

Directions: From Post Office, head towards George Lane and turn left. Cross road and turn right down Ingswell Drive. After passing 3 houses bear right into Ingswell Avenue. Look for footpath sign on left onto footpath at the back of the houses, over bridge and half right up hill, sharp turn R at top, then along and over old railway. Turn L then in 20 yards R downhill across a field. Turn L at bottom for 200 yds then R over little bridge over stream, then L and follow path over middle of field to enter wood through stile. After 200 yds turn L at cross path, then down, over stream, then up a stony path in wood.

At top turn L over old railway bridge then along path at side of container park to join Barnsley Road. Cross road onto footway with care, turn L downhill until near bottom cross again to turn L into Woolley Mill Lane. Follow lane down past Woolley Dam, up and along until just before junction with George Lane turn L at FP. Follow this path until you meet the footpath you set out on, turn R to return to village.

N, E, S, W etc – compass directions. R, L – right, left. FP – footpath sign.

Historical Notes: The track up the fields is very old, and was known as Handswell Lane.

The disused railway line is now owned by the District Council and is a permissive path for walkers, horses and cycles. The railway was opened in 1905, by the Midland Railway Co, as part of their proposed London – Carlisle route, although the whole route was never completed. The line is the same one that passes over the huge blue brick viaducts over Denby Dale Road at Calder Grove and over the Huddersfield Road at Horbury Bridge. It closed in 1968.

The stream that you cross twice is the same that runs under Gill Bridge in the village: it also carries all the effluent from Notton sewage works! Newmillerdam Woods were once part of a private estate: it is now owned by the District Council and maintained as a Country Park.

The track up through the woods and over the railway to join the A61 is a medieval packhorse route.

The A61 Barnsley Road was part of the turnpike road from Sheffield to Leeds constructed in the 1700s. At the beginning of the wood on the left, just before you turn into Woolley Mill Lane, you can see the remains of a quarry used for getting road building materials.

Woolley Dam has existed in some form since the Middle Ages. The water power was originally used for grinding corn, but the mill house in the valley bottom was last used as a saw-mill. Until the last war rowing boats for hire were kept on the lake.

Circular Walks around Notton

Walk 1 3.4 miles

Newmillerdam and Woolley

Mill Lane



