



Leg 5

Waymarked Walk No. 6

BOLTON UPON DEARNE to ELSECAR *Brampton - Tanquesley*

Starting Point
Bolton upon Dearne Railway Station.

Distance
6 miles (9.7 km).

Time
Allow yourself half a day or longer to explore Old Moor and/or Elsecar.

Footwear
Some sections can have wet, muddy or uneven ground. Choose footwear accordingly.

Waymarks
The route is waymarked with a distinctive B circled with arrows.

How to get there
The villages around the route are served by bus services and some railway stations.

You can make your own travel arrangements using the South Yorkshire Travel Line. Tel: (01709) 515151.

If you do use a car please use the car parks where these exist, and be considerate of others when parking elsewhere.

Additional Information
The route is covered by OS Explorer Maps No's: OL1 The Peak District 278 Sheffield and Barnsley

History with a Future ...

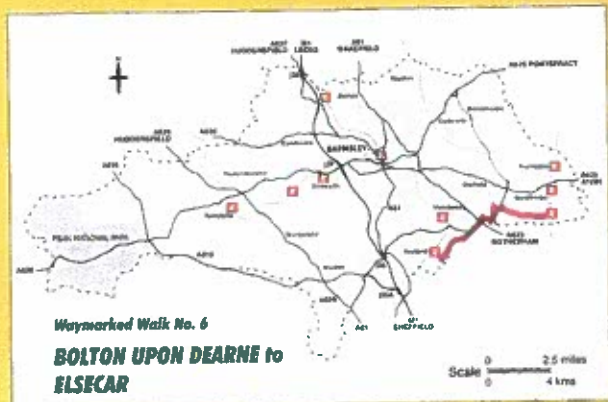
Eastwards of Bolton upon Dearne lie the extensive reclaimed WR3 Tip and the Old Moor Wetlands Centre, both transformed from wasteland to stand as symbols of an exciting future for the Dearne Valley.

These are important sites for wildlife as well as people. Old Moor is now managed by the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) and is the jewel in the necklace of wetland sites along the lower reaches of the River Dearne.

South-west of Old Moor our route enters the Elsecar Greenway to follow a corridor steeped in social, economic and natural history.

Canal, railway and road follow the natural stream of the Knoll Beck, providing a sequence of transportation from Elsecar, one of the hearths of the Industrial Revolution.

Old Moor Wetlands



9 Elsecar was a coal and ironstone mining community developed in the 1700 and 1800's by the Earls Fitzwilliam of nearby Wentworth Woodhouse.

The Elsecar Heritage Centre is situated on the site of the original Elsecar Colliery Industrial Workshops. There is a Living History Centre, Craft Shops and Tearooms. To the north of the Heritage Centre is the Elsecar Newcomen Engine which is an Ancient Monument. It is the only one in the world still on its original site and was built by John Barch of Chesterfield in 1795 at a cost of £167.19s.3¼d. It was used to pump water out of Elsecar New Colliery which opened in the same year.

You can travel the mile between the station at Elsecar Heritage Centre and the Hemingfield Basin on the Dearne and Dove Canal by steam train.

