COUNTRY WALKS

EREWASH BOROUGH COUNCIL

DALES · VALLEYS · MOORS

COUNTRY WALKS 7

IN AND AROUND EREWASH

The Roman's Walk

5 miles

The Mysterious Morley Mound.

Stroll back in time and enjoy breathtaking views on this walk round Morley.

GROUNDWORK EREWASH VALLEY

The Ramblers

Supported by the COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION

Reproduction from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright.
Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings Erewash Borough Council LA 077887/97/03

The Roman's Walk — 5 miles 2½ - 3 hours

Start: The lay-by beside Cloves Wood off the A608, half a mile south of the Rose and Crown, Morley.

Buses: Trent Service 123.

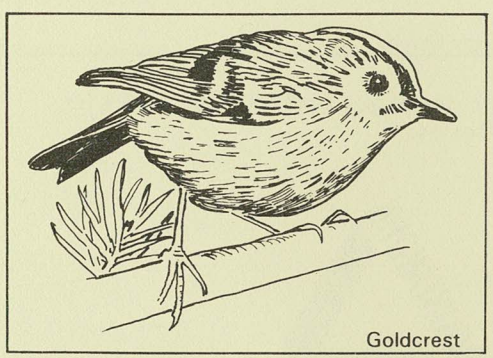
Time: Allow 2½ to 3 hours.

OS Map: Pathfinder Series — Belper SK 24/34.

Type of Walk: Through undulating countryside with one steepish climb.

From lay-by climb over stile and walk alongside Cloves Wood. Continue ahead over stile passing through three fields.

The path here offers excellent views towards Belper in the NW and the foothills of the Derbyshire Dales.



Goldcrest

Climb over stile to left of large house, then cross another field to road. Turn left along road down to junction, then follow road round to right. Turn left off bend at signpost over stile into field. Cross plank over the ditch. Continue straight ahead through horse fields over 2 stiles and gate. Cross the field and go over the stile ahead. Cross next field climbing to RH corner of the field. Go over stile and continue straight up the steep hill to stile at top.

The path here crosses the line of the Roman Road known as Rykneld Street which ran from the Fosse Way at Bourton-on-the-Water (Cotswolds) to Templeborough near Rotherham.

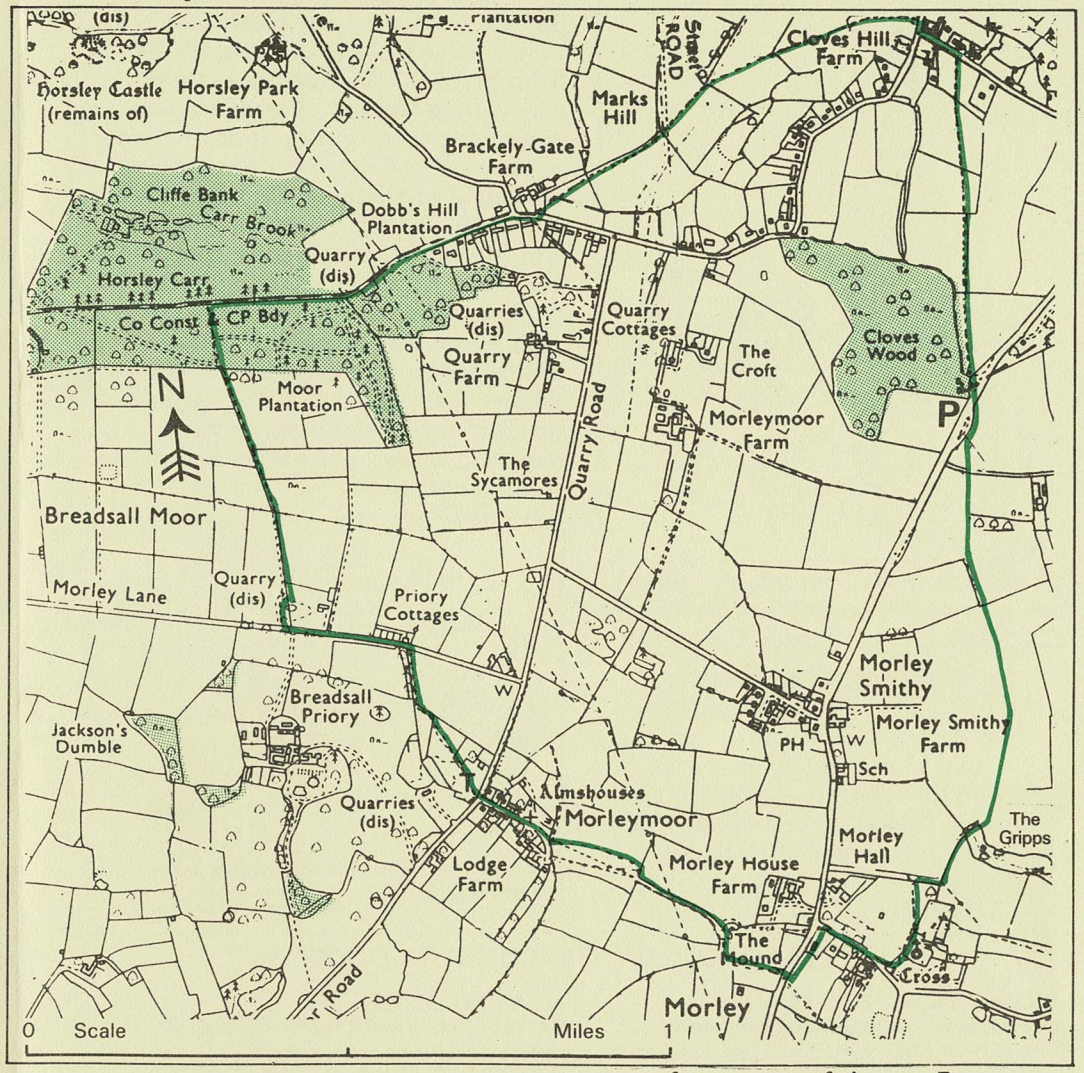
Proceed straight ahead towards Brackley Gate Farm keeping gritstone wall on right. Walk round left of farm to cross stone stile on to main road at Brackley Gate. Turn right, then straight ahead off bend passing houses and Honeywood Catteries on your left. Continue straight ahead along green lane through Dobb's Hill Plantation.

