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WEST PENNINE MOORS

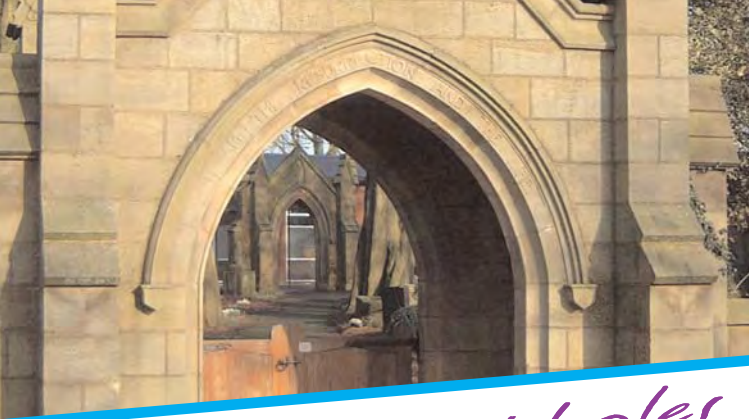
North Tockholes Heritage Trail MAP & GUIDE



North Tockholes

One in a series of village
based Heritage Trails within
the West Pennine Moors

Heritage Trail



North Tockholes Heritage Trail

This trail explores the historic village of Tockholes, situated on the edge of the beautiful West Pennine Moors. The historical content of this walk is courtesy of Tockholes Time Team.

Start: The walk starts and ends at the Victoria Hotel, Tockholes GR 661228

Public Transport: Bus Service No. 223
Blackburn-Tockholes-Belmont and
No. 38 Darwen-Tockholes

For timetables contact:

**The Travel Line 0870 608 2 608 or
www.traveline.org.uk**

Parking: There is no public car park but if you use the Victoria hotel car park please patronise the pub.

Walk information

- ▶ Allow two hours for this 2 mile/5 km walk
- ▶ 85% of the walk is on country lanes or farm tracks
- ▶ 15% of the route is on footpaths over farmland so sturdy footwear is advisable particularly after rain
- ▶ Along the route there are 8 gates and 4 stiles



Useful Contacts

The Rock Inn (01254) 702733

Roddlesworth café (01254) 708568 or 704502
and information centre

The Royal Arms (01254) 705373

The Victoria Hotel (01254) 701622

Blackburn Visitor Centre (general information)
01254 53277; email:

countryside@blackburn.gov.uk or visit
www.blackburn.gov.uk

Countryside Services (information and events)
01254 691239; email:

countryside@blackburn.gov.uk or visit:
www.blackburn.gov.uk

Great House information centre
(West Pennine Moors information)
01204 691549

Closed Monday/Tuesday

Opening Hours: 10.30-4.30 Wednesday-Sunday

L.C.C. Countryside Service 01772 534709
www.westpenninemoores.com

The Country Code

- ▶ Be safe – plan ahead & follow any signs
- ▶ Leave gates and property as you find them
- ▶ Protect plants & animals & take your litter home
- ▶ Keep dogs under close control
- ▶ Consider other people



1. Victoria Hotel: Victoria was crowned in 1837 but there are signs that it may have been built in the late 18th century as a cotton workshop.

Turn left out of the car park along the road.

On the left is the **2. Village Hall:** This was built in 1899 as a meeting room and Sunday school for the chapel using stone from a demolished chapel.

Immediately after the village hall, detour left down a lane to find **3. Silk Hall:** Grade II listed building with the date stone '1764 RRS' (Ralph and Susannah Richardson). Ralph was a silk merchant; several villagers were handloom silk weavers and the hall served as a warehouse. This was the back 'service area'; the front of the hall faces south with a fine three-storey gabled porch.

Retrace your steps to the main road, turn left to find the **4. Rock Inn:** The date stone shows 'Roger and Ann Roscow 1791'. An 1848 map shows a smithy where the car park is now.

Turn left down Rock Lane, passing on your left **5. St Stephen's School:** This was built in 1894 with recent extensions (see 8).

Just beyond the school on your right note the **6. Doorway and the Well:** These were built in 1910 with stone reclaimed from Garstang Hall, hence the date stone, '1692'.

Continue down Chapels Lane. On the right is the **7. Lych Gate:** A memorial to a local benefactor, Mr John Pickop (1832 - 1903). The opening ceremony in 1906 was attended by a crowd of 5,000 together with a battalion of the



East Lancashire Regiment, led by a mounted Colonel and the Regimental Band.

