

Oswaldtwistle where you take a right turn moving and slightly climbing eastwards. This path goes through the centre of a field until you reach Jacob's Lodge, one of the many ponds owned by Steiners, which was a large dyeing and printing works in Church.

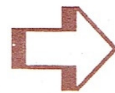
Turning right around the lodge you pass through Bottoms Farm on the right. ** see list You are now back in Oswaldtwistle having re-crossed the boundary. You begin a descent to Newthorn, a group of cottages which give evidence of hand looms weaving. On the descent you can see high above - on the left, "Top Row" on Cross Edge, a fairly large group of cottages with many indications of hand looms weaving. Around 1800 the Hackings were important manufacturers here.

Turn right on the road downward passing Gaulkthorn where you can see a paved farmyard and fine buildings. Further down turn left near the huge 'new' house, where the paths take you back to the fields and you can see a small plantation on your right. Just below the trees at Broadfield, there are old quarry workings and clay pits now exhausted the clay having been used by Broughton Barn and Gaulkthorn potteries. There is also evidence of drift mining connected with Broadfield Colliery.

It was closed in the 1890s but re-opened for a while during the General Strike of 1906. You should continue down the field towards Pothouse Lane. If the ground is bad it is possible to take the road from either Rushton House Farm or High Hoyle Bottom Farm. Take a left turn at Pothouse Lane and proceed to Hoyle Bottom proper. Leaving the old mill remains on the left, take the right fork for Waterside Farm. Follow the stream, Cocker Brook, until it joins Jackhouse Brook, where the path turns right after the bridge. Here you can see the remains of Jackhouse Bleach Works 1811 - 1903. Evidence of

old engine bed clearly visible; a tree grows out of the factory wall. The field above is known as League Field, traces of old mill lodge and water-wheel remain. Turn right at the top of the rise, and continue to Town Bent and on to the Library.

** Note: It is possible to deviate from the route at Bottoms Farm when you will have to negotiate the "Rheumatic steps" (so called because they vary in height), to Cross Edge. After bearing right, there is an old well on the bend, and which was last used by villagers in the 1960s. At the end of the road is the Shoulder of Mutton Pub, you should turn right down the hill to Newthorn to join up with the original route.



ENJOY YOUR WALK

Please remember the Country Code

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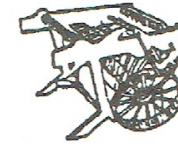
Oswaldtwistle Civic Society publishes 5 Walk leaflets, a Car/Cycle Trail - of the moorland and countryside of Oswaldtwistle, and two Heritage Trails:

1. "Aspden Valley Fairy Caves",
(Ancient monument - rare 'bee-hive' shaped coke ovens),
2. Rhyddings Park & Urban Conservation Area.

The Society thanks Express Gifts Ltd, Church for financial support towards the cost of this leaflet.

