COUNTRY WALKS

EREWASH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DALES · VALLEYS · MOORS

COUNTRY WALKS 13

IN AND AROUND EREWASH

The Navvy's Walk

5½ or 7 miles

Derby Canal

Stroll through splendid scenery around Hopwell, returning along the route of the former Derby canal.

GROUNDWORK
EREWASH VALLEY

The Ramblers

Supported by the
COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

The Navvy's Walk 5½-7 miles 2-2½ hours

Start Village centre shops car par, Victoria Avenue, Borrowash.

Buses Trent Service 102
Barton Service 5, 5B, 5C, 13, 13A, 14, 14A.

Time Allow 2 to 2½ hours.

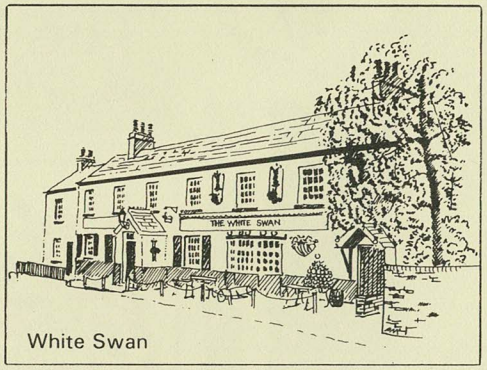
OS Map Pathfinder Series Nottingham (South West) SK43/53

Type of Walk Through flat and undulating countryside with one steepish climb.

From car park, walk along Victoria Avenue towards Ockbrook, turning right into Elm Street. Turn left at 'T' Junction into Kimberley Road. Turn right down jitty between houses 67 and 69 and cross recreation ground to right of children's playground.

The brook on your right is the Ock Brook which flows into the Derwent south of Borrowash. The trees and shrubs alongside the brook provide an important corridor for wildlife, especially birds. Look out for Robin, Wren, Dunnock and Blue Tit.

Turn right over footbridge and bear left with hedge on your left hand side. Continue alongside brook, to rear of houses as far as Hawthorne Avenue. Turn right along Priorway Avenue, then left along footpath between houses 111 and 113. Cross field to reach A52 Nottingham to Derby road. Turn right and go across footbridge over the A52. Continue straight

