

# Archdeacon Newton

Darlington countryside

Ramble

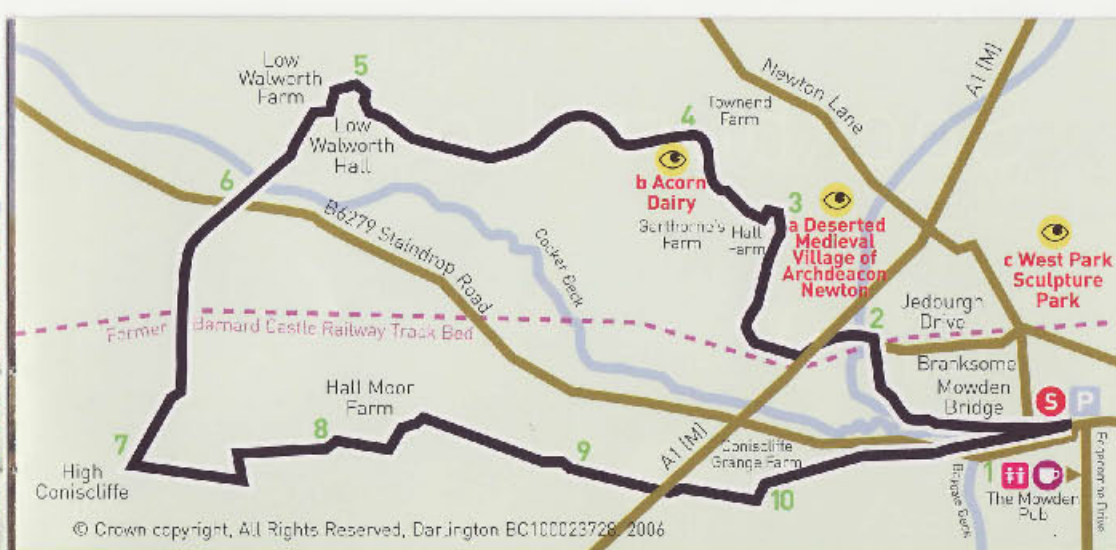
**Rural/Distance:** 6.5 miles (10.5km) **Grade:** moderate **Time:** allow 3.75 hours



Varied walk taking you to Archdeacon Newton, (the site of the Deserted Medieval Village of Archdeacon Newton) and Garthorne's Farm, home to the Acorn Dairy.

## Recommended route:

- 1 From the car parking area, cross Staindrop Road (there is no path on this side). Turn right and walk a short way along the road towards a small bridge. Just before the bridge re-cross Staindrop Road and follow the footpath sign straight ahead, keeping the Baydale Beck on your left, up to meet the Branksome estate. Cross through the housing, bearing left along the street (Malvern Crescent) with the motorway in the distance on your left. At the top of Malvern Crescent cross the road and go through a metal gate ahead, onto the former Barnard Castle Railway Track Bed.
- 2 Turn left along the track bed towards the A1(M) motorway, ignoring a track leading off to your right. Go through a kissing gate and take the tunnel on your right, under the A1(M). Where the track splits, stay on the main track, bearing right then straight on to come to the farmyard of Hall Farm.
- 3 Bear left around the farmyard, keeping the buildings on your right, to come to a road. Turn left and walk a short distance along the road towards Garthorne's Farm. The right of way takes you through a small stone stile in the farmhouse perimeter wall, across the lawn in front of the farmhouse and through a small gate in the wall opposite. Bear right and head in a northwesterly direction to cross two stiles. (NB there is often electric fencing at this point, but there is access). Head to the north-west corner of the field and cross a stile.
- 4 Bear left, heading west keeping the field boundary on your left. Continue following the field edge to eventually cross a small sleeper bridge in front of a stile. Cross through the middle of the cultivated field ahead. Just before Low Walworth Farm bear diagonally right across a pasture field, (there may be some abandoned farm machinery at this point), following the permissive way marks. Cross a stile onto a stony track.
- 5 Take the bridleway opposite and follow it, keeping farm buildings on your left. Pass between two barns, turn right at the junction and keep following the track to come back to Staindrop Road.
- 6 Cross the road. Follow the bridleway opposite walking south, (you cross part of the former Barnard Castle Railway Track Bed). Continue straight ahead until you come to a waymarked stile on your left – ahead you see farm



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**Start & finish:** small woodland car parking area on Staindrop Road, opposite Edgecombe Drive

## Map Key

**How to get there:** From Darlington town centre follow signs for A68 Corbridge and proceed for approx 0.5 miles to a mini roundabout. Follow signs for B6279 (Staindrop Road) for approx 0.25 miles to the small woodland car parking area opposite Edgecombe Drive, the last residential street on Staindrop Road after the Mowden Pub

- S Start & finish:** small woodland car parking area on Staindrop Road, opposite Edgecombe Drive
- P Parking:** small woodland car parking area on Staindrop Road, opposite Edgecombe Drive
- Public Transport:** Public transport information **0871 200 2233** (calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras) **www.traveline.info Text 84268**
- Places of interest:** a Deserted Medieval Village of Archdeacon Newton  
b Acorn Dairy, **tel 01325 466999**  
c West Park Sculpture Park
- Refreshments:** The Mowden Pub, **tel 01325 460386**
- Toilets:** The Mowden Pub, for patrons

buildings and the village of High Coniscliffe in the distance to the right.

- 7 Cross the stile, the bridge over the small stream ahead and another stile. Continue on through the fields ahead, crossing several stiles to eventually come to a lane.
- 8 Turn left onto the lane and follow it for approximately 88 yards (80m). Turn right into a field and follow the path to the field boundary. At the boundary turn left and walk towards a small copse of trees. Cross a stile and follow the path through the copse to exit into a field. Turn left and follow the field boundary to come to a stony track.
- 9 Follow the track to cross the A1(M) on a bridge. Where the track bears left, carry straight on and follow the field edge path to join another track. Turn left towards Coniscliffe Grange Farm, passing the farmhouse on your left.
- 10 Just past the farmhouse cross a stile on your right, in front of Coniscliffe Grange Farm Cottage. Cross the field ahead bearing diagonally left. Exit the field by a stile, back onto Staindrop Road. Turn right along the road and head back to the car parking area on your left.