



Clapper Bridge c. 1904
at junction of Bridleway Nos 1 & 6

A Guide to the Footpaths & Bridleways in the Parish of Cawthorne

Introduction

Dear Reader,

If you are a resident of the Parish then little need be said other than to refer you to the 'thank you' part of this introduction. If you are a visitor, then welcome to our Parish. We hope that you will enjoy walking through the lovely countryside and that you will find this booklet useful and interesting. Many of the paths have been signposted and a few are in the process of being way marked.

Please remember the Country Code and that many of the parishioners earn their living in the fields through which you walk. Keep in single file. Please also respect all wild life, including our wild flowers.

Thanks for this booklet go to the members of the Parish Council's Footpaths Committee over the years and particularly to the late Mr. Noel F Moxon who prepared most of the detailed information and the map.

Thanks also to Mr G B Jackson for permission to reproduce his photographs.

Finally, if you come across any obstruction of a footpath or bridleway, or other defect, please report it to the Clerk of the Parish Council.

Cawthorne Parish Council

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Copies of the Guide can be obtained from:-

Cawthorne Post Office, Church Street, CAWTHORNE.

List of Public Footpaths and Bridleways

1. Bridleway known as Dark Lane, commencing at the Forge in Tivy Dale and leading north and north west. At the junction with footpath number 20 the status changes to a footpath which leads via Raw Royd (now demolished) to the High Hoyland boundary in Margery Wood.
2. Footpath from the Wesleyan Chapel in Darton Road leading north to the High Hoyland boundary in Margery Wood, with a branch leaving the edge of Hood Wood leading north west to join with footpath number 1 at the High Hoyland boundary in Margery Wood.
3. Footpath along Cinder Hill Lane, the farm access road from Darton Road leading to Cinder Hill Farm to connect with footpath number 5.



5. Footpath leaving bridleway number 1 at Cliffe Hill Bridge in an easterly direction, crossing footpath number 2 and leading to the Darton Parish boundary.
6. Bridleway known as Cliffe Hill Lane leading northwards to join with bridleway number 1 at Cliffe Hill Bridge.
7. Bridleway along Royd Lane from Cawthorne Lane near the Darton boundary and leading south across the A.635, then south eastward via Furnace Bridge to the Darton boundary towards Higham, with a branch footpath leading south east to the Dodworth Parish boundary in Hugset Wood.
8. Bridleway along 'North Lane' from the A.635 at Barnby Basin leading south west to Norcroft Bridge.

- 9.** Footpath from Cawthorne Lane beyond Clay Hall leading south east to Barnby Hall, crossing the A.635 and continuing past Barnby Green to its junction with 'North Lane' (bridleway number 8).
- 10.** Footpath from the junction with footpath number 15 at Banks Hall Avenue leading east to Lower Norcroft, crossing Silkstone Lane, 'North Lane' and bridleway number 12, thence leading south eastward to the Dodworth Parish boundary.
- 11.** Footpath leaving Banks Hall at the junction with footpath number 15, leading eastward to the Silkstone Parish boundary at Banks Bottom Dike, with a branch leading north to join footpath number 10.
- 12.** Bridleway known as the Wagon Road starting from the A.635 at Barnby Basin leading southward via Barnby Furnace to the Silkstone Parish boundary at the Sewage Works.
- 13.** Bridleway known as Back Lane starting at Dog Kennel Hill in Woolstocks Lane, leading northward across the A.635 to its junction with Tivy Dale.



- 14.** Footpath leaving Tivy Dale up Red Hill, crossing bridleway number 13, leading north easterly through the St. Julien's Estate to the Parish Room, thence south and south easterly via Windmill Hill to Hill House and north westward to the A.635, with two branches proceeding south eastward to Norcroft Lane.
- 15.** Footpath from the junction of Norcroft Lane and Woolstocks Lane leading southward up Banks Hall Avenue to Banks Hall, thence westward to join South Lane at Hadden Green.

