

Annesley village, c. 1914  
Courtesy © David Amos Collection



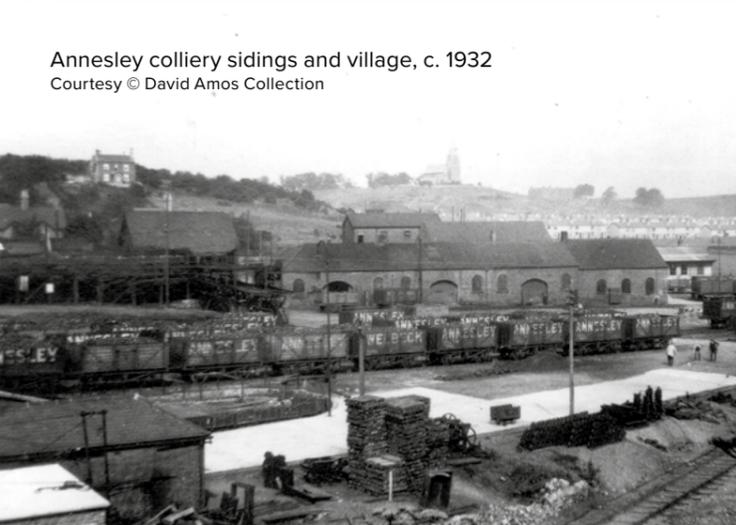
Former Post Office  
Courtesy © Chris Matthews



Annesley Village, c.1930s  
Courtesy © David Amos Collection



Annesley colliery sidings and village, c. 1932  
Courtesy © David Amos Collection



The Grove  
Courtesy © Chris Matthews



Pit winding wheel memorial & artwork  
Courtesy © Chris Matthews



# ANNESLEY Model Villages of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield Guidebook 1

## COMPANY & VILLAGE

In 1866 the British Association for the Advancement of Science met at Nottingham and was presented with a geological account of the sinking of Annesley Colliery (1). Such was the interest concerning the pioneer collieries of the concealed coalfield, which began at Shireoaks in 1859. Along with High Park, Hucknall, Bulwell, Silverhill and Cinderhill, Annesley was among the earliest coal mines to be established in the Leen Valley district. Land owned by John Chaworth Musters of Annesley Hall was leased to William Worswick, who had coal mining interests in Leicestershire and formed the Annesley Coal Company. Shafts were sunk in 1865 and coal was reached in 1867. The original housing and the building of the Victorian church illustrates collaboration between the land-owning family and colliery company in the creation of an industrial community.

Annesley colliery was the most challenging of the Leen Valley collieries, probably because it was undercapitalised and developed under a short lease – in 1904 it was brought out by the Hardwick Company from Holmewood, Derbyshire. In 1925 it was taken over by the New Hucknall Colliery Company and had to be substantially modernised. The colliery remained in almost continuous production until closure in 2000. Pithead gear and associated buildings were demolished in 2008 and the colliery site has been developed for housing.

## HOUSING

The settlement at Annesley retains miners' housing from the period of around 1870 consisting of two main types, basic terraces and semi-detached cottages. A settlement known as New Annesley was started after the pit had been established. Miners' housing was built in terraces of eight houses, in blocks of ten along two streets, giving 160 dwellings in all and erected between 1869 and 1873.

As these were built prior to the 1875 Public Health Act it is difficult to find out if each house was fitted with privy or water supply. Early Ordnance Survey maps suggest a degree of sharing between groups of four houses at an annex in the rear yard. By the later 1930s this arrangement was eradicated to make way for long gardens and ground floor extensions for sculleries which later became kitchens. Indoor toilets and bathrooms were added by the NCB in the late 1960s. The terraces, originally known as Annesley Rows (also known as A Rows and Colliery Cottages) are ranged along streets now called Moseley Road (2) and Byron Road (3). They are brick built and originally two-up, two-down, entered directly into the front room from the street, with a central staircase. It was customary to enter the house via the back door onto the yard while the front parlour was reserved for special occasions. Over time, the houses have since been faced with rough cast, pebble dashed dressing or render.

