

COUNTRY WALKS

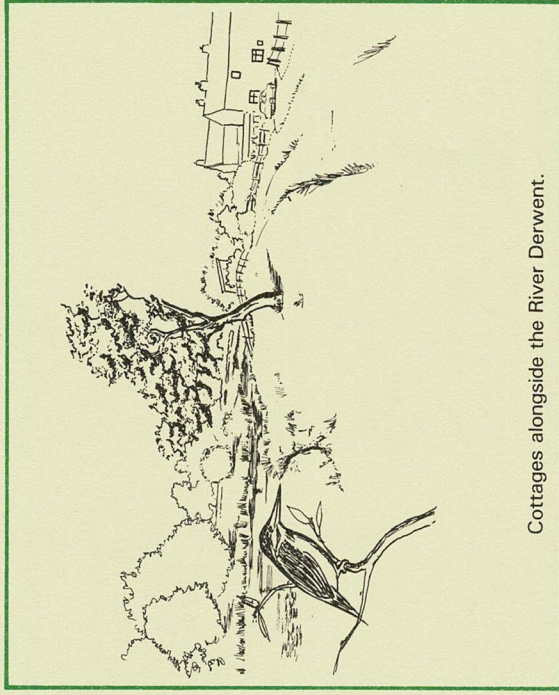
EREWASH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNTRY WALKS 4 IN AND AROUND EREWASH

Coffin Walk

5 miles

DALES • VALLEYS • MOORS



Cottages alongside the River Derwent.

A gentle stroll meandering through the historic landscape around Breaston and Draycott.



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The Ramblers



COUNTRY WALKS

Coffin Walk

Start: St. Michaels Church, Main Street, Breaston.

Buses: Services 5, 5B and 5C (Trent).

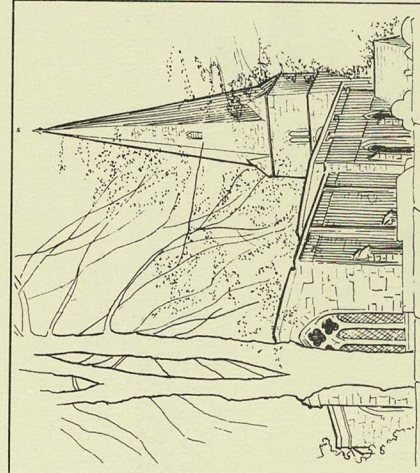
Time: Allow 2½ - 3 hours.

OS Map: Pathfinder Series — Nottingham (South West) SK 43/53.

Type of Walk: Easy walking through flat countryside.

From car park at Breaston (opposite church), cross Main Street to church.

St. Michael's Chapel dates from the early 13th century. Originally, only mass was said in the chapel and all weddings, baptisms and funerals had to take place at St. Chad's, Wilne to the south. Coffins were taken across the fields to Wilne and the route became known as the 'Coffin Walk'.



Breaston Church.

Climb stile and follow path along top of floodbank, and proceed along floodbank to road.

The Draycott skyline to the north is dominated by the impressive four storey tenement lace factory with its green capped ornamental clock tower. Built over the period 1888 to 1907 Victoria Mills is now principally occupied by J.H. Parry; electrical component manufacturers.

Cross road and follow River Derwent floodbank to reach white-painted cottages on right.

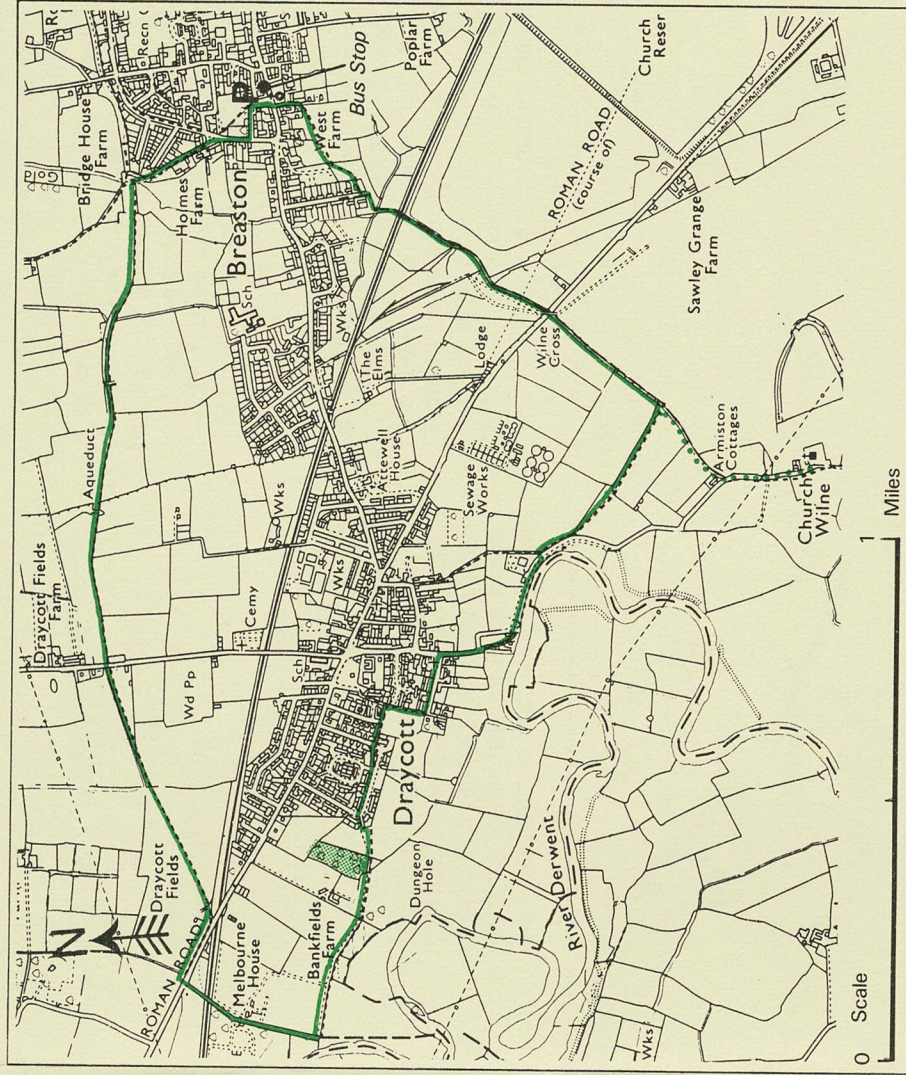
Walk down Church View to stile. Cross over stile and turn right. Keeping fence on right follow direction of signpost. Cross a double stile then continue to a second stile with fence on right. Cross next stile in diagonal direction to two-step stile. Follow garden fence round to next stile. Cross bridge over brook and cross railway line. (Beware of Trains!).