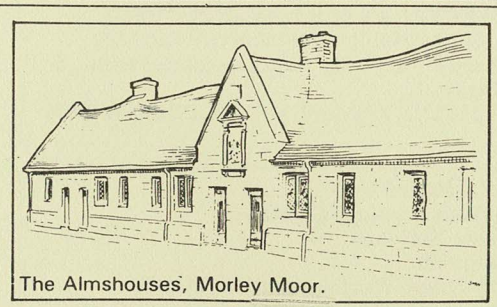
This large, mainly coniferous woodland is good for birds. Look out for Great Spotted Woodpecker, Coal Tits, Nuthatches and Goldcrests.

In half a mile turn left through gap in fence and up through wood onto Breadsall Moor (now a golf course). Cross golf course to reach Morley Lane. Turn left, then follow road to reach signpost opposite Priory Cottages. Climb stile keeping stone wall on right to reach next stile. Turn left keeping wall and hedge on left through scrubland and by old allotments to reach road. Cross over Moor Road straight ahead along Almshouses Lane.

The Almshouses are among the oldest buildings in Morley - Willed by Jacinth Sacheverell, the coat of arms bears the date 1656.

At sign post go through gate across field which leads to The Mound. This



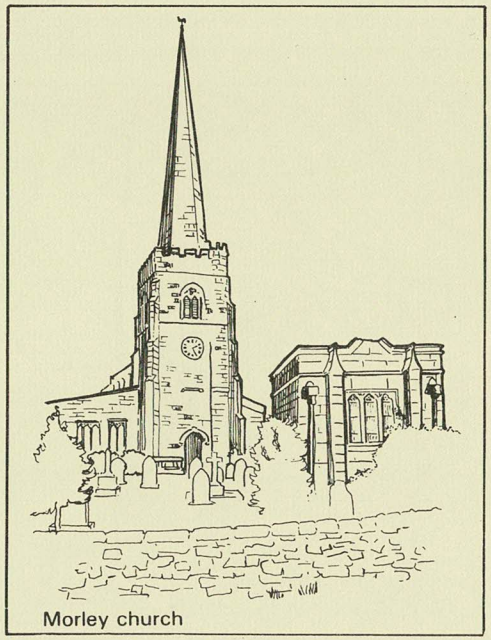


The Almshouses, Morley Moor.

track forms part of the pre-Roman 'Portway'.

The origin of the large moated mound is a local mystery. Opinion is divided between a defensive motte from the lawless reign of king Steven and a Roman observation post.

Contunue with hedge on right over two stiles and small footbridge, then turn



Morley church

left towards road. Turn left along road, then next right into Church Lane. Enter churchyard to view Morley Church.

St. Mathews Church, Morley, shows both Saxon and Norman features. It is best known for its magnificent stained glass windows from the Abbey at Dale, acquired by Sir Henry Sacheverell in 1539, and for its brasses to John Sacheverell slain at Bosworth Field in 1485.

From churchyard, continue with church on your right then turn left alongside graveyard to stile behind Beech tree. (Do not head over way marked stile to right — this is route of Miners Walk from Stanley). Go diagonally right across field to right of large mound, climb stile then turn right down track to top of The Gripps. From corner of woodland continue to old water tower in middle of field. From water tower aim for mid-point of hedge ahead and next stile. Cross fields, golf course, straight ahead to reach lane to golf club. Cross lane to stile in hedge beside lay-by on main road. A Morley Village Trail leaflet is available from Groundwork Erewash for anyone requiring more information about this historic village.

A stretch of the ancient Portway as it looks today.

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

© March 1999 Groundwork Erewash Valley/Erewash Borough Council.