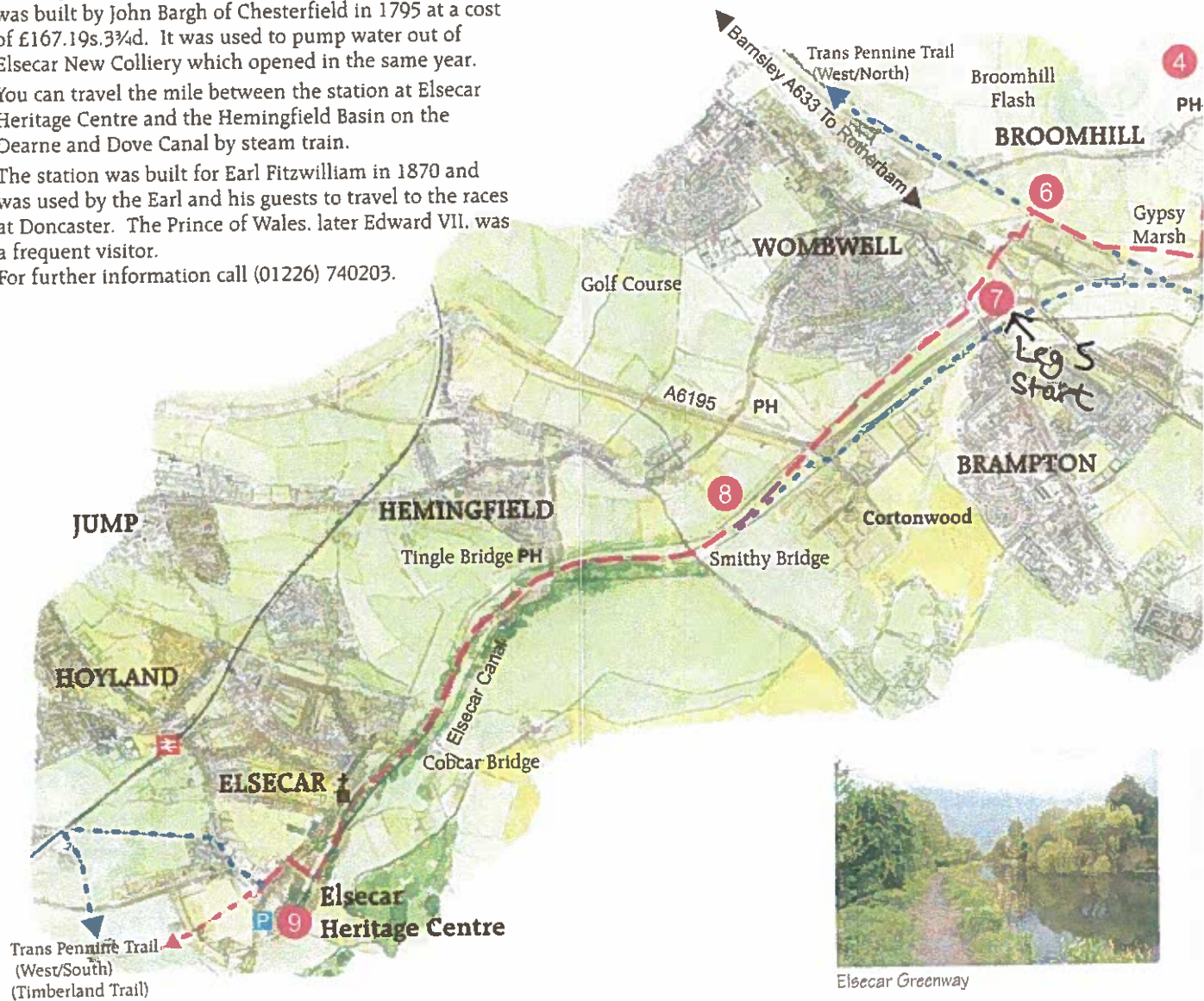
The station was built for Earl Fitzwilliam in 1870 and was used by the Earl and his guests to travel to the races at Doncaster. The Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, was a frequent visitor.

For further information call (01226) 740203.

7 Carefully cross the busy main road and enter a stile and path leading under Brampton Road to reach the Elsecar branch of the Dearne and Dove Canal.

The branch supplied water from Elsecar Reservoir into the main canal network and served the many collieries along its length.