Walks in OSWALDTWISTLE

LANCASHIRE



Number 3



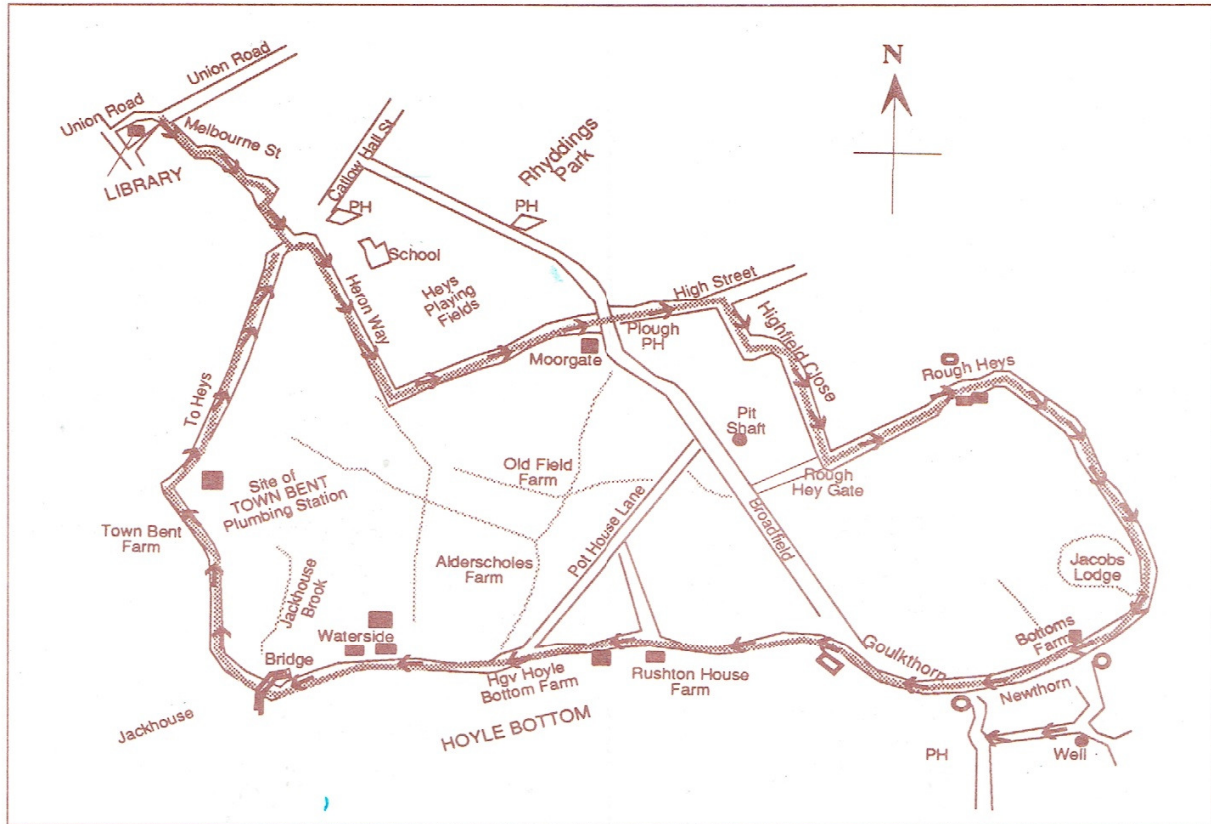
BOTTOM MOOR & POTHOUSE PROMENADE

Start from Oswaldtwistle Library. With your back to the Library turn right into Melbourne Street (Newsagent's on the corner), keeping to the right-hand side of the street. At the bottom of the street continue straight ahead towards and then over the bridge following the path which skirts Tinker Brook. To the left one can see the remaining evidence of Stonebridge Water Mill in Stonebridge Lane. At the rear of the mill which is largely intact, but which is a garage, can be seen a drained reservoir and traces of a wheel race. This is probably remains of the last water wheel in Oswaldtwistle. On the brook side there are many different flowers and plants. One of which is the wild balsam which is relatively new to the area.

On reaching the road (Merlin Drive), cross over and bearing slightly right, proceed up through the housing estate. After passing the doctor's surgery on your left, turn immediately left and then immediately right into Heron Way. You now come to the first yellow marker - an arrow on the corner of Heys Yard. Follow the direction until the 'T' junction in about 200 yards, where you will see an arrow pointing to the left.

Follow this with the playing fields on the left. You will eventually come to two bungalows on the right alongside a prominent stone building which is Moorgate Farm. Cross the road - Fielding Lane, passing the Plough Inn and proceed along High Street. This area used to be known as "Bottom Moor" but the name has fallen out of use with the building of the new estate in the vicinity. "Bottom Moor" would suggest that this was moorland many years ago and compared to Oswaldtwistle and Haslingden Moors - higher to the South, was indeed Bottom Moor.

High Street was the highest street in the town, as one climbed up to the moors to the south. 200 yards along High Street turn right into Highfield Close and left at its end, where, in front of you is a signpost indicating a footpath. This takes you along a



meadow to Rough Hey. At the other side of the meadow you can see the 'Cap' on the old shaft of Broadfield Colliery which closed in the 1890s. A colliery tramroad, ran very roughly along the line of Highfield Close and Hawthorn Avenue to the yard of Moscow Mill, then along Badge Brow (Formerly 'Ginny' Road), to Foxhill Bank Mill. The tramroad then disappeared underground and emerged at the canal opposite Holland Bank.

The cottages at Rough Hey Gate mark a turn to the left which brings you to Rough Hey Farm which is a most interesting group of buildings. The building approached first was probably a "putting-out centre" used by James Walmsley - a well-known name in

Oswaldtwistle's textile industry. The family founded Moscow Mill, known locally as Walmsley's. On entering the farmyard you should take a long look at the buildings which are Listed and have a chronological development shown in the four date stones - 1706, 1726, 1820, and 1877.

They have interesting features and the porch of the main building has 'ocular' windows on each side. They are sometimes known as "Witch's eye" windows. A cotton mill was built on the site in 1806 and was attached in the riots of 1826 and abandoned, little evidence remains.

Leaving the farmyard, the path takes you across the boundary stream between Accrington and