COUNTRY WALKS

EREWASH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

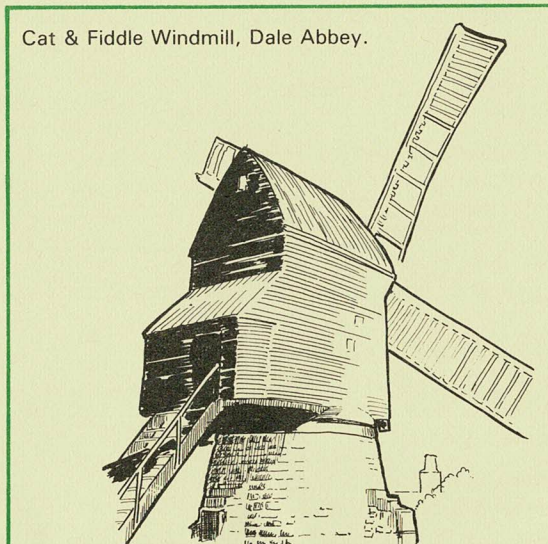
DALES · VALLEYS · MOORS

COUNTRY WALKS 8

IN AND AROUND EREWASH

The Miller's Walk

4½ miles



Cat & Fiddle Windmill, Dale Abbey.

A stroll through the countryside around the historic village of Dale Abbey.

GROUNDWORK
EREWASH VALLEY

Groundwork Environment Fund supported by the Department of Environment

Supported by the COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

The Ramblers

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The Miller's Walk — 4½ miles 2 - 2½ hours

Carpenters Arms car park, Dale Abbey, by permission of the landlord, or from Bus Stops on A6096).

Buses: Derby City Service No. 9.

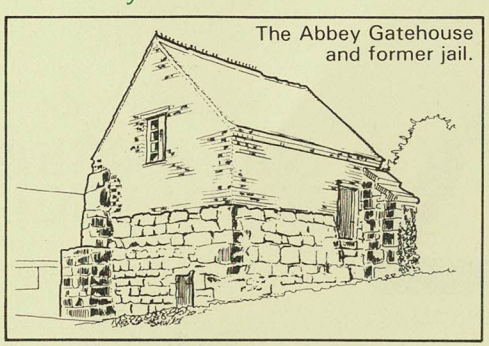
Time: Allow 2 - 2½ hours.

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

Type of Walk: Through undulating countryside.

From Carpenters Arms cross over to follow road into The Village. Take footpath signposted right beside Gateway Christian Centre.

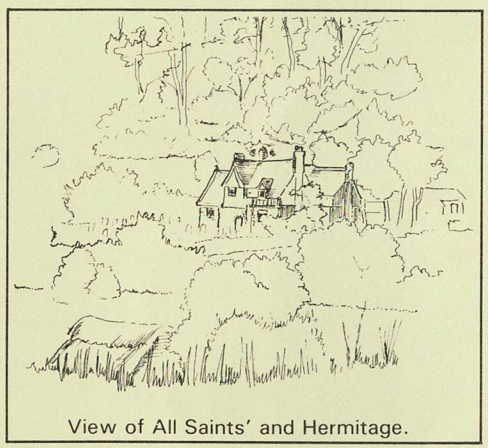
To the rear of the Gateway (a former Methodist Chapel) are the remains of the Abbey gatehouse. This was used at one time as a jail to shelter prisoners being moved between Nottingham and Derby.



The Abbey Gatehouse and former jail.

Walk to the end of the drive to the right of the Gateway Christian Centre and over the stile on your left. Continue on through a small gate and over a stile. Follow track keeping old abandoned quarry on right and holly hedge on left to reach next stile (do not cross stile on left) ahead.

There are splendid views left towards All Saints' Church. The only church in England which shares its roof with a farm, the interior has remained unchanged since around 1650. At one time, the farm was an inn called the Blue Bell. The door downstairs from 'salvation' to 'damnation' was blocked up in the 1820's.

