

## How To Get Here

### Haworth Village

Situated 8 miles (12.8km) west of Bradford and 4 miles (6.4km) south of Keighley in West Yorkshire.

From the North via Skipton and the Dales follow the A629.

From the South/East take Junction 26 off the M62 via M606.

From the West take Junction 24 off the M62 and follow A629 via Halifax.

### By Rail

Keighley train station on the Airedale line connects via Leeds to all parts of the country. Keighley train station is 1/4 mile (0.4km) from Keighley bus station.

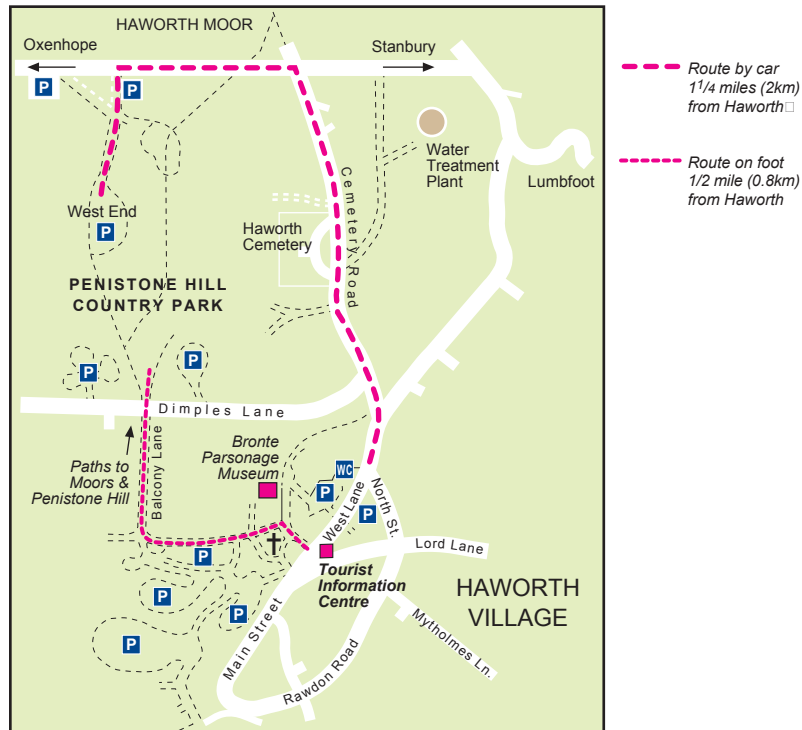
### By Bus

Frequent bus services from Keighley bus station to Haworth :

663 Oxenhope via Haworth / 664 Stanbury via Haworth.

665 Oakworth via Haworth / 500 Keighley to Todmorden.

National Express call at Keighley bus station.



We hope you have enjoyed the Industrial Heritage Walk around Penistone Hill Country Park. If so, please tell your friends, if not or have encountered any problems please tell us.

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### Acknowledgements

Dennis Gillson & Son. Naylor Hill Quarry, Haworth  
The late Bill Packer who worked on Penistone Hill and loved these moors.

Front Cover photos. Main photo : View across Lower Laithe Reservoir towards Stanbury Moor from marker 11.  
Top : Carved stone seen at marker 4. Middle : Water pump at marker 10

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

# Heritage Trail

[www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)

## Penistone Hill Country Park, Haworth



An easy 1 1/2 mile (2.4km) walk, suitable for all the family, set amongst the rolling hills of the Upper Worth Valley, West Yorkshire.

Walk through beautiful landscape with glorious views of Bronte Country and beyond, whilst learning a little about the areas industrial past.



## Walk Information

This circular walk is 11/2 miles (2.4km), you should allow 2 hours if you wish to make the most of the landscape, views and industrial heritage.

Being a circular walk there are various starting points. However, for the purpose of this leaflet we are assuming you have either arrived by car and parked on West End car park or alternatively you have walked up from Haworth Village via Balcony Lane and joined the walk between markers six and seven on the map.

*Due to the very nature of the countryside this walk is not suitable for the less mobile and pushchairs. Strong shoes or wellington boots are recommended, along with wind and waterproof clothing. A light snack with a drink is also advisable.*

**1** After parking your car at West End car park, start by walking back to the top of the car park access track and between the large boulders. Continue straight forward and slightly uphill onto a grassy outcrop, where, after a short distance you will find marker 1.

From here you can see most of the western edge of Penistone Hill, with Haworth Moor stretching out before you up to the Pennine Ridge. On a clear day the ruins of Top Withins Farm, the supposed location for Wuthering Heights, can be seen from here. Access to Wuthering Heights is by foot only and there are several routes across the moor. The most popular is to your right and follows the track running along the edge of



View across Haworth Moor from marker 1

the intake fields above Lower Laithe Reservoir; this takes in Bronte Waterfalls before reaching Top Withins Farm 2 1/2 miles (4km) from here. The outcrop, on which you are standing, is made of quarry waste. If you look around there are other similar outcrops of rock strewn land. This waste rock was abandoned during the search for better stone.

