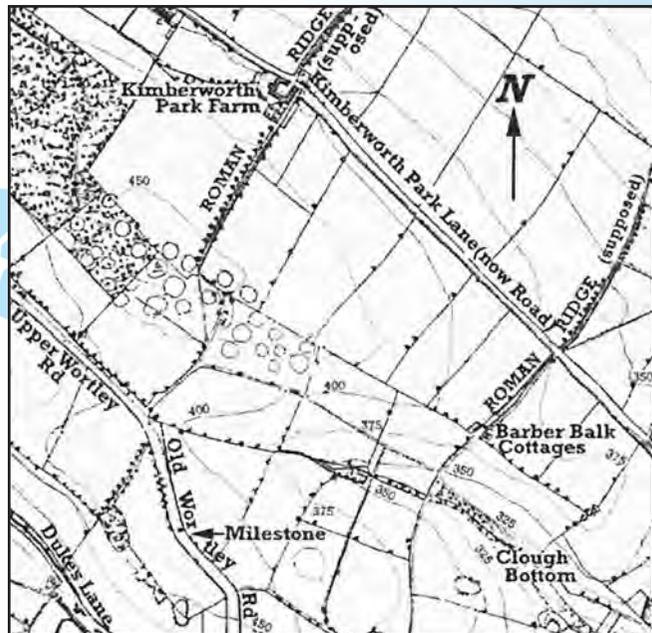


Cross section of the Roman Ridge near Hilltop in Kimberworth, excavations were made in the middle of the 20th Century. (Hilltop is on the Walk 3 - Kimberworth Guide)



Modified extract from the 1861/2 Ordnance Survey Map (showing the cottages on Barber Balk). The 1935 Ordnance Survey Map shows lines of Roman Ridge between Kimberworth Park Road and Wingfield Road

## The Roman Ridge on the Kimberworth Hills

The route of the dyke on the Kimberworth Hill is important, because it was here that the Roman Ridge appears to have split into two. It had travelled from Sheffield as a single dyke and entered the parish of Kimberworth by crossing along the north side of Meadowhall Road for about half a mile, before veering sharply north towards Hilltop.

From there it ran to the junction of Old Wortley Road and Wortley Road, crossed Kimberworth Park Road, ran down Wheatley Road and Hudson Road and crossed Wingfield Playing Fields to Wentworth Park.

However, another dyke appeared north of Wortley Road. This ran parallel to the first dyke, along Barber Balk, down Barber Balk Road and Walker Road, through Hudon's Rough, across the playing fields to Wingfield Comprehensive School and on to Greasebrough.

If the second more easterly dyke was built by the same people and for the same purpose as the first dyke, it may have split off on Meadowhall Road. If so, it would have continued along Meadowhall Road, past St Thomas' Church and along the Church Fields to Barber Balk. Unfortunately, there is no hard evidence that it did so, but if it did it would have commanded magnificent views over the Don Valley - an excellent line for a defensive dyke. The Normans (1066 and all that) certainly valued this route, building a motte and bailey castle just south of Wortley Road.

## Responsible Walking

This walk uses just a few of the many rights of way to access and enjoy the countryside. A right of way is not owned by the council, it is a right to pass over private land. When you go out, please remember that almost all the land you cross is in private ownership, and someone's livelihood will depend on the crops and livestock there. Take a responsible attitude into the countryside, leave only footprints and take only photographs.

Visit the Rotherham Information Centre on All Saints Square for more walking leaflets, guides and books, including the Roman Ridge by K.A. Cronk. Tel: 01709 835904.

## Reporting path problems

If you find any problems with the state of the Rights of Way, please report them to 01709 822168.

To find out more about Making Trax phone 01709 822186.

Follow the Country Code, happy walking!

## KIMBERWORTH PARK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



Part-financed by the European Union  
European Regional Development Fund



# Rotherham Roman Ridge

## Kimberworth Park (3 miles)

This is one of a series of short walking guides that takes you on a wonderful world of discovery following the Roman Ridge.

The Roman Ridge is a series of dykes (banks with a ditch alongside) which run between Sheffield and Mexbrough. In spite of their name, they were not built while the Romans were in Britain.

One dyke travels from Sheffield to Kimberworth, there it splits into two. One arm continues to Mexbrough via Hilltop, Wentworth Park, Hooper, Abdy and Wath Woods. The other runs towards Kilnhurst, through Wingfield, Greasbrough, Upper Haugh and Swinton Common.

If you wish to find out more about the Roman Ridge, there are two books by K.A. Cronk "South West Yorkshire's Roman Ridge. A 'Who-Dug-It? Mystery' and "Journey Along the Roman Ridge" where the photos in these guides are taken from.

Produced by Vince Boulter © 2007



-  Route
-  Existing Ridge
-  Other Roman Ridge Route Walk(s)



**4** Follow Hudson Road continue ahead along Wheatley Road on another section of the Ridge, the raised grass verge. Cross straight over Kimberworth Park Road to an alley following the Ridge, until it comes to West Close. Then turn right along Great Park Road to Wortley Road, take care crossing straight over to Old Wortley Road.

**3** Continue into the woods (Hudson's Rough) and turn left. Follow this path to a obvious crossroads in the path, then turn right (leading towards Wingfield School) for a short distance to the edge of the wood then left on to the field following the wood on your left, which emerges at Jewitt Road, where there is a section of the Ridge.

**2** Take the alleyway with steps opposite, eventually leading besides a recreation ground to emerge at Kimberworth Park Road, with the Ridge ahead. Cross straight over, and continue in the same direction along Barber Balk Road on the line of the Ridge.

**1** Follow the alley beside the church to the end of the alley. (On the right was a castle with a motte you can take a short detour, there is a path between houses 25 & 27 Wilding Way also 10 & 12 The Motte). Continue in the same direction heading towards the Bowling Alley, along Manor Fields. Take care crossing Wortley Road.

**5** Having crossed the road follow Grange Road opposite then left at the bottom along Farm View Road past Winterhill School. Continue along High Street to return to Kimberworth church. (There are ancient buildings at the pub further down the hill).



Figure A: ST Thomas' Church seen from the footpath



Figure B: Barbers Balk Cottages

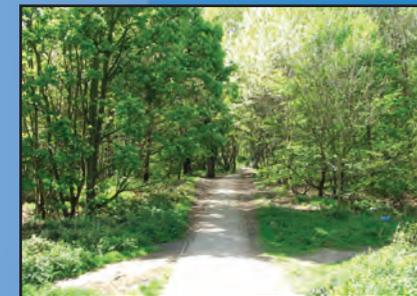


Figure C: The fields surrounding Hudsons Rough



Figure D: Hudson Road on the line of the Roman Road