This walk takes in more than a thousand years of local history. The ‘Roman Ridge’ itself seems likely to have been of either Iron Age or early Dark Ages construction, although no conclusive evidence of its age has yet been found.

Besides the ridge, there are a number of other archaeological features such as a quarry and chemical works to be found along the route. The archaeology of the area continues into the 19th Century, when the world renowned Rockingham Works was producing fine porcelain.

Rockingham china gained its fame mainly through the commission obtained in 1830 to produce an extensive dinner service for King William IV. From this time on, the Griffin crest applied to the china included the words “Manufacturers to the King”.

Porcelain was produced under the Rockingham name concurrently with Brameld earthenware till the business, after various financial crises, went bankrupt. It closed permanently in 1842. All that remains of this once famous factory is the ‘Waterloo’ Kiln, named after the famous battle. After the factory closure the Kiln was used for a time as an isolation hospital and later as a private house until 1951.

Currently the Kiln and surrounding ponds are in the ownership of Rotherham Council, forming a local nature reserve. To find out more about pottery made at this site and to see one of the finest collections in the world, a trip to Clifton Park’s museum is essential. Other magnificent pieces can be viewed on the Royal Collection website: www.royalcollection.org.uk.

Something to think about!

Remember that farmers’ livelihoods depend on the success of their land. Please play your part by taking your litter home, sticking to the proper paths and keeping dogs on leads through farmland.

How do I get there?

For up to date information on bus links, call the Traveline on 01709 515151, or visit for timetables.

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.

Follow the Country Code, happy walking!

Maps, leaflets, guides and books

Paths are shown clearly on the OS Explorer Maps 278 – Rotherham and 279 – Doncaster.

Why not pick up copies at your local bookshop and devise your own walks?

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 635904.

Reporting path problems

If you find any problems with the state of the Rights of Way, please report them to 01709 822166.

To find out more about Making Trax phone 01709 822186.