

Farnsfield Outer Heritage Trail Direction Guide

Walking distance 7.5 miles

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



Farnsfield railway station 1900s



Heritage Point: Railway History
Site of former Railway Station, Station House and goods shed now private residences

From the car park follow the Southwell trail in an easterly direction until the path drops down to Broomfield Lane. Turn left & walk along the road until you reach the gate at the entrance to the Hexgreave Estate. Go through the pedestrian gate on the right-hand side. Just beyond the gate on the left is South Lodge.



Heritage Point: Hexgreave Hall & Estate

Continue along the road (bridleway) turning right at the Cockett Barn Farm T-junction [4].

There are 2 options at this point

Option 1. Across the field

A few yards further, on the left-hand side, you will see a gap in the hedge just beyond the 25mph sign. Follow the path diagonally across the field.



Go over the stile & turn left to continue along the road towards Hexgreave business park. The accessibility of this route may vary with the weather as it can get very muddy.



Option 2. Wheelchair friendly

Continue along the road turning left at the second T-junction. Continue along the lime tree avenue towards Hexgreave business park.

Both routes:

Continue along the road. Just beyond the 10mph sign on the right you will see Swan Lodge with its crenelated gable ends & large chimney stacks.

[*Heritage Point: Swan Lodge*](#)





Continuing along the road you will see Hexgreave Hall and the business estate on the right. Refreshments are available at The Old Boiler Room café, the low, green-roofed building in front of the hall on the far side of the car park.

The café is only open until 3.00pm. Check the website for details: [The Old boiler room](#)

N.B. The next part of the walk has high stiles and the fields can be very muddy. It is not suitable for people with mobility issues.

From the car park entrance, continue along the road until you see a footpath sign on the right. Follow the direction of the sign across the grass and go through the gate into the deer park. Look back on your right and you have a good view of Hexgreave Hall.



Heritage Point: Hexgreave Hall & Estate

Follow the path alongside the fence & go through a second gate at the bottom of the field. Walk through the second field alongside the fence, over the high stile, along the clearly marked path. Go over a second stile & continue until you reach the road. Follow the yellow way markers straight ahead along the road. On the right, down a private roadway is Lower Hexgreave Farm.



Heritage Point: Hexgreave Hall & Estate



Just before the metal gate go through the wooden gate on the right-hand side clearly marked with a yellow topped way-marker.



Follow the footpath across the large field. If you turn to look back the way you've come you should get a good view of Lower Hexgreave Farm.

Continue along the field path until you reach the intersection with the Southwell Trail. Cross the Trail and follow the pebble path leading onto Brickyard Lane.



On the right hand side you will pass the Farnsfield Water Works and a little further along is the Waterworks house, originally two cottages, but now one private house.



Heritage Point: Farnsfield Waterworks

Continue along Brickyard Lane, around the sharp left-hand bend until it meets the bottom of The Ridgeway and Main Street. Walk across the grass or follow the pavement to Main Street and cross the road to the south side. Turn left, passing Woodberry café until you reach the entrance to Parfitt Drive. **Take care crossing** the main road.

Refreshment stop at [Woodberry café](#) which is open Wednesday to Sunday

On either side of the entrance to Parfitt Drive you will find trees, a Canadian Maple and an English Oak. On the walls are plaques commemorating the crew of the Halifax bomber which crashed on the edge of the village on 6th July 1944. Parfitt Drive is named after Pilot Officer Reginald Parfitt.

Heritage Point: Halifax Memorial



Walk down Parfitt Drive and at the bottom take the pathway on the left. After a short distance you will emerge onto a bridleway called Cotton Mill Lane. Turn right and follow the lane to the junction with Quaker Lane.



Heritage Point: Cotton Mill Lane

Optional small 'detour' to take in the history of Quaker Lane
Turn right onto Quaker Lane and follow the road past Vine Cottage which was where the gas works manager lived in the early 1900s. The garden of the house led directly into the grounds of the gas works.

The road then bends to the left and the modern house next to Vine Cottage stands on the site of the old gasometer used to store the gas.



Continue along Quaker Lane and on the right-hand side you will see a row of three Victorian terraced cottages. These were built as part of the gas works development in 1869.