8 We now follow the towpath for 2½ miles along the Elsecar Greenway to Elsecar Heritage Centre.



Elsecar Greenway

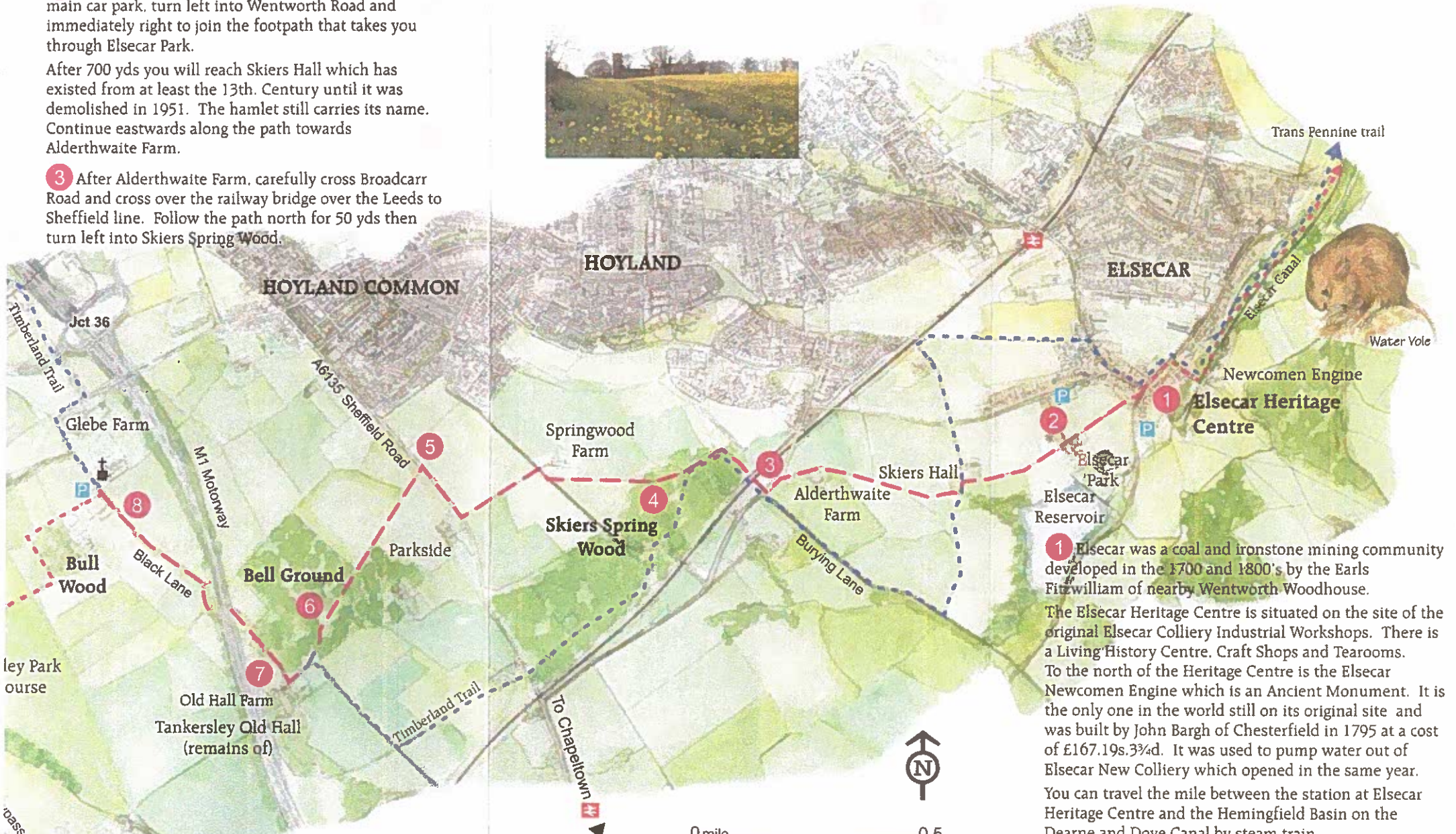
2 From Forge Lane, adjacent the Heritage Centre's main car park, turn left into Wentworth Road and immediately right to join the footpath that takes you through Elsecar Park.

After 700 yds you will reach Skiers Hall which has existed from at least the 13th. Century until it was demolished in 1951. The hamlet still carries its name. Continue eastwards along the path towards Alderthwaite Farm.

3 After Alderthwaite Farm, carefully cross Broadcarr Road and cross over the railway bridge over the Leeds to Sheffield line. Follow the path north for 50 yds then turn left into Skiers Spring Wood.

4 Skiers Spring Wood is an Ancient Woodland, a term meaning it has been in continuous existence since at least 1600. After leaving the wood, continue along the path south of Springwood Farm.

St. Peter's Church, Tankersley



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