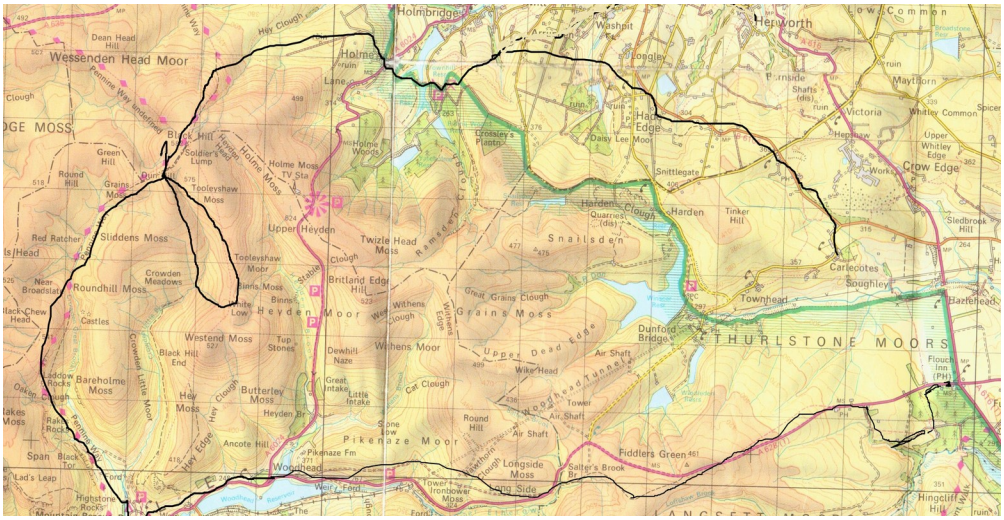
# WALK 139.
# FLOUCH INN 139.
# 33-2 Miles. 9 hours 5 minutes.
# Map. Dark Peak. SK00-10.




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Start at the Flouch Inn (197015). 100 metres to the W of the Inn, go S off the A.628 at a sign erected by the P.D. and N.C. Footpath Society, the number is missing but the date is 1924. Its directions are to Derwent via Slippery Stones and Cut gate. Go over a stile, then walk 100 metres along a narrow jitty to good stone steps. Continue in the same direction through trees to a stile into a grassy area; do not be tempted to go L with the path. Go straight on, wall on the R, for 100 metres, following the wall when it goes out to the R. this leads into a lane going W.

Come to a farm gate with a gate on its L and continue level going. Go through a metal gate and continue forward for 30 metres, then go R on a wide track between stone walls, open fields on both sides. In 200 metres come to a fork: the temptation is to go forward; do not do so. A footpath sign makes this clear. Another sign points to the R (Bord Hill), so go R here along a wide track between dark gritstone walls.

Come in several hundred metres to a farm drive that cuts across the track, it goes to a farm on the L, an impressive large building. Blue arrows point straight on along Swinden Lane, through a metal gate, then another gate with a stile on its side, and a sign to open country. Go forward on a track with rough grass. In several hundred metres, come to a gateway. Come to a metal gate with a poor stile, and proceed up a lane with a farm on the R with interesting C.19 battlements and turrets. Come to the A.628 at 182012. A sign bridle way stands near.

Bear L and walk along the road to the Dog and Partridge, then cross the road to a gate and a sign public bye way, then walk on a good track, road away on the L. in about a mile regain the road and walk along it. The Holmfirth Mast can be seen to the NW.

Come on the L to a sign that directs L to a farm gate and stile and an open country sign (155000). Walk W from this point on a good grass track; soon pass Lady Cross on the L, the stump of a cross in a stone base. Now the walk is on an old Salt-way. Come to sad remains of an old homestead where a few trees and scraps of old stonework remain.

Drop down to Salter's Brook passing a sign to open country. Note the clear reference to the Salter's Way. Cross the stream by a bridge; away to the R is Salter's Brook Bridge, an impressive if simple construction. Regain the road at 134998; go across the road to a metal gate; and another open country sign. Walk W on a good track with views down the Crowden Valley and Bleaklow rising to the L.

