

Wirral's Viking Trail

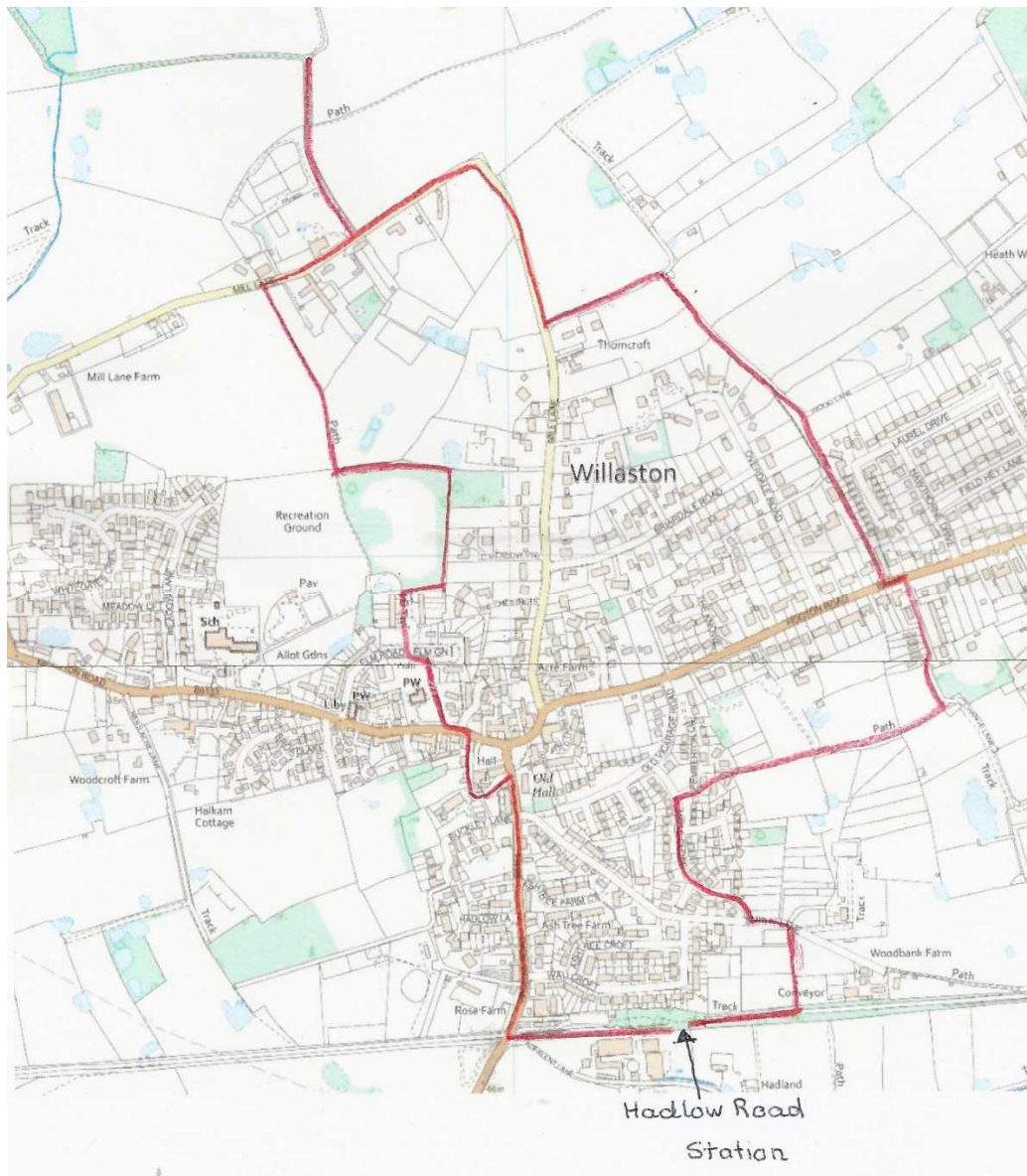
The border between Raby and Willaston, Sunday 28th July 2024

Start: Hadlow Road Station at 3pm.

The walk will last approximately two hours.

There is some limited parking at the station.

There are toilets at the station and a café, selling drinks, sandwiches and cakes (open until 4pm).



