

COUNTRY WALKS 21

IN AND AROUND EREWASH

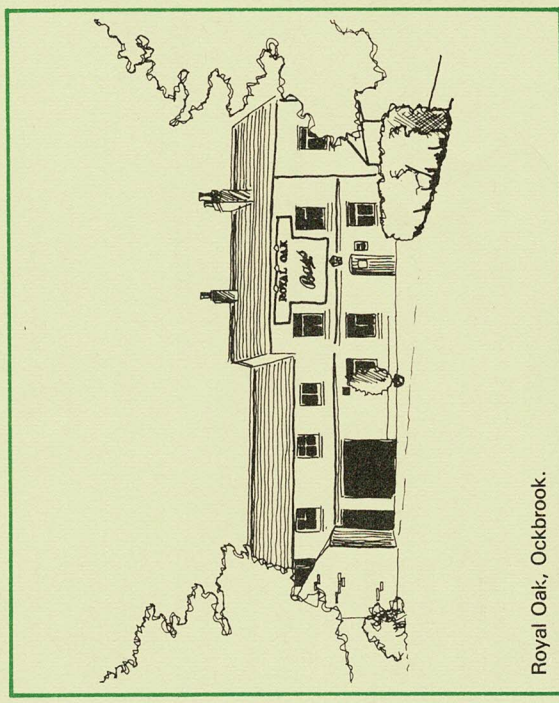
The Lewis Wilson Memorial Walk

6 miles



DALES • VALLEYS • MOORS

COUNTRY WALKS



Royal Oak, Ockbrook.

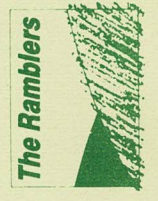
Explore the historic village of Ockbrook and enjoy the scenic views in the surrounding countryside.



Supported by the
**COUNTRYSIDE
COMMISSION**



Groundwork Environment
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The Lewis Wilson Memorial Walk 6 miles 3-3½ hours

Start The Royal Oak, Green Lane, Ockbrook.

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

Time Allow 3-3½ hours.

O/S Map Pathfinder Series — Nottingham (South West) SK 43/53

Type of walk Through undulating farmland with some steep climbs.

The Royal Oak, the oldest licensed premises in the village dates from the early 1700s, with subsequent alterations this century. A stone slab near the front door caps an old well, from which water was drawn to brew beer in what is now the pub kitchen.

Go towards Royal Oak through car park and turn right down alley alongside pub. Go diagonally right down field to stile at bottom. Continue over next field to stile at left of brick buildings.

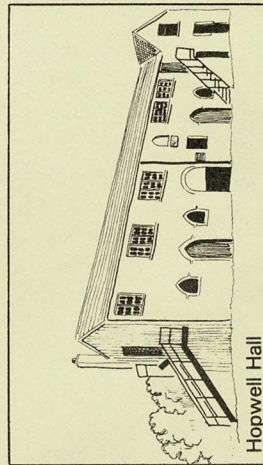
Turn left uphill along main road and after 100 yards take footpath on the right. Go alongside hedgerow to bottom left-hand corner and cross footbridge. Cross field with hedgerow on your left to stile in top left-hand corner. Continue with stream on left over 2 fields to stile at side of oak tree.

Cross field diagonally right to top right corner. Cross corner of next field to stile opposite. Go straight ahead with hedgerow on your right. Cross stile over stream and continue with hedge and then wood on your right (Burnwood Farm to your left). Cross further 2 stiles to reach track. Turn right then left and follow edge of field, continue with hedgerow on your left to next stile. Turn right down field edge to reach track.

