

Walks around Allendale

Local History on this walk

Brides Hill School This school was established in 1704 in a building that was erected at a cost of £50. It was founded through various legacies, principally that of Christopher Wilkinson who directed in his will 'a free Grammar School for the educacon of youth to be sett up and settled in such a proper and convenient place on the west side of the East Allen Water'. Now a cottage, it stands about one hundred yards north of the later schoolhouse (visible from the road) that replaced it in 1851. The school closed in 1887 when the Board School in Allendale Town was expanded and absorbed the pupils who had attended Brides Hill.

Racecourse A flat area of land to the north-west of High Broadwood farm was used as a local racecourse in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. It was still marked on Ordnance Survey maps in the mid-1800s.

Allen Smelt Mill Scattered over this old lead-mining district are many indications of ancient smelting places, consisting of small quantities of slag. By the 1600s several smelt mills had been constructed - including one at Allen Mill. By the 18th century this mill had undergone many additions and improvements. In 1825 it contained two roasting furnaces, fire ore hearths, two refining furnaces, and one reducing furnace. Two flues were constructed up to the fell about three miles away. The mill closed at the end of 1896 and some of the buildings now house the Allendale Brewery.

Thornley Gate This hamlet was, until 1845, sited on the only road to Allendale Town from Hexham and the east. Five roads meet there - including the Carrshield turnpike road constructed from 1826. Ashleigh Lodge was the toll cottage for travellers, and was later converted to a lodge for 'Ashleigh' a large and elegant Victorian house and gardens built for the local Philipson family.

This pleasant walk to the north-west of Allendale Town takes in pastureland, woodland and the riverside.

A shorter version goes through the hamlet of Thornley Gate before returning via the river.

Distance

5.6 km (3.5 miles).

For a shorter walk, follow the road out of Allendale to Thornley Gate - 3.2 km (2 miles).

Terrain

Gentle incline up roads and footpaths on the west side of the valley, before descending to the river East Allen. The Peth bank by the village is the steepest section.

Parking

General parking in Allendale village square.

Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL43



Ingleby Holiday Home - 'Ingleby' is a well-appointed home situated in the heart of Allendale.

With views across the market square and a mere stroll to country pubs and amenities, Ingleby is a perfect location for your North Pennine holiday.

Sleeps 5 (double/twin/single)

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Brides Hill