Pass a sign stating leaving open country, then walk downhill close to a grit wall on the L to Pikenaze Farm, then down to the road at Woodhead Bridge. Continue W along the busy road. In half a mile, go R off the road at a wooden step stile, then climb the bank and walk W along long grass to arrive at a ladder stile and St James Woodhead, church and burial ground. Drop down to the road and walk along it to the Youth Hostel (073093).

A little beyond the hostel, go R up a tarmac road signed footpath to Open Country. This goes over a substantial bridge, then past Rotherham Education Dept. Crowden Outdoor Centre where canoes may be seen. Take a worn path up a bank; it crosses a leat. Continue on this path that will go to Black Hill.

On the R see Crowden Little Brook that comes down to join Crowden Great Brook. Continue on this worn path which in these early stages is not difficult. The steep hillside on the L is crowned by a rock outcrop on the R, the stream flows down the wide Clough from behind spurs that hide the view. As a marker, nothing could be more interesting than a holly tree that has grown right out of the middle of a rock outcrop.

Soon come to several steep pitches; one of them veers straight up the hillside and gains a great deal of height. The first valley bottom was carved out probably by glacial action; the stream that is now busy carving out a second deep Clough in the relatively flat first valley bottom.

Gain the top edge path then proceed in relative ease. It can be seen how the stream is cutting a deep second narrow valley. Higher up the valley though, the head of the stream flows through much flatter ground. Soon walk along the stream, the steep valley walls have disappeared into the rolling hills around.

The hard stony path disappears and the walk now is in peat bogs, climbing gently to the ridge above to come to a well-made cairn shaped like a lighthouse. Now reaching, Black Hill Trig. Point, at coordinates 078047.

The next aim is to examine the upper reaches of Crowden Little Brook; so go S from the Trig point over Tooleyshaw Moss to enter the higher stages of the clough, then walk on its L and E side; there is a feint path for much of the way. Holme Moss mast on the L. Proceed down this Clough past the Sheepfold to the area of a waterfall then cut up L going straight up the hillside on about 100 degrees, a slow plod through long Elephant grass. Continue to meet the well-worn grass track that goes over Westend Moss on its way from Crowden to Black Hill. (082019)

Bear L and walk N back to Black Hill. On the L there is Crowden Little Brook. On the R, the great scoop on top of which the TV mast stands. That scoop descends to become the Clough of Hayden Brook down which a road runs from which vehicles have tumbled to their destruction.

From Black Hill, take the alternative Pennine Way route going NE as far as Issue Clough. In order to examine this area, leave the Pennine Way and work down Issue Clough, keeping well up the L bank. Eventually descend the steep grassy bank to the stream below. Soon come to the point where a hard track crosses the stream (085057). Take this and walk ENE along Issue Road, a long, straight track lined for most of its way by black grit walls and passing through fields: the moors have now been left behind.

Eventually, get a view of Digley Reservoir on the L, and drop down into Holme (108059). At the road junction in the middle of the village, bear L, go forward 100 metres, then go R off the road down a narrow jitty at a footpath sign. At a gate, there is a slot on the L, to then enter a field, wall on L. note on the R, a covered swimming pool in a garden.

In 100 metres, go L over a wall by steps, then walk downhill along a narrow jitty to a stile. Immediately, bear R to a slot, then walk diagonally through a field to a valley. Step over a bar then walk with wall on the R and, on the L, a steep bank with trees concealing a stream. Look up to the mast and see that this stream, the Rake Dike has come down from Kaye Edge, the ridge on which the mast is situated.

Drop to a footbridge, then climb up the other side of a delightful valley with trees around the stream, a welcome after the desolated featureless moors; note the stream flows into Brownhill Reservoir; the path soon crosses between this reservoir and Ramsden Reservoir. Climb up the other side to the road and sign (114057). Bear R and walk 100 metres towards the car park of the

Yateholme Angling Club; just before the car park, go L through a wide slot at a gate and sign, then walk up a pleasant track, wall either side, or trees providing shade.