Immediately through the lychgate on the right note **8. Old School:** Built in 1834 but replaced in 1894 by the present school. Note the outdoor pulpit used for open-air services and the old sundial in front of it.

9. Graveyard: The inventor of the weft fork, John Osbaldeston (1777 - 1862) whose invention stopped the power loom when the thread broke, is buried here. A prominent memorial is over his grave.

10. St Stephen's C E Church: The church dates from the Reformation in the mid 16th century, but has been rebuilt twice. It does however retain the stone porch of an earlier building.

Come back out of the graveyard. Turn right to continue along the lane for 150m, passing the grade II listed late 17th century Chapels Farm and barn. Along the way to your right you will pass a

11. Battlefield: The site of a major skirmish between Cavaliers and Roundheads in 1644. Musket bullets and uniform buttons have been found.

Further along on your right is **12. Lodge Farm:** A rare grade II listed 17th century example of the ancient long house style where human accommodation, animal accommodation and barn were all attached in line.

Continue along the lane to the **13. Chapel:** With the restoration of the monarchy after Cromwell, nonconformists or dissenters to the Anglican Church were persecuted and had to meet in secret. They were eventually legalised and this was one of their first buildings. It was built in 1710 with the de Hoghtons of Hoghton Tower as prominent patrons.



On the left are **14. Shirley Gardens:** These weavers' cottages were originally called Crook Row. The census of 1851 records a total of 36 people living in these five cottages - 16 in one house!

Pass the cottages and turn right down a rough lane, passing Ivy Cottages and Engine Brow, both rows of weavers' cottages.

Much lower down the lane and to the left is **15. Higher Crow Trees:** Both Higher and Lower Crow Trees are grade II listed. One of these buildings was said to be a coaching inn on an old east-west road between Preston and Yorkshire. It was probably just another travellers' inn.

Retrace your steps back up the lane 350m. On the right just after the bend in the lane after Engine Brow cottages, climb the stile on the right. Head for the gate in the top right hand corner of the field. Once on the track, to your right is **16. Lower Hill:** It is a grade II listed building and sometimes called 'The Manor'; however the only true Manor House was Hollinshead Hall, two miles to the south, residence of the Lord of Tockholes.

Turn left for 100m and note on your left **17. Bethesda Graveyard:** Bethesda Chapel once stood here. It was built by a breakaway group of non-conformists in 1803. When it was demolished in 1899 the stone was used to construct what is now the village hall (see 2).



Turn back up the lane to the crossroads and note the **18. Row of Weavers' Cottages:** The weavers were so dedicated to their single purpose that they had no back gardens, backyards, or even back doors! Their 'well' is opposite cottage number 5.

Turn right at the crossroads and immediately on your left is the pinfold where stray farm animals were once impounded. Continue up the track, following **19. The old main road:** This was the main road until about 1750. There is a raised flagstone pavement on the right side that kept pedestrians out of the muddy bottom.

The row of cottages on your left is **20. Cheetham Buildings:** A good example of purpose built weavers' cottages dated around 1800.

Immediately after the cottages on the left note the **21. Well:** There are several of these scattered about the village. They are open stone troughs with a streamlet channelled in. They were the village's only source of water until the 1960s.

Continue straight on up the lane, turn left and take the higher track that curves to the right. Keep right, bearing right up the grass slope passing Quarryman's Farm and High Barn to go through a kissing gate. Follow the line of the wall straight ahead to go through a gate then onto the road and back to the Victoria Hotel.



If you have enjoyed this walk why not try out one of the other Heritage trails within the West Pennine Moors: Belthorn, Edgworth or the South Tockholes heritage trail. The later can be combined with this trail to form an enjoyable five-mile circular walk.

Please note that every effort has been taken to ensure details are correct at the time of printing. The authors cannot accept responsibility for any errors, omissions nor any consequence arising from the information.

Explore! Discover! Enjoy!

The West Pennine Moors

- ▶ Explore 90 square miles of unspoilt moorlands, numerous reservoirs and beautiful woodlands
- ▶ Discover hidden valleys and explore some of the many historic villages
- ▶ Enjoy getting close to nature - see curlews, peregrines and brown hares
- ▶ Wander the long distance walk, the Witton Weavers' Way - the full 32 miles or one of four shorter circular walks
- ▶ Large areas of the West Pennine Moors are designated 'Open Access'. See Ordnance Survey Explorer series map No. 287 West Pennine Moors.