## MANAGEMENT

At the top of the management hierarchy, the colliery manager resided at Eastview House (4), a detached house on a hill which overlooked the colliery. Below, on Newstead Road, are three pairs of semi-detached houses which were built for clerks and other officials (5).

A row of semi-detached houses was built along Derby Road at the behest of Caroline Chaworth Musters during the 1870s. The houses are at some distance from the terraces, along the main road. Known as The Grove or Annesley Grove (6), they are characteristic of model labourers' accommodation or estate workers' cottages of the period. The semi-detached houses have front gardens and are built of rock-faced stone. They are executed in Gothic style, with pointed gables, prominent chimneys and mullioned windows. The accommodation is superior to that of the terraces and census records suggest

these houses were occupied by colliery management but not exclusively so. It was thought locally that they were estate houses for Annesley Hall. The cottages are entered from the side, with two downstairs rooms and two bedrooms. Map evidence shows that there was an alley behind the houses and detached outbuildings, which were probably privies.

By the end of the 1930s single-storey rear extensions of matching style and materials had been added. By 1938 a row of semi-detached brick and rendered houses had been built on Recreation Road (7) close to the Byron Road and Moseley Road terraces. By this time considerable areas of housing had been built in the neighbourhood, but it is not certain which may have been built specifically for miners' families.

## AMENITIES & MEMORIALS

Between and behind the terraced houses there are areas of open space, where allotment gardens (8) are marked on historic maps. A miners' welfare institute stood on Derby Road (9) and has since been demolished. Apparently of inter-war date, it is shown on a map of 1938 beside a large sports ground. The former Post Office (10) was built around the 1890s and still stands beside Annesley Cutting. A pair of winding wheels (11) was erected near to the colliery site beside Newstead Road in 2009. In the cemetery there is a memorial to the men lost in the aftermath of a pit fire in 1877 (12).

## OTHER BUILDINGS

All Saints' Church (13) was built to the designs of T. G. Jackson in 1874 to serve the village on land given by the Chaworth Musters family. Money was raised through local benefactors, fundraising events and local collections. It was substantially rebuilt by Robert Evans after a fire in 1907 destroyed the interior and roofs.

## ANNESLEY Model Villages of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield Guidebook 1

The promises of the concealed coalfield in Nottinghamshire had been gradually realised from the 1860s, with developments along the Leen Valley at places like Annesley, Newstead and Bestwood.

Only traces of the Nottinghamshire coal-mining industry remain but what have survived are the colliery villages. Together they reflect the evolution of mining in the region and the ambition of the colliery companies who built them.

This guidebook is the result of a research project on the Nottinghamshire Coalfield set by the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme, managed by Nottinghamshire County Council and supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Research was undertaken by Clare Hartwell and Chris Matthews. Design work by Chris Matthews.

For more information please visit:  
<https://miner2major.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>

# ANNESLEY

## Model Villages of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield

### Guidebook 1

#### MAP LOCATION

- 1 **Site of Annesley Colliery**  
Closed in 2000
- 2 **Moseley Road**  
Miners' housing
- 3 **Byron Road**  
Miners' housing
- 4 **Eastview House**  
Formally the Colliery Manager's House
- 5 **Colliery Officials' Housing**
- 6 **Annesley Grove**  
Estate houses for Annesley Hall and colliery management
- 7 **Inter-war Housing**
- 8 **Site of Allotment Gardens**
- 9 **Site of Miners' Welfare Institute**  
Recently demolished
- 10 **Former Post Office**  
Built during the 1890s
- 11 **Winding Wheels**  
A memorial to the colliery, erected 2009
- 12 **Cemetery Memorial**  
To the men lost in the aftermath of a pit fire in 1877
- 13 **All Saints Church**  
Built to the designs of T. G. Jackson in 1874 and substantially rebuilt by Robert Evans after a fire in 1907.

#### BUILDING TYPE



2



4



5



6



10



13