- 16.** Bridleway known as Bentcliffe Hill or Gypsy Lane commencing at the junction of Norcroft Lane and Woolstocks Lane and leading south westward through Hadden Green Plantation to join South Lane.
- 17.** Footpath leaving footpath number 15 leading north westward crossing bridleway number 16 and South Lane to join footpath number 29 at the edge of the Clayware Works.



- 18.** Footpath leaving the A.635 at Raw Green at the junction of Bark House Lane and leading Southward through Bentcliffe Hill Plantation to join South lane.
- 19.** Footpath leaving Bark House Lane at the Saw Mill leading in a southerly direction via Killamarsh to Clough Green, crossing the A.635, thence south east to its junction with South Lane through the southern end of Bentcliffe Hill Plantation.
- 20.** Footpath commencing at its junction with footpath number 1 south of Raw Royd (now demolished) and leading westward via Quarry Royd, crossing High Hoyland Lane and passing the reservoir to the West Yorkshire County boundary at the edge of Deffer Wood in the Denby Dale Parish.
- 21.** Footpath commencing at its junction with footpath number 20 at Quarry Royd and leading northward passing the Fish Pond, via Dean Hill to the High Hoyland boundary in Dean Hill Spring Wood.

- 22.** Footpath commencing at its junction with New Road (High Hoyland Lane) leading south west via Jowett House to Spring House and then joining the A.635.
- 23.** Footpath leaving the A.635 at Flash House, proceeding in a northerly direction over the cart bridge at Flash House Plantation to Jowett House, thence north westerly to the Denby Dale parish boundary at the edge of Deffer Wood.
- 24.** Footpath commencing at its junction with footpath number 22 at Spring House leading north westward to the Denby Dale Parish boundary at the edge of Deffer Wood.



- 25.** Footpath leaving North Lane at Pashley Green leading north westerly to Heald head, thence north easterly to Daking Brook, crossing the A.635 leading in a northerly direction to its junction with footpath number 24 in Susannah Spring Wood.
- 26.** Bridleway known as Rons Cliffe commencing at its junction with Coach Gate leading south, with a footpath branch at Luke Well leading south westerly to the Parish boundary. The bridleway continues to North Lane, where its status changes to that of a footpath. The footpath leads in a south easterly direction via Wood Royd to its junction with South Lane at Elmhirst Farm.
- 27.** Bridleway commencing at its junction with footpath number 22 and leading south and south westward to the A.635 at Daw Walls.
- 28.** Footpath leaving North Lane at Delph Cottage and leading north to its junction with the A.635 at Daw Hill, with a branch also joining the A.635 at Hollin Royd.

- 29.** Footpath commencing at North Lane at the edge of the Clayware Works leading south and south westward to its junction with footpath number 30.
- 30.** Footpath leaving North Lane at Upper House leading south easterly to join South Lane at Lower Greaves.
- 31.** Footpath commencing at its junction with footpath number 30 leading south westerly and south through Tan Yard Wood to its junction with South Lane at Elmhirst Farm.
- 32.** Footpath commencing at its junction with footpath number 26 at Wood Royd and leading south westward via Kirk Hill to join Gadding Moor Road.
- 33.** Footpath commencing at its junction with Rons Cliffe Lane (bridleway number 26) and leading westward towards Gunthwaite Mill and the Denby Dale Parish boundary.
- 34.** Footpath leaving South Lane west of Hadden and leading south westward to the Silkstone/Hoylandswaine Parish boundaries, where it joins footpath number 34 in Silkstone Parish.

Waymarkings

Waymarking arrowheads denote the following:-

Yellow arrow - Footpath

Blue arrow - Bridleway

Definitions

Highways Act 1959 s. 295(1)

"bridleway" means a highway over which the public have the following, but no other, rights of way, that is to say, a right of way on foot and a right of way on horseback or leading a horse, with or without a right to drive animals of any description along the highway; "horse" includes, pony, ass and mule, and "horseback" shall be construed accordingly; "footpath" means a highway over which the public have a right of way on foot only.

Countryside Act 1969 s. 30

Any member of the public shall have, as a right of way, the right to ride a bicycle, not being a motor vehicle, on any bridleway, but in exercising that right cyclists shall give way to pedestrians and persons on horseback.

