

## **STOP 16 – BRIGSTOCKE TERRACE**

Brigstocke is a most impressive terrace of large houses and is one of the Ryde skyline landmarks when approaching by sea. Built 1826-29, the architect was John Sanderson of London, (also architect for the Town Hall where we started our tour, and St Thomas Church where we will finish.) Though it was never completed, this terrace was part of a much larger plan to make a grand square, as those seen in cities like London, Edinburgh and Bath. The houses were leased to the aristocracy and upper middle class. At one time the very wealthy Countess Clare lived here, with her companion occupying the adjacent property. For ease of access they had a door knocked between their two houses.

Try to imagine the lush green croquet lawns and tennis courts once here.

In September 1830, Fanny Oglander wrote in her letter to her brother about a bazaar here to raise funds to build a schoolroom. *“It was held in the centre and largest of Mr Player’s new houses. Two rooms on two floors were used by the Lady’s of the town to sell their pin-cushions and workbags, etc. There were great crowds of all sorts of people. Lady Vernon had a novel idea by which she raised £60, she was charging sixpence for people to see the contents of her covered basket, Many children paid to take a peep and they saw an unusual type of monkey with dark coloured rings around its tail. It was rather strange but it did raise most money.”*



When the last Lord of the Manor, George Brigstocke, died in 1956, Brigstocke Terrace was divided and sold.

When you are ready, continue on to St Thomas’ Church, enter the garden of rest and take a seat.