



the other one can be found on a footpath west of Little Field Lane heading down to Levisham Station.

The Moorlands Hotel above was built at the end of the nineteenth century as a home for the Rector of St. Mary's Church, W.J.E Armstrong, a gentleman of means, in a completely different style to the other older houses in the village. A pleasure garden was created around it and some of the plants along this part of the footpath escaped from it. Note in particular the Greater Celandine, a rare old herbal plant which has four large yellow petals when it is in bloom. Further along there is a bank of Vinca (Periwinkle) which has purple-blue flowers

3. At the top of the steps there is a good view of the church in the valley and old Sleights Road to its left.

St. Mary's Church was rebuilt in 1802 and was the parish church for Levisham until the 1970's when it was deconsecrated. In 1984 the nave roof was removed. However there is evidence of a much earlier church. The track that runs along the valley to its left is named on old maps as the old Sleights Road created long before the road (A169) to the east of Lockton was built.

Directly below is the old Mill with its wheel still visible. There are records that there has been a mill in Levisham since the 13th century. To its left there is the remains of an ancient orchard.

4. At the signposted fork on the junction bear left towards Horcum. The path climbs gradually until it is level with the farmland on your left and then curves north as it begins to descend into a wooded area.

*The layered rocks along the side of the path are Corallian Limestone which was formed from the sediment under a warm estuary millions of years ago when coral and tiny shelled fish thrived here. The land above here, part of the Tabular Hills, is rich in this natural deposit of lime making it very good for farming. The stone is very porous and thus drains very well.*

*The wood in this valley may have been felled for the local medieval iron works and later for use during the World Wars*

Continue along the path through the woods as it rises and falls keeping high above the valley below. This path can be very muddy at times and is steep in places. Eventually the trees begin to thin out as the path passes a footpath sign. From here the path drops down to a gate. Go through it. This is a pleasant place to have a picnic.

Levisham Beck rises from the Hole of Horcum and joins the Pickering Beck at Farwath. The valley was created by melt water from glaciers at the end of the last ice age.

*This quiet spot where Levisiham Beck meets Dundale Griff is the site of a medieval iron work (bloomery) and traces of slag are still visible in the river bank. In the 1950s medieval pottery was found here.*

5. Turn left here to follow the signposted path to Dundale Pond up the valley, keeping the stream which feeds Levisham Beck on your right.

6. As the path rises out of the valley into open moorland, bear left at the fork, and climb up to the signposted gate. (Alternatively, take the right path at the fork to visit Dundale Pond, and return by taking the signposted path for Levisham to reach the gate).

7. Follow the track back to Levisham.

[www.locktonlevisham.btck.co.uk](http://www.locktonlevisham.btck.co.uk)

This leaflet is one of a series covering Lockton and Levisham produced by the Lockton and Levisham Heritage Group funded by



## LEVISHAM and LEVISHAM BROW

A circular walk from St John the Baptist Church in Levisham

DISTANCE – 4.7km / 2.9 miles

START – Grid ref SE 833906

### Notes on the Walk

1. Leave the village by the wide main street heading south towards Lockton
2. Just: as you leave the village where there is a bench and a footpath signpost turn sharply left onto a path which hugs the boundary of the hotel and farmland above.

*The bench on this path is a replacement of one put here in 1937 to commemorate the coronation of King George VI, one of two,*