**2** To continue, turn around and re-trace your steps off the outcrop back towards the large boulders. Just before you reach the boulders turn left down the wide track into the quarry. At the bottom of the hill, in front of you, on the large exposed rock face is marker 2.

This rock face clearly shows why there is so much waste rock in this



Soft sandstone rock face at marker 2

area. The soft sandstone shaped by the weather, shows that the structure of the rock cannot easily be worked as building stone. The more evenly bedded rock lies deep below. West End Quarry, where we are standing, was in operation from the 1840's to the 1960's. The stone extracted was used for the construction of the mills and houses in the nearby industrial towns. ☐☐☐



Abandoned waste rock

**3** Once again, retrace your steps to the top of the hill to turn left to walk between the boulders back into the car park. Continue by following the right hand edge of the car park for approximately 100 yards (91 metres), near the large upright stone on the right you will find marker 3.



Site of the Blacksmiths Forge at marker 3

There were a number of buildings erected on this site to service the quarry. This large, upright stone marks the location of the Blacksmith's forge. The outline of the Blacksmith's shop can be seen in the form of grass-covered mounds of rubble.

Looking south, the village of Oxenhope nestles in the lush landscape of the valley bottom. Which then gives way to the harsh South Pennine Hills encompassing the hamlets of Leeming and Sawood.

**4** Continue along the track and follow the fence on the left as it bears left, to walk between the quarry edge and the dry-stone wall. The building on the other side of the wall is West End Cricket Club, thought to be the highest based cricket club in Yorkshire. Where the path opens out onto moorland take the second, well-defined path to the left, after approximately 100 yards (91 metres) look out for marker 4 on the left, hidden amongst the abandoned stone and grass.



The stonemasons often worked the extracted stone on site; some examples of this can be seen amongst the piles of abandoned rocks. The finer stone was shaped into lintels and sills and the rougher into flagstones, roofing slates and gravestones. Look for the method of splitting the rock by using plugs and feathers, evident in many of the stones (see photo above).

*Plugs and feathers still in use today at Naylor Hill Quarry, Haworth*



Trig point 1026ft (314 metres above sea level) at marker 5

**5** Keep on this path as it bears right to the junction of several other paths. Here take the second path off to the right. Walking level between the heather, heading towards the overhead electricity posts ahead. Marker number 5 is near the white painted triangulation (trig) point.

Surrounding the trig point (originally used by the Ordnance Survey when compiling maps, but now redundant due to aerial photography and satellite navigation) is a wide expanse of heather, seen at its best in late July through to early September. Heather dominates these upper slopes where the underlying rocks are well-drained gritstones. The lower slopes are covered in acidic grassland where the drainage is not so good. Panoramic views are especially good to the north



and east where the Worth Valley travels down towards Keighley in Airedale with the distant skyline dominated by Rombalds and Ilkley Moor.

**6** From the trig point continue straight forward to the junction of several paths, turning left down the second path on the left, between the heather clad mounds of quarry waste. Lower down, cross over another path and head for the ponds below. Number 6 marker can be found on the left at the edge of the larger pond.



Ponds at marker 6

These ponds are known locally as the 'Forth Ponds' and are part of an extensive drainage system for this part of the hill. The largest pond is thought to be the depression caused by the shaft of an early coalmine.

Vegetation is well established in the ponds, and associated fauna is developing which includes dragonflies, beetles, frogs and pond skaters.

**7** To continue, walk across the drain between the ponds and take the path to the left. At this point walkers from Haworth start and finish their walk. Cross over the track and follow the path as it bears right downhill into Dimples Quarry. Walk between the trees towards the rock-face, here, hidden amongst the grass is marker number 7.

At the foot of the quarry another small pond can be found supporting wildlife similar to the Forth Ponds at marker number 6. Dimples Quarry which was originally about 50 feet (16 metres) high, shows clearly the formation of the rocks with alternating beds of sandstone and shale, these beds were laid down horizontally but earth movements over the last 280 million years have tilted the rocks to their present angle. This movement gave rise to the Pennines.

**8** Retrace your steps out of Dimples Quarry bearing right as you reach the top, walk across the level, grassy plateau towards the piles of rocks. Keep the rocks on your right and follow the path, as it turns left along the moorland escarpment. After a short distance, on an outcrop of waste stone is number 8 marker.

The view from here shows the development of the textile industry, which, in the Pennines began with handloom weavers, from which water



View across the Worth Valley from marker 8

powered mills took over on sites adjacent to upland streams. Steam power enabled bigger mills to be sited in the valleys near canals and railways, eventually leading to the growth of the industrial towns. Note the use of stone for buildings, walls and flagged pavements.