Farm



Parking



Public House



Cafe/Tea rooms



Toilet Facilities



Building



Heritage Trail



Footpaths



Woodlands

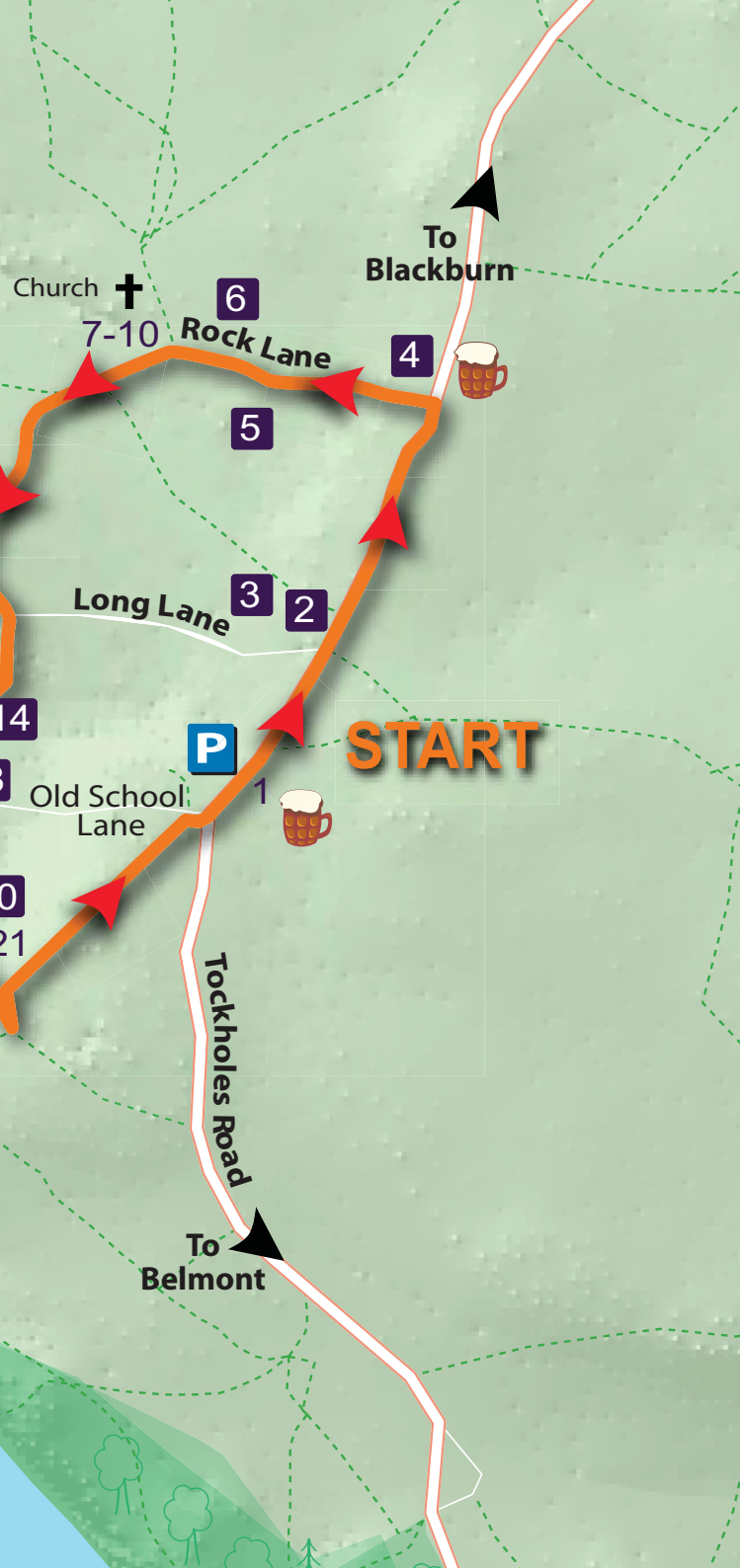
Chapel

Crow
Trees

Engine
Brow
Cottages

Ivy
Cottages

Lower
Roddlesworth
Reservoir



To
Blackburn

Church +

6

7-10

Rock Lane

4

5

Long Lane

3

2

P

START

Old School
Lane

1

0
21

Tockholes Road

To
Belmont