

13 The Chalk Scarp Slope

Dann's Hill leads up the chalk scarp slope which forms an abrupt edge to the eastern side of the valley. The chalk is permeable compared to the impermeable mudstones of the valley floor, which are much easier for running water to erode away.

14 The Lincolnshire Wolds Ridge

Middlegate Lane follows the crest of the chalk escarpment, giving views over the Ancholme Valley to the west and the limestone slope on which Winterton is located. The lane follows a prehistoric ridgeway.

15 Roxby Causeway

This lane crosses the valley floor. The name 'causeway' points to the fact that the valley used to flood. The lane rises up the limestone dip slope and, after crossing Ermine Street and the B1207, it becomes North Street and continues up to Roxby.

16 Roxby Pond

Roxby, like Winterton, relied on spring water welling up to the surface from the underlying limestone. In very wet weather the tarmac of the lane next to the pond often gives way as water bubbles up through it.

17 The Trods

Passing along the footpath and bridleway, known locally as The Trods, there are views to the east across the valley to the chalk escarpment at Horkstow and Saxby. To the northeast is the chimney of the cement works at South Ferriby, sited to take advantage of the chalk and clay, raw materials used in cement making.

The River Ancholme runs north through the eastern part of Winterton parish to meet the Humber Estuary. To the east is the chalk scarp slope of the Lincolnshire Wolds with the so-called 'low villages' – including Horkstow and Saxby All Saints. To the west rises the gentle dip slope of the Jurassic Limestone. Settlements such as Winterton and Roxby lie up this slope just above flood level. The valley was once a tidal inlet. The lowest parts of the landscape result from flooding and repeated attempts at reclamation and drainage.

This trail gives you an introduction to all parts of these adjoining landscapes.

The trail starts at All Saints' Church, Churchside, Winterton.

Location - O. S. Grid Ref. SE 928186
The 1:25,000 Explorer Sheet 281 'Ancholme Valley'

Total distance - around 15 miles on tarmac road/lane/path or stone track.

Refreshments - Winterton - public houses, coffee shop, minimarkets and takeaways.

Parking - Parking on West Street, Winterton

Public Transport - 350 Humber Fastcat bus (Hull to Scunthorpe) via Winterton. 450 bus (Brigg to Barton) via Horkstow and Saxby.

Toilets - Winterton, Queen Street.



Leaflet produced by the
Heritage Lottery Fund
project 'All Saints: the
story it tells of Winterton'.

