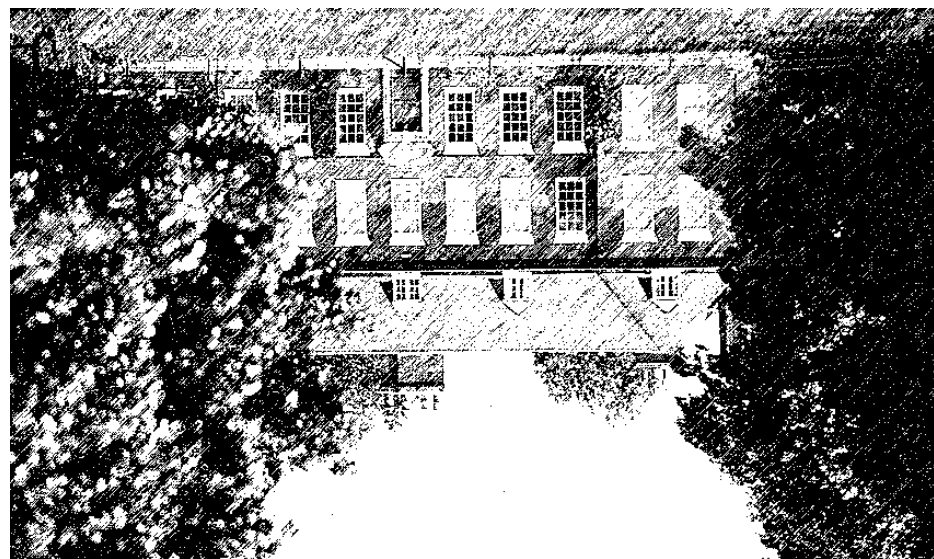


Blyth Hall, viewed from within the grounds, which are not open to the general public. The Whitacre and Shustoke Horticultural Society holds its annual show in the grounds at the front of the Hall on the last Saturday of July.



B) Blyth Hall: This old hall was extensively remodelled in 1692 by Sir John Dugdale. It is still owned by the Dugdale family, which owns large amounts of land in the area.

whose descendants lie in the church vaults, and who was notable for changing sides in the War of the Roses. Colleshill, itself, was a former royal demesne. The town was once inherited from the de Montforts by Simon Digby, in 1692 by Sir John Dugdale. It is still owned by the Dugdale family, which owns large amounts of land in the area.

A) The Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul: This lovely building dates back to the 14th century. Its 53 metre spire, rebuilt in 1887, is a landmark visible from some distance.

E) Cole End Bridge: This historic bridge was built around 1360, and widened in the 18th Century. The original arches can be seen over the river from the footpath.

D) Whitacre Water Works: This imposing building is a prime example of Victorian industrial architecture.

Look out for Hares, which are commonly found in the large open fields around the Colleshill area. At one time they were in decline, but are now becoming more common.



C) The white posts signify the line of a major oil pipeline that runs from Lowestoft to the Kingsbury Oil Terminal, which is five kilometres north of this point.

POINTS OF INTEREST

LENGTH OF THE WALK

This walk is suitable for all the family. It is clearly indicated with the waymark signs identified below, predominantly across flat countryside. It provides an enjoyable walk, which combines a rich industrial past with panoramic scenery.

Total Walk 5 Miles (approx. 2 1/2 hours)



STARTING POINT

The walk starts from Colleshill Church (A) in Church Hill. There is plenty of car parking around the area, although please park carefully, as you will be away for some time.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information on other circular walks in North Warwickshire, Countryside Events & Activities, and Cycleways, please contact North Warwickshire Borough Council, Community Development Division, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone, CV9 1BG, telephone (01827) 719207. More information about activities and events in Northern Warwickshire can be obtained by visiting the Northern Warwickshire Information Centre, Kingsbury Water Park, Bodymoore Heath Lane, Sutton Coldfield, Telephone (01827) 872660.

If you find any problems on public footpaths, please contact Warwickshire County Council's Countryside Access Team on (01926) 410410.

