

Walk 6

Roydon Heritage Walk - The Eastern Boundary and Heritage Assets

This walk starts at Brewers Green but is circular and can be joined at any point. Underfoot is rough and narrow in places, and often muddy. One stile (OK for dogs).

Note: this walk takes in many buildings classed as Heritage Assets in the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan. These are in **bold** type.

Distance: 3 miles (4.9 K)

Optional diversions are in red on the map:



1 Near the fishing pond on Brewers Green (opposite the Manor House) is a t-junction with a post box. Walk along the gravelled path by the post box, past **Poplar Cottages** on your right – a short row of ex-stable cottages - and onto a path through the grass which soon branches to the left to pass by the Molly Pond.

2 Turn right at a concrete track and follow it until you see locked wire gates ahead. On your right you will see a track leading over a hump into a wooded area. Follow this until you emerge onto a wooden bridge over a ditch.

3 Keep going straight ahead over a track of churned up earth and along a well worn path between two fields. Walk all the way along this, noting the shallow valley on your left which, roughly speaking, after a short while, is the boundary between Roydon and Heywood. At the end you will reach a gravelled track, cross a stile, and emerge onto Louie's Lane, with **Sturgeons Farm** on your right.

4 Cross Louie's Lane then turn right along Shelfanger Road. On your right is a long and wide verge, which the District Council are nurturing to be a wildflower meadow and wildlife haven – known as Millway Green.

5 You will come to number 115 on your right – **The Old Mill House** - and up the track beside it you can see a fine circular building, **The Old Mill**.

6 Carry on down Shelfanger Road and you are walking the boundary between Roydon (on your right) and Diss (on the other side of the road). Note the terrace, **105-113 (odd numbers)**.

7 Small optional diversion: Turn right into Store Street (note the old store on the corner). Take the footpath between the houses facing you at the end of the road. This takes you to Louie's Lane and on your right and left are three blocks of houses called **Harley Cottages (even numbers 58-80)**, built in 1886 with distinctive brick patterning.

8 Return to Shelfanger Road, turn right and carry on and turn right into Factory Lane. Note the old two-dwelling listed house on the corner, and then the new estate on the right, built on the land where there used to be a large brush and carpet factory (Aldrich Bros 1912-1986). When you reach Louie's Lane, dogleg left and right to carry on along Factory Lane.

9 On the right, just as you leave the built up area, you will pass Quaker Wood (worth a visit if you have time). Note that all along Factory Lane you have been walking the border between Roydon (on the right) and Diss (on the left).

10 Soon comes a footpath signed on the left, which runs alongside Diss Football Club. As you walk along this footpath you are again walking the boundary of Roydon (on your right) and Diss.

11 You come out on Brewers Green Lane and almost opposite you, slightly to the left and beside a high hedge, is another (unsignposted) footpath which will take you, still walking the boundary, down to Roydon Road.

12 Opposite you here is another signed footpath taking you into the Long Meadow Estate (built about 2010). Follow the path to a road, which you follow to the right and as it swings left then crosses the middle of the green. At the t-junction with the road turn left and follow it round until you reach another t-junction. You have just roughly followed the boundary through the estate, but as you now turn left down Denmark Lane you are again walking the boundary itself.

13 When you come to the main road (the A1066) cross straight over into the continuation of Denmark Lane. Here the boundary runs along the right hand side of the road (along the ditch where it still exists) and carries on straight down to the river Waveney. As you turn right into Tottington Lane note the buttressed house on the corner.

14 Look out for **Tottington House** set back up a drive on your right. This was the mill house for a post mill (built in 1797) which no longer exists. And as you walk along Tottington Lane note that this is the walking route nearest to the southern boundary, which is the river Waveney, over the fields behind the houses on the left. This is the boundary between Roydon and Palgrave, Norfolk and Suffolk.

15 Take a diversion if you wish down Potash Lane, for it will bring you back to Tottington Lane. At the bottom of Potash Lane you will swing right past the listed dwelling called By The Potash (on your left) – the oldest building in Diss and Roydon (timber framed, 13th century). Follow the track as it turns right and you are walking with the Local Green Space, Potash Lane Fields, on your left (host to a plethora of flora and fauna).

16 Follow Tottington Lane up to the High Road, diverting if you wish around the Fen and **Roydon Fen cul-de-sac**

17 Cross straight over the main road and left up the path to the Old High Road and straight over into Manor Road with the **1896 school** on your right. This takes you straight back to Brewers Green, past classic twentieth century council houses on your left and on your right the listed Manor Cottage/The Cottage and Manor House.

Map courtesy of Parish Online and Ordnance Survey ©

*With thanks to the Roydon Footpath Group – for walking the footpaths, for helping with maintenance when needed, and for help with writing these guides.
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For more information or to let us know your comments please contact the Parish Council Clerk: Wendy Benson, roydondiss@gmail.com