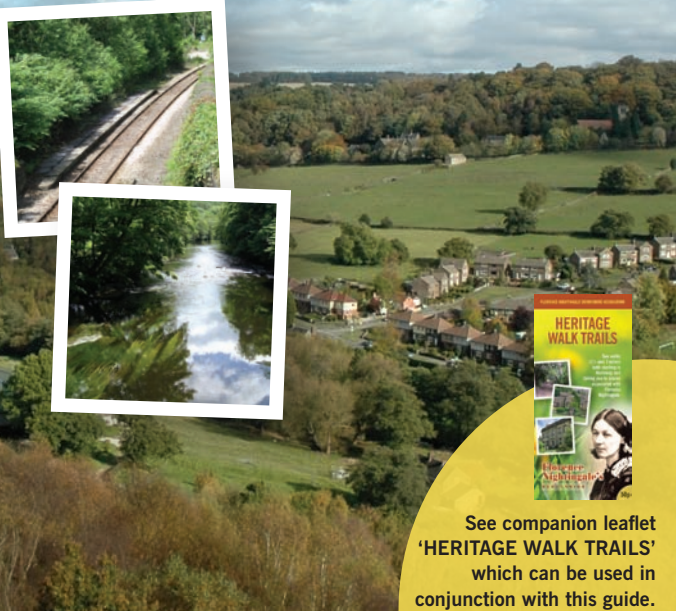
Florence Nightingale Heritage Car Trail

The six mile route starts from the A6 at Whatstandwell and goes via Holloway, Lea, Dethick and Lea Bridge to rejoin the A6 at Cromford.

This leaflet sets out to add interest to a short drive through some of the beautiful landscape and villages of the Derwent Valley, much of it lying within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

Parking can be difficult on the narrow streets and lanes so drivers are asked to take great care not to create danger or obstruct access to houses and farms and other commercial premises.

SEE OVER FOR ROUTE AND DIRECTIONS....



See companion leaflet 'HERITAGE WALK TRAILS' which can be used in conjunction with this guide.

HERITAGE CAR TRAIL

...a 6 mile car drive starting at Whatstandwell and visiting Holloway, Lea, Dethick, Lea Bridge and Cromford.

Florence Nightingale's DERBYSHIRE