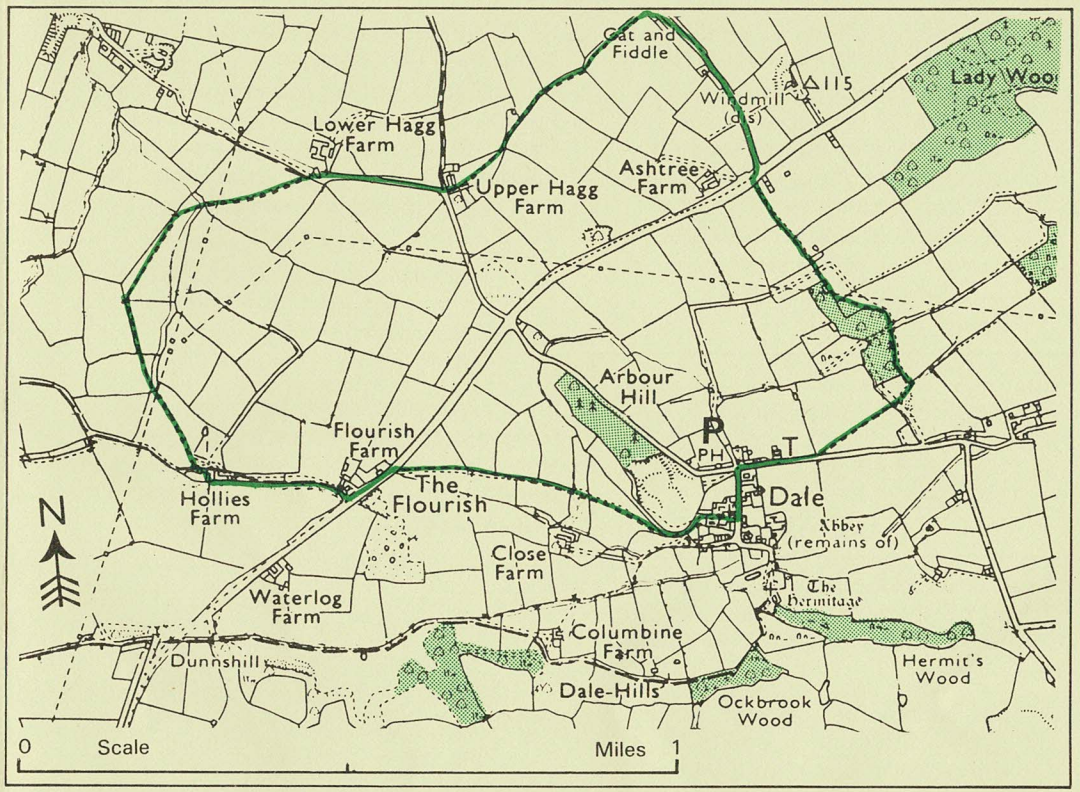


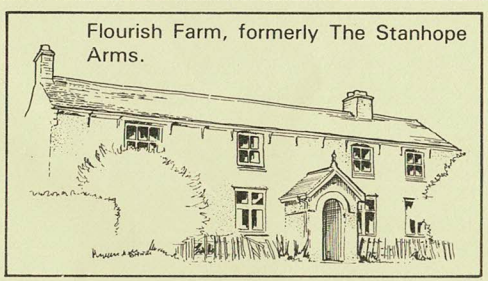
View of All Saints' and Hermitage.

Enter field and cross towards clump of trees ahead. Pass to right of trees and climb stile beside gate. Proceed through next two fields keeping hedge on right, then follow field track to main road. At road, cross over (watch for fast traffic!) and turn left to pass The Flourish.

Flourish Farm was once an inn called The Stanhope Arms. In 1939 its 6 day license was not renewed and the building was sold and became a farmhouse.

Turn right at bridleway sign to Stanley





Flourish Farm, formerly The Stanhope Arms.

and follow track to Hollies Farm. pass through farm to stile beside double metal gates. Continue straight ahead down field towards stile beside gate under power lines. Cross over bearing right under power lines to a stile beside a gateway. Climb stile, keep hedge on left and proceed to next stile. Cross over and carry on down next field keeping concrete post and wire fence on your left. At bottom of field take stile beside old ash tree over to right, cross over and walk up field onto bridleway at Lower Hagg Farm.

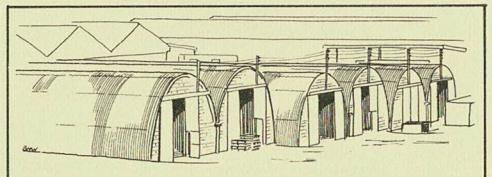
Turn right up bridleway to Upper Hagg Farm. Turn left into farmyard and walk past farmhouse on right to squeeze stile into field directly ahead. Into field, carry straight on to corner and follow track down to gate. Pass through small field keeping hedge on right to reach next stile. Climb stile and keeping hedge on right proceed to another stile.

The meadows along this stretch are not farmed intensively and support a variety of wild flowers in late spring.

Cross next stile, then keeping hedge on

left follow path to main road. The Midland Storage Depot is clearly visible from here.

Originally built as a sub-depot for Chilwell, the West Hallam Depot quickly developed into an operational ordnance depot specialising in the make-up of waterproofing and wading kits for 'D' Day vehicles during the Second World War. It grew to comprise 112 Romney sheds with 1 million sq. feet of storage space.



West Hallam Depot today.

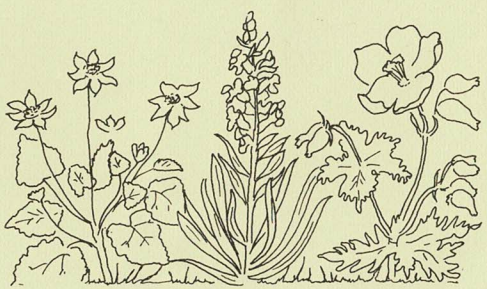
At Cat and Fiddle Lane, turn right up hill and head for junction with A6096. (Cross over to left at top of hill to view windmill).

Cat and Fiddle Windmill was built in the 18th century and is one of the oldest types of mill. Main features are a stone roundhouse, capped by a box-like wooden superstructure housing the machinery. The box is mounted on a wooden upright post on which it can rotate — hence the term 'post mill'.

At 'T' junction, cross over turning right, then take footpath signposted immediately on left and proceed down field keeping hedge on right towards wood. Climb stile and cross over track keeping wood on right. Over next stile bear left and then follow perimeter of wood to reach next stile.

The woodland here has grown up on the site of the former Dale Footrill Colliery which closed earlier this century.

Turn right past some farm buildings towards stile and footbridge near oak tree. Cross the next field to reach main road. At road turn back into Dale Village.



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

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