Heritage Point: Farnsfield Gasworks

Quaker Lane was so named because of its strong association with Farnsfield Quakers. A little further along on the right-hand side is the former Primitive Methodist Chapel. Later used as a Women's Institute Hall, it is now a private house called Quaker Lane Hall.

There are some fine old cottages at the top end of Quaker Lane near the junction with Main Street.



Charnwood House, Main Street, which is slightly to the right of the Quaker Lane junction is the possible location of the Quaker meeting house and burial ground which was built in 1701-2. Prior to this the meeting house was on Cockett Lane.

Heritage Point: Farnsfield Quaker

Turn and walk back down Quaker Lane, passing the end of Cotton Mill Lane to follow the road to the junction with Tippings Lane.

Continue straight ahead onto Combs Lane following the **sign for the Halifax Bomber Memorial**. Continue along this road, past New Farm until you reach a left hand turn signposted Halifax Bomber Memorial. Turn left along this road, passing through the open wooden gate until you reach the memorial site.



Heritage Point: Halifax Memorial



Leaving the memorial site, retrace your steps back along the lane to the junction with Combs Lane.

Turn right and walk a short distance until you see a footpath sign on the left. Follow this path between the hedges, across the field and through a gap into a second field sloping down along a fenced path back towards the village.

You will usually see heritage sheep and several alpacas in the field. There is a good view of the church and as you walk down the field, you will see Farnsfield Hall appearing through the trees.



Heritage Point: Farnsfield Hall

At the bottom of the field, go through the gate, cross the road and walk down the footpath marked with a concrete bollard, known locally as '**Birdcage Walk**' which comes out onto the bottom of Blidworth Road.

This area, where the large lime tree stands in the traffic island, is called The Green and was once the site of the village maypole. You will see a house on the left called Saddler's Cottage. As the name suggests, this was once a saddle and harness maker's shop. You can still see the ring on the house wall where horses could be tethered. The Lion pub and restaurant, once called The Red Lion, has a very long history, although it has been largely rebuilt following a fire in 1874.



Heritage Point: The Green

Cross to the other side of Blidworth Road and then walk west along Mansfield Road, passing The Lion and Mansfield House on the right **until you reach a bus stop**.

Just beyond this bus stop is a gate into a field. Go through the gate and straight up the field to the top gate. Go through the gate and turn right onto Vicarage Lane. Walk along the lane, passing the Old Vicarage.

Heritage Point: The Old Vicarage



Follow the road through the gate and onto the path leading across the fields, which is part of the Robin Hood Way. The path runs parallel to the Mansfield Road and on the righthand side you can see a white house on the edge of the village.



This is Mill House. On a raised hillock behind the house stood the Good Intent windmill which was a local landmark until the 1920s. Mill House, now one private home, was originally 3 cottages.

Heritage Point: Good Intent Windmill

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..”

On the left-hand side just before you reach the road is a large copse of trees. These were planted by villagers to mark the Millennium. Turn left and follow the road towards the White Post Inn.



*Or if you do not mind walking alongside the busy A614, follow the Robin Hood Trail to a Stile. Cross this and turn right down the hill to the White Post Inn. **TAKE CARE Busy Road.***



Continue to follow the path across the fields. You will see lovely views in the spring, and in summer hear the cry of skylarks. The fields have various crops depending on the time of year including rape, barley, wheat and sugar beet.

Climb over the stile at the edge of the final field onto the A614 verge.

Turn right and walk carefully along the verge until you reach the White Post Inn.

This is a short stretch of verge, but the traffic is heavy and fast moving. **Take great care crossing here!**



Heritage Point: Old Pubs of Farnsfield

From the White Post Inn cross Mansfield Road and walk from the roundabout northwards along the pavement of the Old Rufford Road, A614, along the side of the White Post Farm, Kindred White Post Nursery and Rufford Garage.

As it rises above road level and narrows, the path is separated from the road by wooden fencing and on the right, you will come to a public footpath sign.



Follow the steep steps up the bank onto the Southwell Trail. There was originally a railway bridge across the road at this point. Continue along the Trail, you will pass under the bridge on Cockett Lane and shortly after you will see the back of Station House which is where the old station platform was. The old Goods Shed and the Station Lane car park are just beyond on the right-hand side.



End of Trail