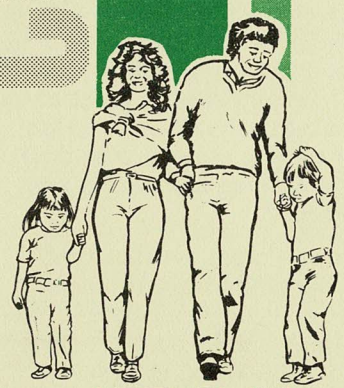
COUNTRY WALKS

EREWASH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DALES · VALLEYS · MOORS

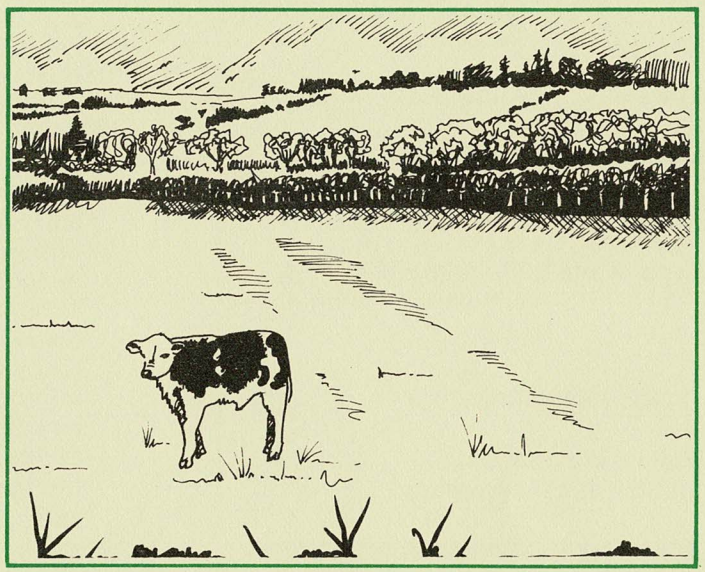


COUNTRY WALKS 18

IN AND AROUND EREWASH

The Coalfields Walk

7½ miles



An extended walk through new and mature landscapes around West Hallam.

GROUNDWORK
EREWASH VALLEY

Groundwork Environment Fund supported by the Department of Environment

Supported by the
COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

DERBYSHIRE
County Council
Caring for your Countryside

The Ramblers

The Coalfields Walk — 7½ miles 3½—4 hours

Start The Station Road layby, West Hallam.

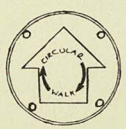
Buses For up-to-date information call Barton/Trent busline on Derby 292200.

Time Allow 3½ to 4 hours.

OS Map Pathfinder Series SK44/54 Nottingham (North) and Ilkeston.

Type of Walk Through open undulating countryside.

OTHER INFORMATION



Follow Waymarkers (yellow arrow on green).

Take care on road sections and near water. Both can be dangerous.

From layby walk up hill and just before White Hart pub turn left up farm track. Cross stile by gate and carry straight on along field edge. At stile on right bear left towards pilon. Over stile keep fence on left and cross another stile. Bear right to large tree in opposite corner of field. Turn right and follow path straight on down fields and track to road. Bear right into Stanley Common village. Follow 's' bend round and to main road. Cross road (take care!) and turn right. After 30 yards take track on left (The Rope Walk). After a short way take gap in hedge on right and follow narrow path past cottages and round to right. Turn left over stile, cross three fields keeping hedge on left and continue over stiles and bridge across ditch.

The area around West Hallam and Shipley lies within the South Leics, South Derbys and South Notts coalfield and has been mined since the 1600s. Deep mining all but ceased after World War II, leaving badly restored workings, waste tips and coal storage dumps. Today's uniform landscape of new hedgerows, redefined field boundaries and tree plantings results from restoration following extensive open cast mining, beginning in what is now Shipley Country Park in the 1940s and extending south to the tip of West Hallam in the early 1980s.

Bear slight right across field, and straight across next field. Bear right and cross stile half way along opposite hedge. Cross field, through plantation of young trees, down next field and turn left after line of mature trees. Pass Park Hall Farm and carry straight on at sharp right hand bend. Cross into field by double gates and continue over next stile and straight down centre of long field, over double stile and footbridge and across next field to brook.

Beyond brook cross another long field bearing slight right to reach stile near top right hand corner. Turn right on track and immediate right again into John Wood in Shipley Country Park.

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For Shipley Country Park Visitor Centre do not turn right into woods but continue along track and take second path on left. Continue for 10 minutes to reach centre.