For **HAPPY** walking follow the country code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Keep all dogs under control
- Keep to public paths across farmland
- Fasten all gates
- Guard against the risk of fire
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Help to keep all water clean
- Take your litter home
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees
- Make no unnecessary noise
- Take special care on country roads
- Follow the waymarkers which indicate the route of the walk
- Wear strong water-proof footwear



Colleshill Walk



A beautiful circular walk which links the villages of Shustoke and Whitacre Heath with the historic market town of Colleshill. The walk takes in a vivid mix of pleasant town and countryside scenery and a rich industrial heritage.



NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMUNITY LEISURE

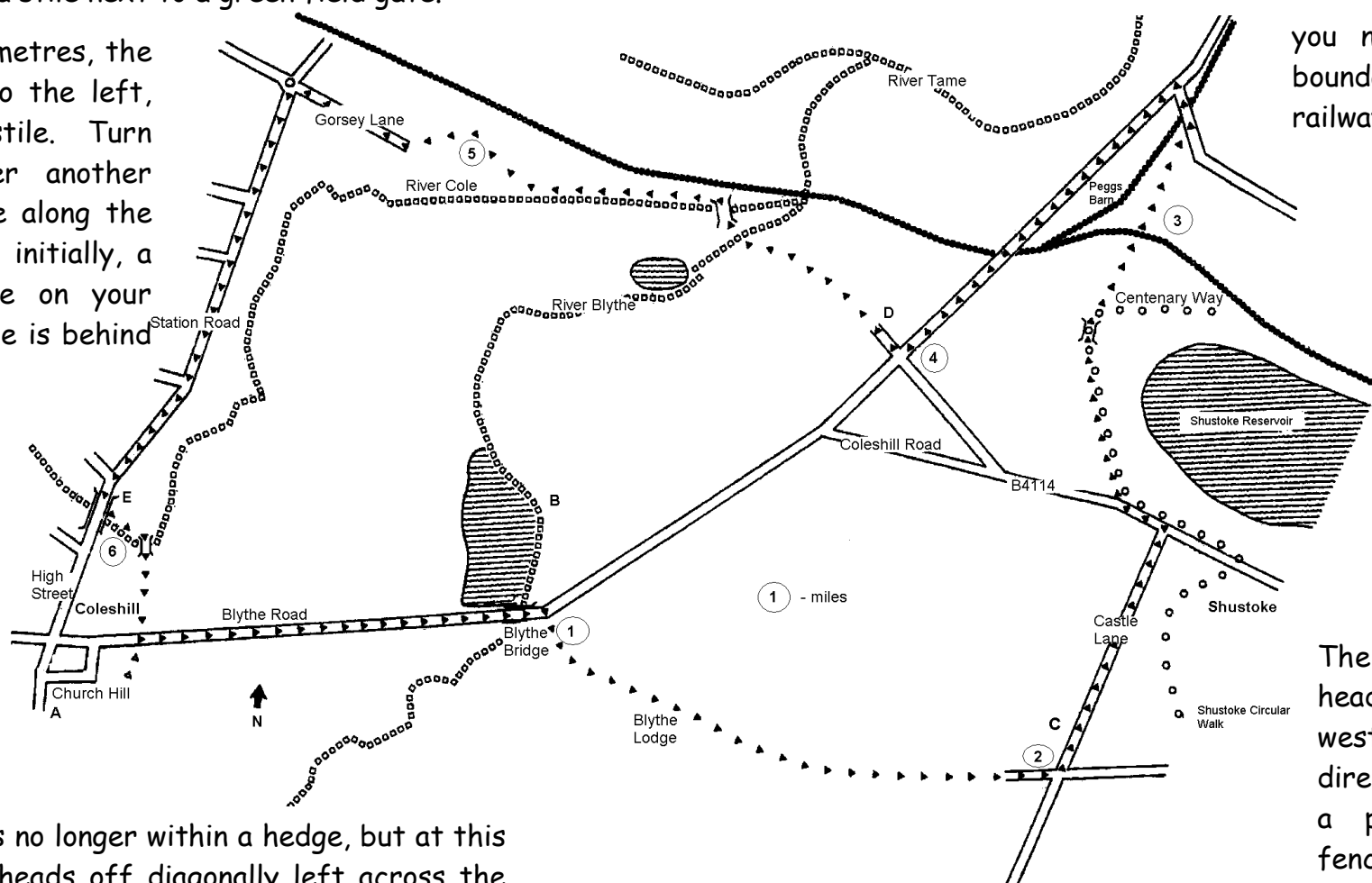
COLESHILL WALK

Main Route ▲

The walk starts at the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul (A) in Coleshill. Walk through the churchyard, keeping the church on your left. On reaching a metal gate, take the surfaced path across the grassed area known as "The Croft". Enter the graveyard, taking the path to the right of the small building and follow it through the cemetery. Pass through a metal kissing gate and out into a field. Continue straight ahead passing through two wooden gates until you reach a track. Turn left, and, on reaching Blythe Road, turn right and walk along the pavement out of Coleshill.

Continue under a double line of electricity wires. To the left, views of Blyth Hall (B) can be seen through the trees. When the pavement ends, cross to the other side of the road. Over the hedge is a recently restored gravel pit that attracts many ducks, geese, swans, herons and other water birds throughout the year. After crossing over Blythe Bridge, cross back over the main road, and proceed over a stile next to a green field gate.

After about 20 metres, the path bears off to the left, crossing over a stile. Turn right, cross over another stile and continue along the field's edge with, initially, a large holly hedge on your right. Blyth Lodge is behind this hedge.



you nearly to the boundary of the railway.

The path then heads in a general west to south west direction, alongside a post and wire fence, for approx. 865 metres.

Cross over the next stile and continue to follow the hedge, which is now on your left. In the corner of the field climb up to the stile that brings you out onto the road. Turn left and proceed over the railway bridge. After 20 metres, turn left along the road signposted to Coleshill. Continue along the pavement, passing Peggs Barn, which received a Civic Trust Award in 1995 after its restoration. Cross over the railway bridge, and along the frontage of Whitacre Water Works (D) to your right.

