

Farnsfield Outer Heritage Trail Directions

Loop 3: White Post. Walk distance 3.0 miles

Starting point: Southwell Trail car park, Station Lane, Farnsfield NG22 8LB

This walk has an optional permissive path diversion to Mansfield Road to avoid the short section along the verge of the very busy A614



The walk starts at the Southwell Trail car parking area on Station Lane, NG22 8LB. The photograph shows the entrance to the small lane on Station Lane leading to the car park.

From the car park walk back along the lane towards Station Lane.

[Heritage point - Railway History](#)



On the right-hand side, you will see the Old Goods Shed and the old Station House which was originally the station master's house with a ticket office and waiting room. These are now private houses.



In this old photograph, you can see the station house and, in the distance, the goods shed.

Farnsfield railway station 1900s



At the end of the access road turn left to walk down Station Lane, heading east. Look out for a house on the left, opposite Spring

Lane, with two mill stones set into the garden walls.

This is the site of Whitehead's windmill and these are original mill stones.



Whitehead's Mill 1950s

Continue down Station Lane passing the Cricket Club on the right until you reach Wilson's Field recreation ground. Go through the gap in the gated entrance, just before the GP Surgery, and walk across the recreation ground to the top of the steps on the left. Go down



the steps and continue down towards the road.



The 'lias' limestone paving at the rear of the lock-up would once have covered the whole path which was used to take livestock to the fields on the opposite side of the road for grazing.

Heritage Point – The Lock-up



Built in July 1850, the lock-up is one of the last, and perhaps plainest, of its kind in the country.

It was used to detain people accused of criminal acts or drunk and disorderly behaviour until they could be taken before the Magistrate in Southwell. The heavy door with handmade nails and the barred window is still capable of holding in miscreants!

The old village pump was situated on the side of the road just opposite the lock-up.

Option 1

Turn right and walk down Mansfield Road in an easterly direction towards the A614 White Post roundabout. On the right-hand side, you will pass a small close of houses at The Sandholes. The sandy banks rising up behind the houses provided material for mending roads and house building or repair. The village sand pit was situated here.

Cross Cockett Lane and continue along the path. At the edge of the village development, you will see a white house named Mill House. This single house was once 3 cottages. On the rise above the house was the site of the Good Intent Windmill

Heritage point - Good Intent Windmill

On the left-hand side just before you reach the White Post Farm centre is a large copse of trees. These were planted by villagers to mark the Millennium. The White Post Farm first opened its gates as a farm park on 21st June 1988 and it is now one of the foremost tourist attractions in the area.

The White Post pub is a good stopping point for refreshments. To return to the main route recross to the north side of the road near the White Post Farm.

Heritage point – Old Pubs of Farnsfield, White Post Inn & Staging Post

End of Option 1 route

Option 2



On the opposite side of Mansfield Road from the lock-up is Bell's Field, where you will usually see sheep and horses grazing. To the right of the bus stop and shelter, there is a gate entrance to the field. Cross the road where it is safe to do so and go through the gate. Head directly up the field towards the houses at the top end.



Go through the public footpath gate and turn right onto Vicarage Lane.



As you walk along the lane you will see the Old Vicarage on the left. It was built in 1870 by the Reverend Henry Robert Wilkins and his wife Sarah with the help of a grant from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Reverend Wilkins had overseen the almost total rebuilding of St Michael's church in 1859-60.

Heritage point – The Old Vicarage



When you reach the metal gate, go through the gap on the left-hand side.

Keeping close to the left-hand side hedge, cross two fields, through the gates.



You will then be in open land with fields on either side. This is part of the Robin Hood Way, originally an 84-mile walking route from Nottingham Castle to Edwinstowe Church first opened in 1985 and designed to link all the places in Nottinghamshire associated with Robin Hood.

Heritage point – Robin Hood Way

The route crosses several fields, mostly through gaps in the hedge, where you will see lovely views and, in the spring and summer, the cry of numerous skylarks. The fields have various crops, depending on the time of year including rape, barley, wheat and sugar beet.



You will be walking parallel to the Mansfield Road heading west out of the village. The white house at the end of the main village is Mill House. On a raised hillock behind the house stood the Good Intent windmill which was a local landmark until the 1920s. The Mill House, now one private house, was originally 3 cottages.

Heritage point – The Good Intent windmill

Occasionally the path is diverted around the northern edge of a field rather than across, to accommodate ploughing and crops, but this is always clearly signed.

NOTE – We now have a permissive path added to avoid the busy A614. When you see the permissive signpost take this path along a hedge and past a small wood on your left to join the road. Turn left and head towards the White Post. Continue the trail after the “Heritage point for old pubs..”





Or you can continue along the Robin Hood Trail and use the stile as below – Beware the fast A614 Main road.

Before the final field there is a farm track. Cross this and



keep to the edge of the field with the hedge on your right. The far side of the field runs parallel to the A614 and you will see a white house. Head towards this until you reach the stile which takes you onto the road

verge. Go over the stile and turn right along the verge towards the White Post roundabout.



N.B. This part of the walk is along the right-hand side of the busy A614 road heading north. The stile is about 100 yards from the paved area at the White Post pub, but the ground is uneven and the traffic heavy. The verge grass can also be long in summer months.

The White Post pub is a good stopping point for refreshments.

Heritage point – Old Pubs of Farnsfield, White Post Inn & Staging Post

To cross the road at the roundabout, bear right as you walk past the White Post pub onto the bottom of the Mansfield Road. Find a safe place to cross the road onto the north side where you will see the White Post Farm, a popular local tourist attraction.

Both routes continue

Follow the pavement back towards the roundabout and then turn right to go north on the A614 past the Kindred White Post Nursery and Rufford Garage.
Continue along the fenced



path until you come to the footpath sign pointing up the steep steps to the Southwell Trail.

Heritage point – Southwell Trail

Southwell Trail Booklet gives more walks in the area



The first narrow part of the trail path passes the rear of the White Post Farm. It then widens out as you head east towards Farnsfield. There are many wild flowers in spring and summer and colourful foliage and berries in the autumn to enjoy along the way.



You will pass under 2 road bridges. The second of these is where Cockett Lane crosses the Trail. Just after the bridge you will pass what is now the rear of Station House where the old station was located.

A short distance further on you will arrive back at the Station Lane car park which is on the right-hand side.

This is the end of Loop 3