The pasture of the Pony Rescue Centre over the line on the right is a splendid example of the medieval ridge and furrow open field system. To the left of the path, opposite the gate to the Pony Rescue Centre, are the Coffin Stones used to rest the coffins on the walk to Wilne.

Follow path to Wilne Cross on Sawley Road. Cross over to bridleway ahead and continue along track to reach stile on right. (There is the option here of visiting Church Wilne and the reservoir a little further to the south then rejoining the walk — see map).

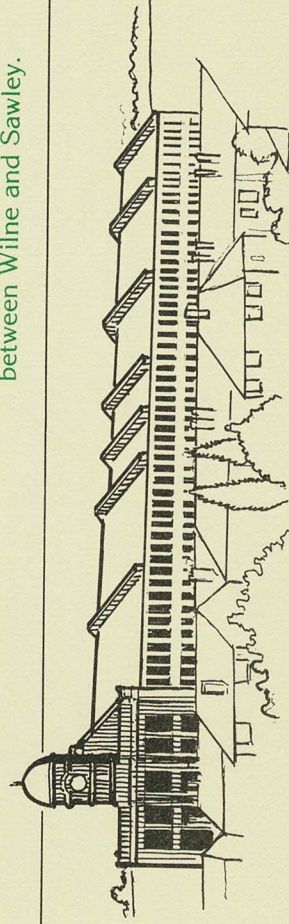
IN AND AROUND EREWASH

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Derbyshire owes much of its beauty to the River Derwent. Rising on Ronsley Moor in the

Bleaklow Ridge it wends its way for 60 miles through grit and limestone to join the Trent between Wilne and Sawley.

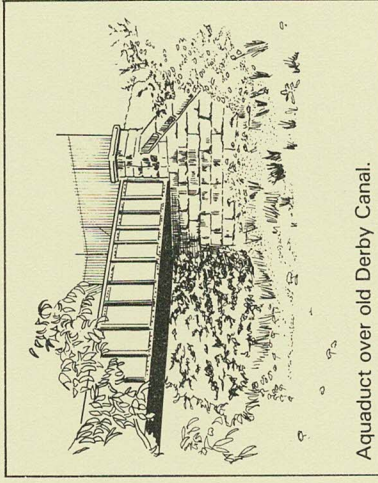


Victoria Mills — Draycott.

Climb stile beside cottages and walk between tall hedges into Draycott. Turn left into Derwent Street (visit town centre for refreshment stop) and continue to footpath sign. Turn right at sign and proceed through housing estate turning left just before Queen's Court. Follow road round to right and take left into Lime Grove. Walk on past open space to jitty on bend. Follow jitty to stile, cross into field and over stile keeping small wood on right.

Cross stream over bridge with Bankfield Farm on right and bear to right of clump of willows. Cross fields to Nooning Lane keeping fence and hedge on left. At lane turn right up to main road. Turn right along road, cross over and take footpath off to left just before railway bridge. The path now runs along line of former Derby Canal towards Fields Farm.

The Derby Canal was 14½ miles long and opened in 1795. Built by Benjamin Outram the canal carried coal, corn and stone as well as rails which, ironically, were eventually to contribute to its decline in the 1950's. Abandoned in 1964, much of the canal has been filled in and lost.



Aquaduct over old Derby Canal.

On reaching Hopwell Road, cross over to footpath opposite and proceed straight ahead alongside plantation of young trees. Cross three stiles to track from Cottage Farm. Climb stile, turn right and with church spire ahead follow road back to car park.



Pied wagtail

PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

GUARD AGAINST FIRE Every year, carelessness costs thousands of pounds.
FASTEN GATES - even if you find them open. Animals will wander if they can.
KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL - on a lead wherever there is livestock.
KEEP TO PATHS - if they exist.
AVOID DAMAGING FENCES, HEDGES AND WALLS

LEAVE NO LITTER
SAFEGUARD WATER SUPPLIES Do not pollute streams or cattle troughs.
PROTECT WILDLIFE, PLANTS, TREES
GO CAREFULLY ON COUNTRY ROADS
 Keep in single file, facing on-coming traffic, on the right.
RESPECT THE LIFE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

For Further Details

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