Opposite a left turn to Shustoke, turn right down a surfaced lane that becomes a track. Continue along the track, cross the small stream and the stile and head across the field towards a small brick bridge. On reaching the bridge, walk through a gate, over the River Blythe, and through another gate before following a post and wire fence on your left upto another bridge over the River Cole. After crossing the bridge, the path has been diverted north north west for approximately 25 metres, bringing

The next stile is no longer within a hedge, but at this point the path heads off diagonally left across the field towards a distant electricity pylon.

On reaching a gap in the hedge, the path follows the edge of the field with a hedge on your left. Take the track that continues between a bungalow on the right and a cottage on the left. Follow the track to a crossroads and turn left into Castle Lane. As you walk down the road, note the white posts on either side of the road (C). On reaching the main road, cross the B4114 and turn left along the pavement.

As the road bears left, take the footpath to the right. This is also the Centenary Way(*). The walk follows a surfaced path along the right hand side of a field to a stile. Cross the stile and continue to follow the path across the middle of the field up to a bridge. On reaching the bridge, another circular walk is way-marked to the right, and the surfaced path bears left. Ignore both of these and head straight across the field towards the railway line, which you cross with care. Follow the path with a hedge on your right.

Cross over a stile in the corner of the field. Walk along Gorsey Lane ahead of you, passing the site of the gas works on your right, and various industrial units on your left. As you pass under more electricity wires, cross the road and walk along the pavement towards the roundabout.

Just prior to the roundabout, follow the pavement as it bears left into Station Road. Follow the pavement until you reach The Wheatsheaf Public House. Just after the pub, follow the parapet wall of Cole End Bridge (E) on your left for a short distance until you reach the steps. TAKE CARE AS THERE IS NO PAVEMENT. Go down the steps and follow the path across the field to a footbridge.

Cross the bridge and walk up the right hand side of the field to a wooden gate, which brings you out onto Blythe Road. Cross the main road, turn right and then left to pick up the footpath from the Church at the start of the walk. Retrace your steps back through "The Croft".