ANCHOLME VALLEY TRAIL

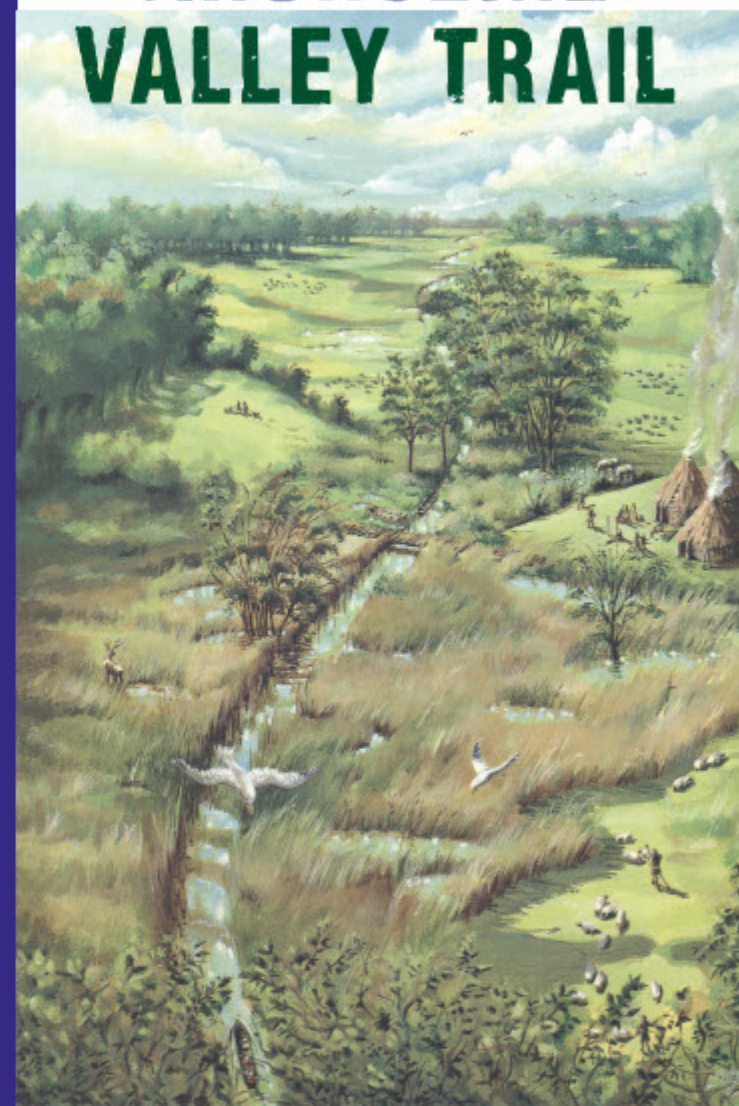


Image of Reconstruction of the Ancholme valley at Brigg around 1000 BC
Illustration by Les Turner © Humber Wetlands Project - University of Hull

Design by Michael O'Connell



Chalk Wolds from Roxby Trods

Exploring the Landscape in North Lincolnshire



All Saints' Church, Winterton

1 All Saints' Church

A medieval, Grade I Listed, parish church. The oldest surviving part is pre-1100 and most of the rest was built by 1245. The Early Romanesque Lincolnshire Tower was erected around 1100 for bell-ringing. The church and tower are built from local Jurassic limestone. This church is just over 28 metres above sea level on the limestone slope which forms the western side of the Ancholme Valley.



Painting of Weir Pond

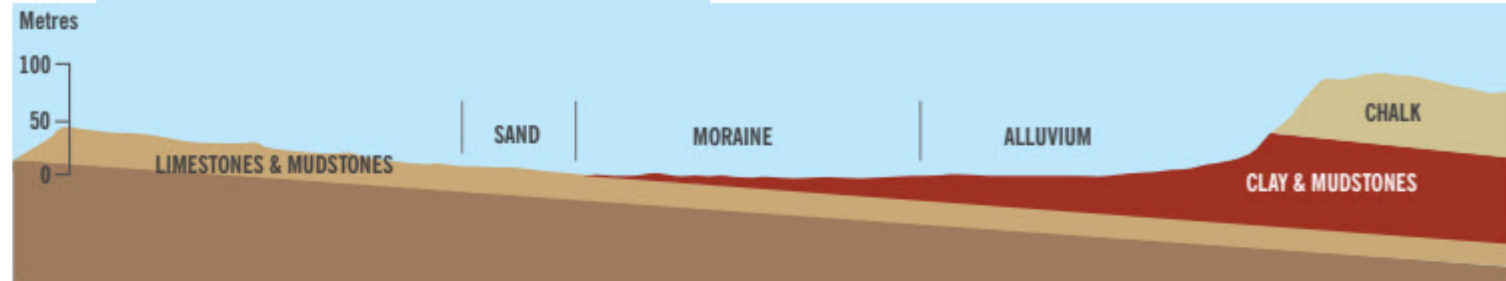
2 Site of Weir Pond

The tree in the middle of Market Hill marks the site of Weir (or Wire) Pond. For many centuries this large spring-fed pond was the central feature of Winterton. It marks a point where the underground water in the permeable limestone gushed up to the surface via major fissures in the rock.

The original churchyard probably stretched down to this pond which was used for baptisms. By the 1840s the pond was partly enclosed by railings except on south side which was shallow enough for horses to be ridden in and washed. It was covered over in 1866, supposedly because of a serious typhoid outbreak, although a report concluded that the pond was not the cause. The water from the spring still flows in an underground pipe.

ANCHOLME VALLEY LANDSCAPE TRAIL

CROSS SECTION OF THE ANCHOLME VALLEY



THE ROUTE



- 1 All Saints' Church, Winterton
- 2 Site of Weir Pond
- 3 Winterton Showground
- 4 Ermine Street
- 5 Holmes Lane and Horkstow Moraine
- 6 Roxby Catchwater and Ancholme Valley
- 7 Scabcroft
- 8 9 Old & New River Ancholme

- 10 Horkstow Bridge
- 11 Horkstow Carrs
- 12 Spring Line Villages - Horkstow and Saxby All Saints
- 13 The Chalk Scarp Slope
- 14 The Lincolnshire Wolds Ridge
- 15 Roxby Causeway
- 16 Roxby Pond
- 17 The Trods

Glossary

Moraine - rock material left by melting ice
Scarp Slope - steep slope at edge of resistant rock
Alluvium - sediment deposited by rivers and lakes

3 Winterton Showground

Site of the annual Winterton Show. The name of the adjoining Sandhall Farm indicates the sandy soil in this area, formed from a thin layer of sand and gravel deposited by streams at the end of the last Ice Age. These streams were the meltwater from part of a large ice sheet which once covered what is now the North Sea, and which stretched through the Humber Estuary into the lower part of the Ancholme Valley.