Come to a ladder stile, then bear L and walk diagonally uphill through a field to a wall. Go through a gap then walk with wall on L, the path levelling out, the view extending over Holmfirth. Now walk along a lane with a wall either side with excellent cappings. Come to a metal gate with a swing gate on the L. the farm away to the L is Moss Edge.

Walk 100 metres with wall on L to a metal gate with swing gate on L then climb gently on a good wide track to another metal gate. On the other side, the track goes on clearly ahead. Leave it and go to its L on a level green track through a field, wall on the R.

In 100 metres, go through a gateway walking towards trees, the ground dropping away to the L, broken wall on the L. go through a gate, then enter a wooded area, the head of Dob Dike, an interesting wooded valley. Walk on a good path, level going, trees on the L, and cross the head of this small Clough and walk on a wide track through a field, wall on the L, to a metal gate and on to the road at128056.

Cross the road and enter a lane, wall on either side and begin another long straight walk, wall either side. Go straight across Cartworth Moor Road and note that though these lanes are rough hard tracks, they have the appearance of former main roads. Pass a farm building named Elysium, a classical reference rare in these parts; but wait, another soon follows.

Come to a barrier across the road with a slot on the L and on in front. Take that in front and face a sign stating that this is Forestry Commission, Don Forest, Holme Styles Wood. Go straight on through trees, and, at a fork, go straight on, and drop down a bank into Reynard Clough in an area named Hades; the other complementary classical reference: Heaven and Hell.

Drop down to the head of a reservoir (141053). Bear R and walk with water on the L to a gate with steps on the R. proceed a few hundred metres, then leave the road and cut up a steep bank on R, wall on the R, to a wooden step stile in about 30 metres. Now walk through a field, wall on the L, climbing gently past a stone building with its windows blocked up; presumably a former residence. Climb steeply and keep to the wall on L; come to a tall ladder stile and so out onto the road at 144055.

Bear R and pass Hade Edge School on the L. now see on the L a modern windmill, its three arms turning gracefully. Go forward and cross a busy road then come to a road junction at 148055. Take the first road on the R and walk on Snittle Road, a bridle way and not the main road, not suitable for vehicles. In 600 metres, go L over a poor stile in a wall and walk through a field, wall on the R, farm in front. Go to the gate where there is a massive stone step in the wall and a sign. Emerge into a lane.

Bear R and come to a farm. Leave the lane and go L though the farm, walking down the main road (Peniston Road) at 152052. Bear R and walk E along the road. Come to a road junction then a second where the County Boundary is noted. The road drops now; now pass, on the L, a works that the Map shows to be quite huge (Long Moors Works). A road junction at Brook Bridge (178038), bear R and walk through Carlecoats, a pleasant little villge. As the village is left, go L at a sign, over stone steps in a wall, then L through buildings and down a hill on a wide track.

Follow the track round a corner to a metal gate with a stile on its L, then walk through a field, wall and trees on the L; as the wall goes off to the L follow it to a gate in the wall, no gate or stile, then walk through a second field, walking SE, diagonally through it, to an step stile in wall in front. The stones being carved and decorated; they must have come from another place.

Continue in the same direction through the next field down to a gate. Go forward a few metres to a building (Southley 186029), then bear R and walk past the building that is very tall, a wood front structure that a double decker bus could be drove into it. Walk with this on the L to a step stile, the forward 100 metres to a concrete footbridge on the R, then a metal footbridge, bear L into a lane.

In a few metres, come to a step stile; walk on up this narrow lane with its line of paving stones up the middle. Go over a wooden step stile, then over a bridge over an old Woodhead Railway. Bear L, wall on the L, through a swing gate into a field. Walk with wall on L, level going, ditch on the R. go through a swing gate into a lane. Come out onto the A.628 and so back to the start.