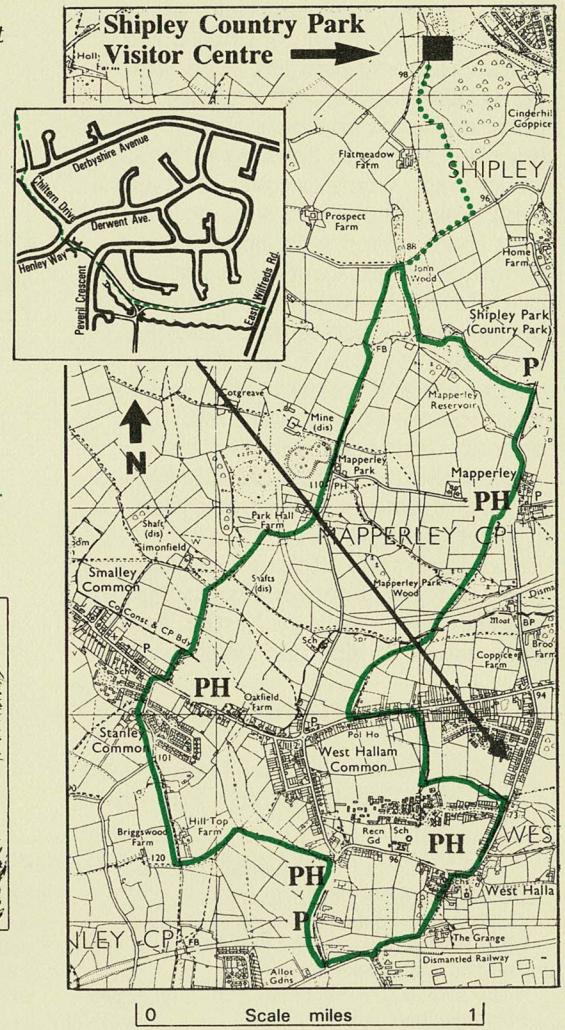
Follow path down through woodland and round to left at bottom until just before bridleway. Turn right and follow path round edge of reservoir.

Mapperley Reservoir was constructed in 1820 to assist in the feeding of the now disused Nutbrook Canal, which opened in 1795 to link the collieries at West Hallam and Shipley with the Erewash Canal. The reservoir is now a valuable wildlife and recreation feature.

Mapperley reservoir from the dam

Turn right and follow narrow road over dam. Continue up hill into Mapperley Village.

Cross junction and after 50 yards take narrow alley on right. At end take stile on left. Bear left down field, over two stiles to enter and continue into Mapperley Wood.

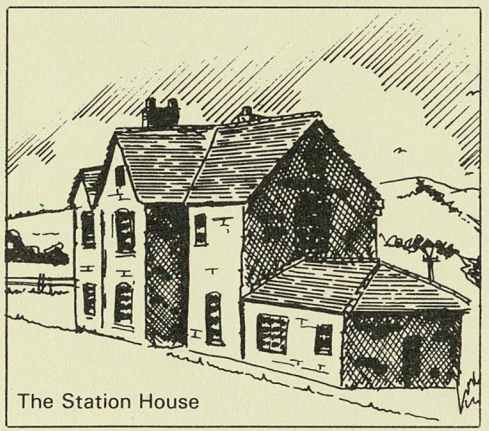


After a few yards path bears round to right. Follow over stream then continue over second footbridge. At next junction turn right into field. Carry straight on over next stile and turn right on to tarmacked track.

Cross stile on left after a few yards. Continue straight on down and cross footbridge at bottom. Bear strongly right and walk up slope and through area of rough ground. Cross into next field and walk to far left-hand corner. Bear left and cross next field, along hedge to right, then continue on to road. Cross and turn left. After 400 yards take narrow path on right between house and bungalow (number 102) into housing estate (see small map). Continue over road and walk down Chiltern Drive, and over next road, taking path opposite and slightly to right. Continue over brook, over Peveril Crescent and down to bridge over concrete pipe. Turn left along path to road. Cross, turn right up the hill and follow road round into West Hallam village. Turn left opposite the shops into the school square. Skirt on left. Continue straight on over road and down track. Bear right at junction before disused railway and follow to road beyond gate. Carry straight on along verge to road on right. Walk up Station Road, over railway bridge and back to start.

West Hallam Station opened in 1878 and linked Derby Friargate and Nottingham Victoria as part of the Great Northern Railway.

At the turn of the century the station dealt with 90,000 passengers a year, along with farm produce such as brewers' grains, sugar beet and milk heading for London.



The Station House

A bone whistle presented to Mr R Morris of Grange Farm, whose land the line cut through, heralded the departure of the station's last passenger train on February 5th 1964. Two years later the platforms were removed and traffic ceased altogether, the station having most recently served an Ordnance factory and sidings built after World War II.

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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