Valley floor and ditch

4 Ermine Street

This Roman route closely follows the western edge of the Ancholme Valley floor, avoiding the lower land, which is likely to flood. The original road was 13.7 metres wide and 1.37 metres high and is now about 0.7 metres below present ground level.

The road is close to a line which divides Grade 2 'Very Good' agricultural land to the west, (on a slope, better drained, originating from limestone) from Grade 3 'Good to Moderate' land to the east (on the valley floor, poorer drained, originating from glacial drift and alluvium).

5 Holmes Lane - Horkstow Moraine

Leaving Ermine Street the lane rises in height and bends south, then east. This higher ground on the valley floor is glacial moraine which marks a halt in an ice lobe. This was part of the 'North Sea' ice sheet which spread through the Humber Estuary up the Ancholme Valley. As the ice sheet melted it deposited a mass of rocks and sediment, a moraine, which is known as the Horkstow Moraine. Traces of it can be found from Horkstow curving west across the valley and along the west side to Winteringham.



Roxby Catchwater

6 Roxby Catchwater - Ancholme Valley floor

Holmes Lane crosses a small bridge over Roxby Catchwater. The valley has several 'catchwater' drains which catch water from the higher ground on the valley sides, leading it away, to stop the lower ground flooding.

After the bridge, the lane drops down to the valley floor, parts of which are below high spring tide level. Much of the sediment forming the surface was deposited under Lake Humber. This meltwater lake formed in the late Ice Age when the North Sea ice sheet blocked water from draining out through the Humber Estuary. For much of early historic time this valley floor was a wetland of marsh and scrub, often flooded at high tide, and rich in fish and wildfowl. (See the cover image)

7 Scabcroft

At the point where Holmes Lane meets the River Ancholme there used to be a landing stage. All of Winterton's heavy goods, such as roadstone, were shipped by barge to this point and then hauled up the lane to Winterton. A small part of Winterton parish remains cut off to the east of the 'new' river here.



New River Ancholme

8 Old & New River Ancholme

The parish boundaries between the villages to the west and east of the valley trace the line of the original (Old) River Ancholme (9). Here the river divides Winterton from Horkstow.

The straight channel on your right is the New River Ancholme (10), which was cut in the 1600s by local landowners led by Sir John Monson. The new river allowed navigation to Brigg and also carried away water drained from the land. However, some felt that the scheme had made Winterton land drainage worse and in 1662 Thomas Place led over 100 townsmen in what is known as the Winterton Riots.

The present drainage scheme is largely the result of work in the early 1800s. The path follows the valley bank which holds the river at a level higher than the valley floor.



The Chalk Wolds - seen from Horkstow Bridge

10 Horkstow Bridge

Designed by Sir John Rennie as part of the River Ancholme Drainage Scheme, completed in 1836, and Grade II* listed. The bridge is wrought iron with cast iron fittings, timber decking and ashlar blocks. It is one of the earliest unaltered suspension bridges in the country. However, it was repaired in 1979 after a 23-ton lorry fell through it into the river. The bridge linked the brickworks on the west side of the New River Ancholme to the rest of Horkstow parish.

11 Horkstow Carrs

This low-lying landscape is the result of repeated attempts, from the medieval period onwards, at reclamation and drainage. Ferriby Sluice now controls the water level with a lock allowing traffic to travel along the river. For further information - www.carrlands.org.uk/horkstow.asp

12 Spring - line villages Horkstow and Saxby All Saints

Heading east from Horkstow Bridge the lane rises over the moraine and reaches the foot of the chalk scarp slope. The 'Low' villages, such as Horkstow and Saxby, are sited where a spring from the chalk provided a reliable water source. These springs are often found at the foot of chalk scarps where the water in the permeable chalk is forced to the surface by the underlying impermeable rock - in this case mudstones of the Kimmeridge and Amphill Clays.

IMPACT OF ICE AGES ON ANCHOLME VALLEY



Horkstow at the foot of the Chalk Scarp

STREET NAMES LINKED TO PAST LANDSCAPES

LEYS	Common pasture suitable for livestock grazing
INGS	Water meadows and marshland
CARR	Fen or swamp overgrown with scrub
HOLME	'Island' of dry land surrounded by marshy land