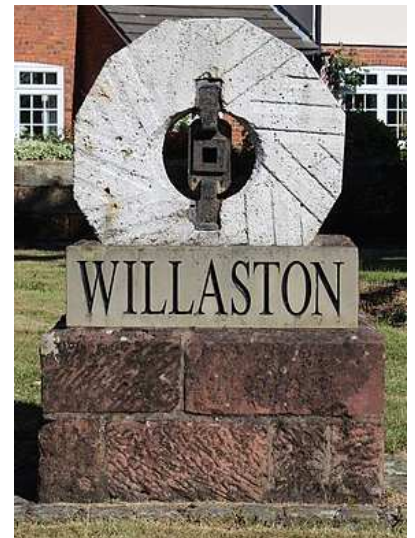
1. At the road entrance to the station, turn right towards the village centre.



Old Hall

After about 100m we pass Ash Tree Farm on the right, one of the many very old buildings in the village. Further along the road is the E-shaped Old Hall.

Pass the 'Willaston' village sign a few metres on from the Hall, then cross the road on to the village green, with its copper beech in the centre and aim half-left to the Memorial Hall.



Willaston Village sign

2. Go to the main road and cross at the pelican crossing. Go left 10 metres and then turn right to take the path alongside the churchyard.
3. At the end of the churchyard wall, bear diagonally left, aiming for a break between a wall and a fence about 60 metres away, signposted as a footpath. Follow this path past trees, to reach Jackson's Pond on the right.
4. Go right, anticlockwise round the field, along the curving paths, to eventually reach a wooden gate near the far left hand side.
5. Turn right to reach a kissing gate. Continue through a second kissing gate and then another to reach the road.
6. Turn right and walk about 150m.



Mill

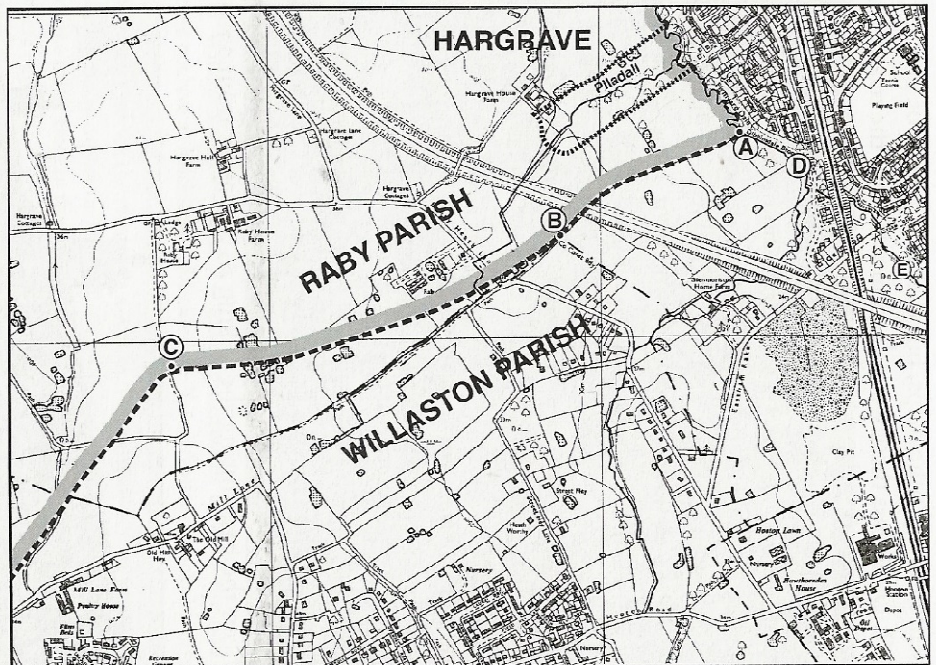
7. Just after the mill, turn left along a track (there's a signpost to Raby).



Have a look at the path towards the east. Unfortunately, it is very overgrown and muddy, so we reluctantly decided to omit it from the walk.

The Border Area at the south-east of the Norse enclave in relation to the area today.

A and B are the site of ancient boundary stones: A: Richardston le Reve; B: Vilkynstane. C: Raby Mound. D: Mickledale (now Plymyard Dale: the stream itself is Dibbinsdale Brook) E: Lecherichewalledale. Piladall is clearly marked to the right of the M53 motorway, in the Hargrave region of Little Neston Parish: the stream runs right through the bottom end of Raby parish, where early records refer to it as "Pellerdale", and (now guided around fields) then on to Willaston parish as "Piledale". The 1:10,000 base map used is reproduced with the kind permission of The Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright.



8. Return to Mill Lane. Continue along Mill Lane, bearing to the right.

9. Turn left down the footpath immediately before the first large house.

10. Cross the road. Diagonally (left) across the road is Change Lane. Carry straight on towards Smithy Lane. Follow signs to the Wirral Way.

11. Return to Hadlow Road Station via the Wirral Way.

