**WALKING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PARISH OF MARKHAM CLINTON.**

**THE VILLAGES OF MILTON BEVERCOTES AND WEST MARKHAM**

**DISTANCE** 10.3K **LEVEL** Easy **TOTAL TIME**  2hrs 45 mins

**ROUTE**  Circular walk covering village boundaries along well walked tracks and footpaths. Taking in three points of historical interest

**START AND END**

MILTON MAUSOLEUM NG22 0PW

**PARKING**

ROADSIDE ON THE AVENUE OUTSIDE THE MAUSOLEUM NG22 0PW

(This narrow Country road is a rural bus route please avoid parking on the brow of the hill)

**THE WALK**

Leaving the Mausoleum walk down the hill to the road junction and turn right onto main street Milton.

Passing riverside farm and the bungalows on your left, turn left onto the Bridleway, between the houses.

At the bridge cross the river Maun, then walk diagonally with the cricket club on your left across the field to the gate and yellow footpath marker beyond.

This is a well walked path between a wooden fence and hedges bordering open fields you will be walking straight ahead towards the Earth Holme Plantation and fishing lakes.

Continuing on to the sharp right-hand bend, you will now have a large dyke and the river Maun on your left.

Stay on this footpath till you reach a small concrete footbridge, cross the dyke and keep walking with the dyke now on your right. Shortly the path widens and becomes a track leading to the entrance to Bevercotes pit wood.

Turn left, and crossing over the river Maun you will pass a red brick house with large garden on your right. Ahead of you is a yard and agricultural buildings, the way is clearly signposted, you are directed to a wooden gate displaying yellow walk markers.

Go through the gate and turn left onto the drive at Lound Hall.

Walk up the drive with the house on your right, ahead you will see ornamental iron gates, there is a hand gate built into the left section of these gates. Go through the hand gate and continue walking between high hedges to the road junction.

Cross the road, and take the track straight ahead of you between a private wood on your right and the Bernard Wass Sports field on your left. There is a kissing gate ahead.

The track now opens onto low open fields bordering the river Maun on your right. Ahead on your right you will see a small copse and a wooden fence surrounding the roofless ruins of Haughton Chapel.

**HAUGHTON CHAPEL** [**www.walesby.org**](http://www.walesby.org)[Haughton Chapel ruins – Walesby Parish Council](http://www.walesby.org/content/history/haughton/haughton-chapel-ruins/)

The chapel is a dedicated monument, grade 2 listed building. During the last decade there has been extensive Conservation work at this site by English Heritage.

Haughton Chapel was originally the parish church of the vanished village of Haughton. Dedicated to St James in 1257, and steeped in local and national history. William Holles was buried here in 1591. His grandson John Holles became the first Earl of Clare

In 2018 for the first time in living memory a countryside service was held in the ruin, and the unveiling of a memorial plaque dedicated to the airmen of the 2 Royal Canadian aircraft that had crashed there during the second world war.

**CONTINUING OUR WALK**

On leaving the Chapel turn right continue along the track and take the first track to your left. Walking between open fields ahead at the entrance to a small wooded area you will see a yellow way marker.

The track takes you between high hedges on both sides, today laden with white black thorn blossom. As you proceed you will see ahead on the horizon the cottages at Bevercotes Park, Farleys Wood and in the distance the communications mast on the Tuxford Road. The track turns left, continue towards the local Bevercotes road, ignoring the footpath dropping away to your right.

When you reach Bevercotes road turn left, stay on the road, and after walking slightly up hill, you will drop down into Bevercotes, a pretty traditional farming village, with a handful of typical Nottinghamshire red bricked Farm houses cottages and outbuildings.

Keeping ahead as you walk out of the village you will pass equestrian stables on you right, modern farm buildings. and the entrance to the Springvale Fishing lakes on your left. On reaching the road junction you will see a sign post for Milton and Walesby, turn left and immediately follow the first footpath sign on your left across an open field.

With the hedge on your left, walk diagonally across the field to the hedge at the far corner. This footpath is across a large arable field it is usually “sprayed out” and clearly visible.

When you reach the far hedge turn right, and with this hedge on your left walk towards the road.

When you reach the road, you will clearly see the Severn Trent water pumping station in Milton on your left.

Cross the road, and take the signposted track immediately opposite.

Still walking with the hedge on our left continue slightly uphill and you will come to “The Hollows”, this is an ancient green lane climbing uphill between high banks to the village of West Markham. In the spring these banks are a beautiful mass of wild primroses violets and catkins.

At the top you come out into open fields. Walk straight ahead across a small field through to a large open field with the hedge now on your right.

As you start to gently walk uphill towards West Markham your starting point on The Avenue at Milton and the Mausoleum will begin to appear across the fields to your left.

Keep straight ahead and you will soon reach West Markham, this is another unspoilt traditional North Nottinghamshire farming village.

Walk straight across the road onto and along Bacon Lane, at the crossroads turn left onto main street, and follow the road to the Church steps and entrance off Parson Lane.

**WEST MARKHAM CHURCH** <https://southwellchurches.nottingham.ac.uk/west-markham/hhistory>

There are no official records of the founding of All Saints but it is believed to be of Saxon origin. Set higher than the road on a corner with access from both Parson Lane and Milton Road this church served as the parish church for Milton West Markham and Bevercotes till 1833, when in a bad state of repair, it was closed for regular worship and destined to be demolished by the 4th Duke of Newcastle in when he built a new church and Newcastle family Mausoleum at Milton. It was never demolished and services recommenced here at Easter in 1949.

**FINAL STAGE OF OUR WALK**

Leaving the Church by the exit on Milton Road we walk the short distance back to our starting point at Milton Mausoleum along a magnificent avenue of lime trees, planted by the 4th Duke of Newcastle when the Mausoleum was consecrated in 1833.

**MILTON MAUSOLEUM** [www.visitchurches.org.uk/visit/church-listing/milton-mausoleum](http://www.visitchurches.org.uk/visit/church-listing/milton-mausoleum)

Milton Mausoleum was built by Henry Pelham Clinton 4th Duke of Newcastle as a final resting place for his wife Georgiana, who died tragically young following the birth of twins. It was closed for regular service in 1949, and taken into the care of The Churches Conservation Trust in 1972. Open to visitors every Sunday between May and September 2-4pm volunteer stewards will be in attendance to show you around tell you the story of how this magnificent building came to be here in this rural location.