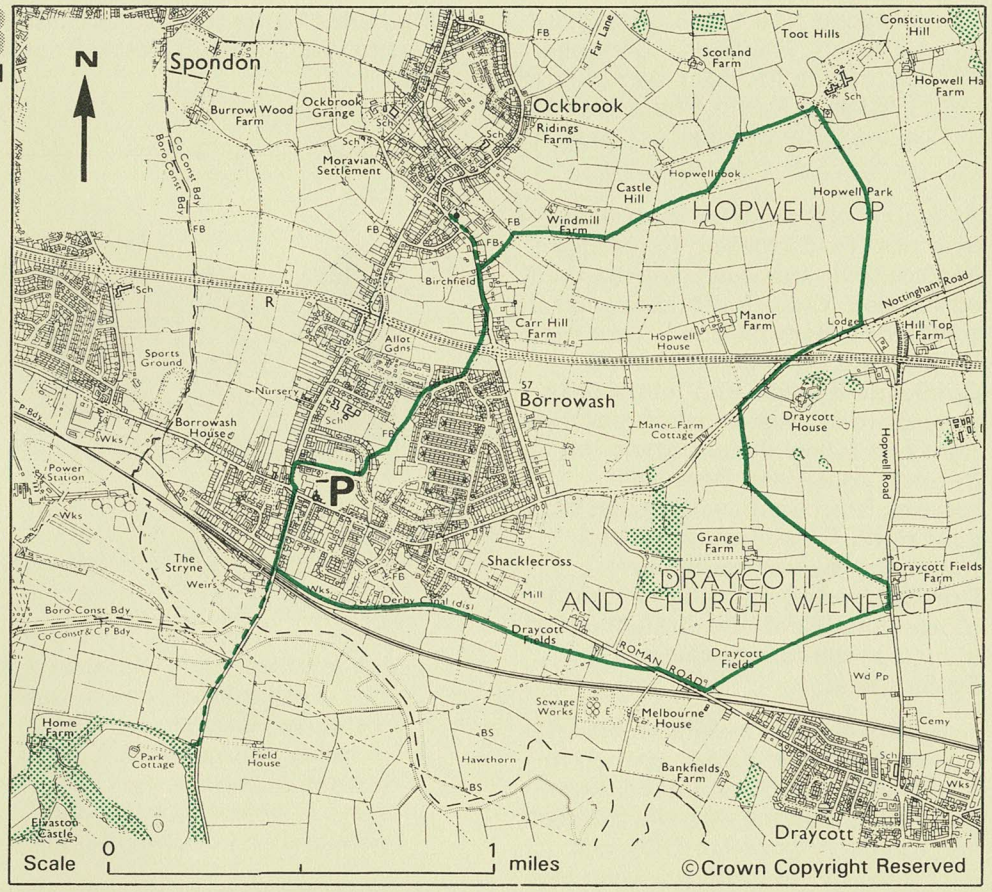


White Swan

ahead, along Cole Lane, as far as the house named 'Seven Trees'. (No. 41) (Continue along Cole Lane to visit All Saints Church and White Swan public house).

All Saints Church was rebuilt between 1800 and 1835. Only the tower remains from the former 12th century building. An oak chancel screen dated 1520 was donated by Thomas Pares of Hopwell Hall in 1810.

The route continues right on footpath between houses 41 & 31. Follow sunken lane to end, cross stile and bear right across field to stile in top left hand corner. Cross stile, turn right and follow path over two more stiles with hedge on your right. Cross next field diagonally left and cross footbridge and stile. Go diagonally across this field aiming for the telegraph pole slightly uphill from green gate in hedge opposite.
20 metres before pole bear left and continue uphill towards the third telegraph pole to left of wood. Turn right along track and cross stile into Hopwell Hall grounds.

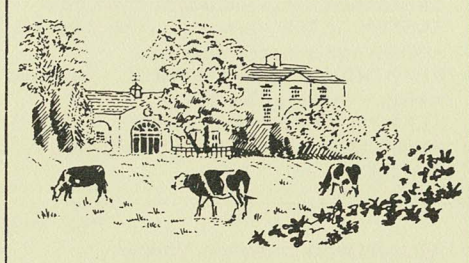


Hopwell Hall built for Henry Keyes in 1720, originally had 90 acres of extensively planted grounds. The Hall, purchased by the Pares family in 1786, was partly destroyed by fire in 1957. It was later demolished but a Dovecote and Lodge House still remain. The new building is a special school.

After 50 yards turn right and follow the drive downhill.

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

On reaching Lodge House, turn right and follow Nottingham Road past Draycott House. Turn left through metal gate opposite cottage. Follow track with hedge on your left.

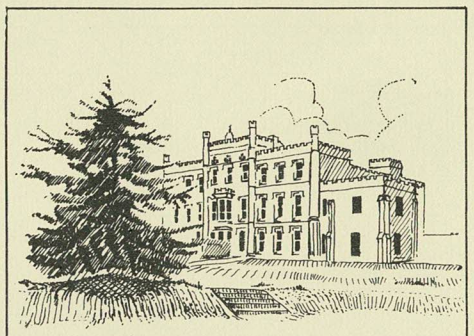

Draycott House

There are good views of Draycott House and grounds to your left. The house, designed by Joseph Pickford, was built in 1781 as a Manor House with 158 acres of landscaped grounds. It is now a private residence.

At end of first field, go diagonally left over next field crossing footbridge and continue towards cooling towers on horizon. Cross footbridge and turn right along Hopwell Road. Turn right on footpath immediately before Brookside Kennels and follow dyke, towards road. Just short of road turn right and follow dyke, turning left through underpass. Bear right towards Borrowash, with hedge on your right. Cross footbridge and follow waymarked route over Draycott Fields, crossing two further footbridges. Continue straight ahead alongside the former route of the Derby Canal.

This was the Sandiacre branch of the Derby Canal, opened to traffic in 1795. It linked the River Derwent with the Erewash Canal. It closed in 1961 and most of the route has been lost. The Shacklecross lock, has fortunately survived and can be seen as you approach Station Road.

(If desired the route can be lengthened by turning left at Station Road to visit Elvaston Castle Country Park).



Elvaston Castle

Elvaston Castle was once the home of the Earls of Harrington. The present house dates from the early 19th century. The grounds, designed by William Barron, consist of over 200 acres of beautiful woodland, parkland and ornamental lakes.

Otherwise the route turns right along Station Road back to Central shops' car park.

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

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