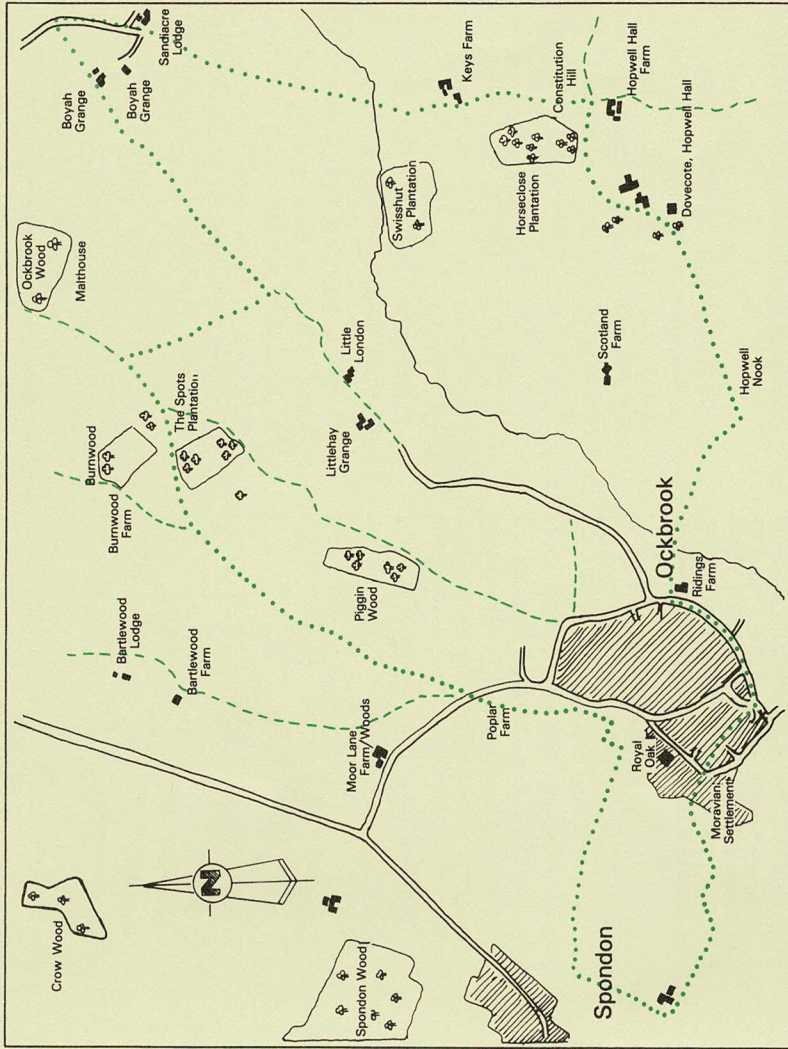
Turn left to corner of field, bear right to bottom corner of field, cross stile and continue up hill towards Boyah Grange. Cross stile in hedgerow on your left (near top of field) and proceed along track towards farm, passing some farm buildings.

Cross stile into field and go diagonally left to stile and road. Turn right and follow road to Sandiacre Lodge Farm and then go straight ahead down track (link with 15). Straight ahead at stile (ignore track on right) and follow lane between hedgerows (Midshires Way).

The Midshires Way is a long distance footpath and bridleway linking the Ridgeway National Trail in the South with the Trans-Pennine Trail in the north — a



Hopwell Hall



distance of 225 miles. In Erewash the Midshires Way uses existing paths and tracks from Sawley to Little Eaton and, for most of this length, it is a footpath route only.

At stile go straight ahead through field and continue up track passing Keys Farm to Hopwell Hall Farm. Immediately before farm turn right towards wood. Cross stile and continue through wood to road.

Hopwell Hall, built for Henry Keyes in 1720, originally had 90 acres of extensively planted grounds. The Hall, purchased by the Pares family in 1786, was partly destroyed by fire in 1957.

It was later demolished but a Dovecote and Lodge House still remain.

Turn right and then take path on right, cross stile and follow track to Hopwell Nook (link with 13).

The path on this section offers splendid views over the Derwent and Trent valleys. Church Witne reservoir is visible in the foreground and Ratcliffe on Soar power station in the distance.

Bear right and follow track down hill to road. Turn left and follow road (The Ridings) as far as Ockbrook Village Hall.

The old building on your left (No 84) was the former Lodge House to Hopwell Hall, home of the Pares family.

The Village Hall has an interesting past. The upper part was a girls' school room until 1828, while the lower part once served as a stable and coach house.

Turn right up alleyway to road, cross and continue up alleyway to right of Ockbrook garden shop. Cross further road and continue on path (next to Pines). Turn left alongside Greenside House then next right up track.

Greenside House was formerly the New Inn and associated malthouse, which began trading in 1792.

To your right is the Moravian Settlement which dates from the mid 18th century. The principal buildings in the settlement include 2 Grade II listed buildings, the Manse (1822) and the Chapel (1751-52). The Chapel Clock was made by Whitehurst of Derby in 1827.

Follow track bearing left at fork, cross field towards Spondon (link with 5) and turn right along track (one field before reaching housing estate). Take next right at finger sign

and follow footpath over 4 fields to Ockbrook. Take left-hand path and go through gap in hedge on left. Turn right down road then left into what at first appears to be a private driveway. Follow alley between 2 garages back to Royal Oak car park.

Footnote: *Written in memory of Lewis Wilson, the landlord of the Royal Oak for 41 years. He had a great love of the village of Ockbrook and an active interest in the surrounding countryside. He was an enthusiastic promoter of 'Country Walks within Erewash'. Visitors to the Royal Oak will continue to receive a warm welcome from his family.*

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

Groundwork Erewash Valley
43 Town Street Sandiacre
Nottingham NG10 5DU
Telephone: 0115 949 0235
Registered Charity No. 701484

Erewash Borough Council
Leisure Services
Town Hall Long Eaton
Nottingham NG10 1HU
Telephone: 0115 907 2244

Moravian Settlement

Ockbrook