**9** Continue along the same path as it gently rises to the left, leaving behind the escarpment and crossing several other paths, heading for the wooden electricity pole ahead. Nearing the pole, the path joins a much wider track, turn right here and walk parallel to the stone boundary wall of Haworth cemetery on the right. Follow the track until you reach the corner of the cemetery wall, near to the junction of several other paths, is marker number 9.

Stone from Dimples Quarry was used in the construction of Lower Laithe Reservoir, which can be seen in the valley below. It was transported by a narrow gauge railway along the track we have just walked, and down the hill to the reservoir embankment. The clay, which was used to fill the embankment, was transported in a similar way, its source being clay banks up on the moorland near to Top Withins Farm (Wuthering Heights). On a clear day, the farm can be seen ahead on the skyline. The cemetery, which superseded the one adjacent to Haworth Church, was built in 1893 and contains the



View from marker 9 looking across Lower Laithe Reservoir towards Stanbury Moor

grave of Lily Cove, an intrepid but unfortunate lady balloonist, who died at the age of 21 when her parachute failed to open demonstrating a quick descent from a balloon over the Worth Valley in 1906.

**10** Facing marker 9 take the path slightly uphill leading across the moor to the left. After some distance the path splits, take the path to the right, where after a short distance we meet another path. Again turn right and walk for approximately 100 yards (91 metres), marker number 10 can be found in a hollow just off the path on the right hand side.

Thin coal seams were found on the moors and these were economically mined before the arrival of the railways enabled cheap coal to be brought in. The main coalmine shaft was just along the moor, its outline seen from our next marker. Water from the mine was collected at this point; the pump was then used to lift the water up the hill to supply the steam-driven machinery. The pump was powered by a windvane, sited on the escarpment above, and was



Water pump at marker 10

connected to the pump by two chains working in a reciprocating action (backwards and forwards movement). Lookout for frogs in the pond and gather some bilberries which are abundant in July.

**11** From the pump at marker 10, walk uphill through the heather to the large flat stone on the skyline above to find marker number 11.

The large stone slab formed the base of a three-legged windvane, which powered the pump. Each morning

**12** Walk along the edge of the escarpment towards the piles of abandoned stone, to pick your way carefully straight forward through the surface boulders to find marker number 12.

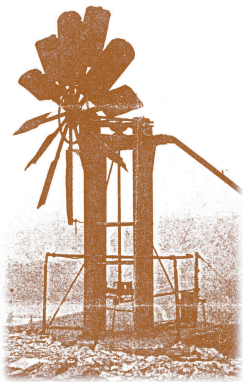
The abandoned stone was discarded because it was of very poor quality, much of it formed in running water. This 'current bedding' prevented it breaking 'true and square'. Another type of stone found here is a very soft sandstone known locally as Donkey Stone. Used by the house proud to colour the front edge of stone steps after cleaning.

From marker 12 follow the grassy track to the right then bear left down into the depression and up the other side. Take one of the paths downhill into West End Quarry and then up the short incline to emerge back at West End car park where if you have arrived by car it will be parked, if however you have walked up from Haworth and joined the route between markers 6 and 7 your walk continues by following the walk information starting at marker 1 over the page.

Discarded soft sandstone rock near marker 12



Windvane at marker 11. Circa 1927



Outlined, the capped top of the coal mine shaft. Seen from marker No. 11



Lily Cove



Haworth Cemetery Built 1893

STANBURY  
3/4 mile (1.2km)

HAWORTH 1 MILE (1.6km)

# PENISTONE HILL COUNTRY PARK

Footpath to Bronte Waterfalls  
1 1/2 miles (2.4km)  
& Top Withens  
2 1/2 miles (4km)

Footpath to Bronte Waterfalls  
1 1/2 miles (2.4km)  
& Top Withens  
2 1/2 miles (4km)

OXENHOPE  
2 miles (3.2km)



Quarryman splitting stone for paving slabs



Tools of the trade. Plugs and feathers rest on rock which has been recently split

Coal mine shaft

Water pump

Site of windvane (now demolished)

Trig point

Forth ponds

Dimples Quarry

Blacksmiths shop

West End Quarry (disused)

Carved rocks

Penistone Quarry

Quarry (disused)

Upper Marsh

West End Cricket Ground

Dimples Lane

Balcony Lane

Footpath to Haworth Village via church yard  
1/2 mile (0.8km)



Common Spotted Orchid  
Flowers June - August

**Key**

walk route	parking areas
paths	points of interest
roads/tracks	small ponds/wet areas
steep banking	electricity pole
boulders	optional starting point



Map not to scale

Great care has been taken in the production of this leaflet. However, the Countryside and Rights of Way Service accept no responsibility for omissions or changes which have occurred since publication.