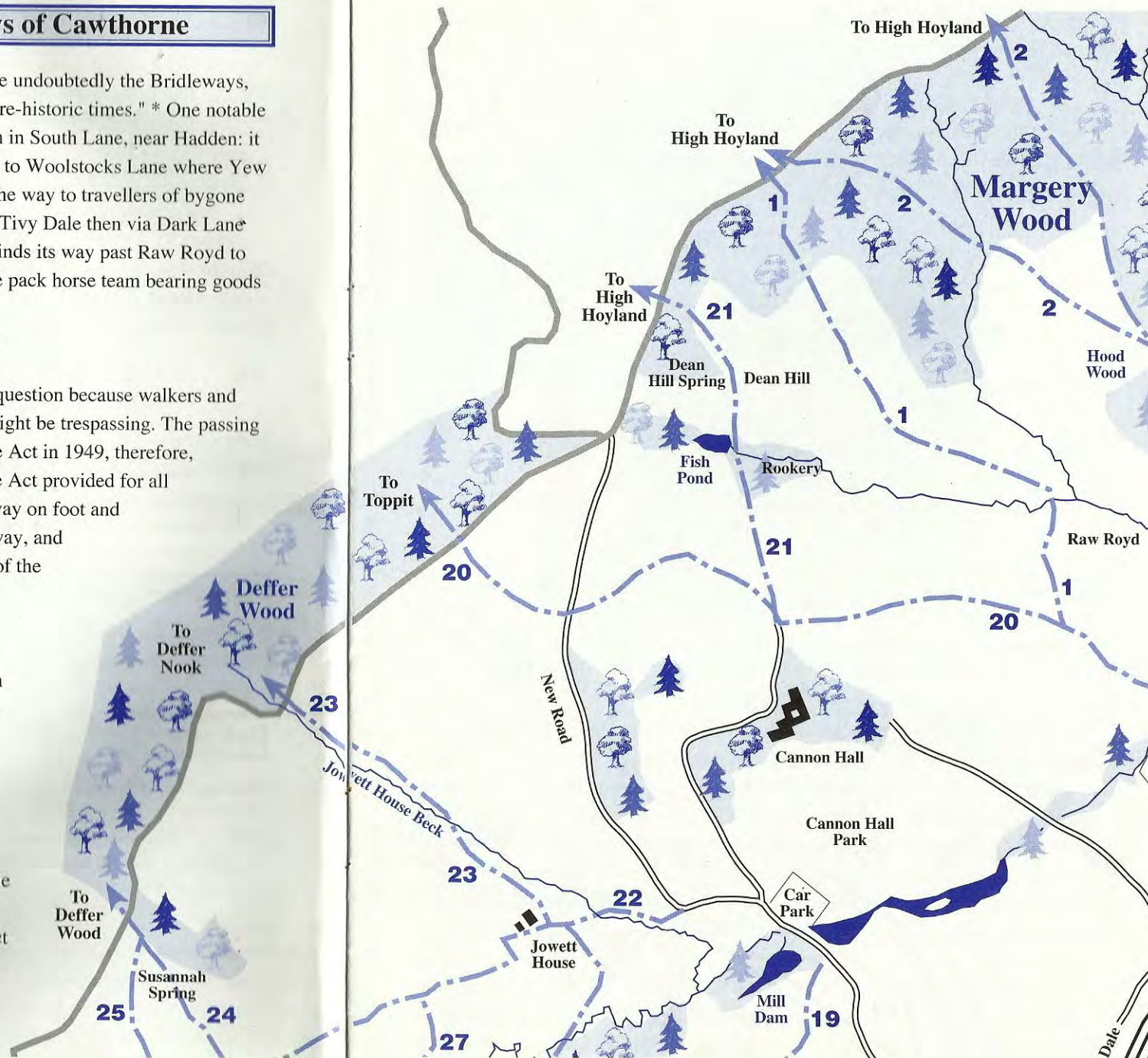
The Footpaths & Bridleways of Cawthorne

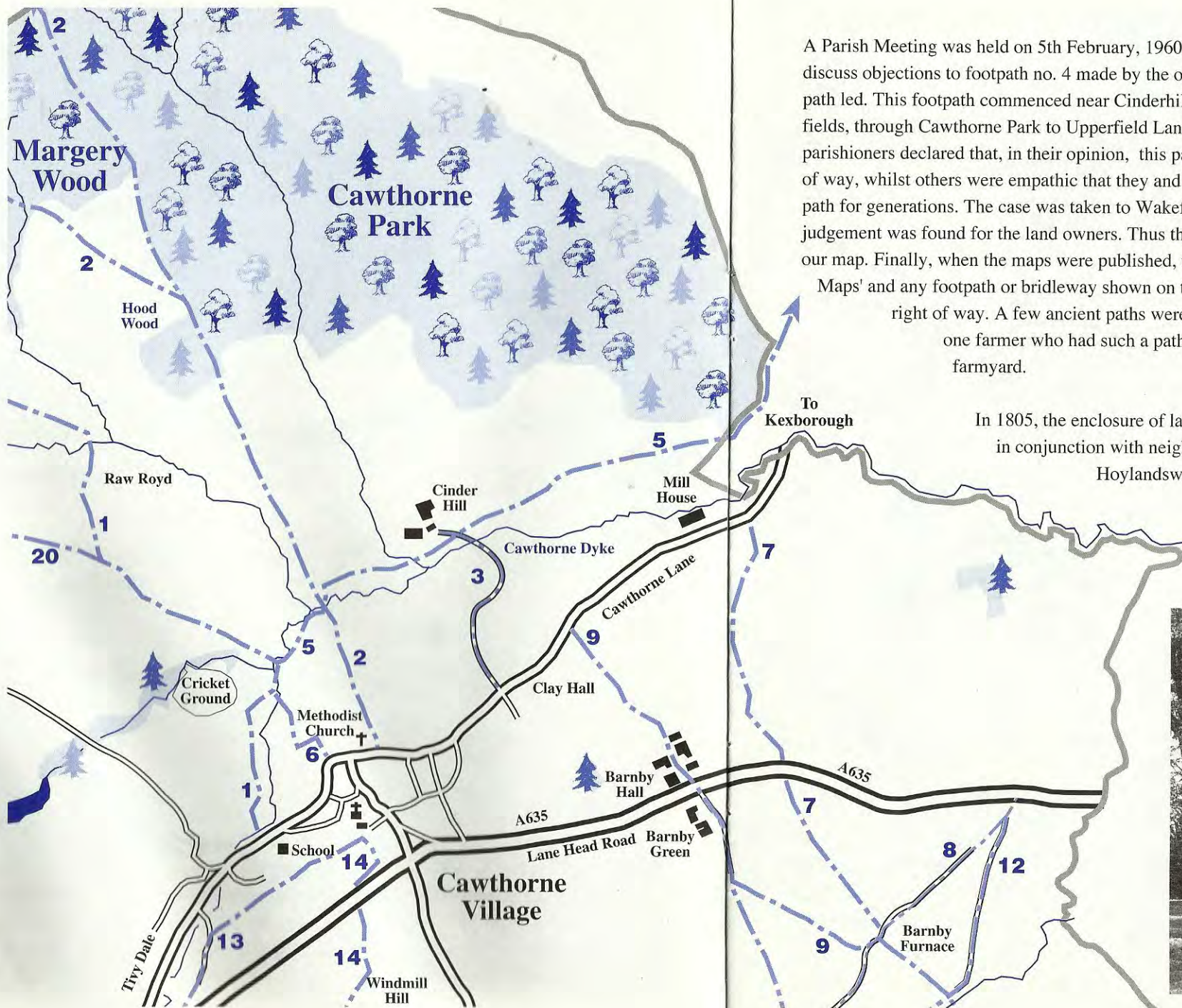
"The oldest vestiges of man in Cawthorne Parish are undoubtedly the Bridleways, probably the original tracks through the forests of pre-historic times." * One notable Bridleway comes from the South West of the Parish in South Lane, near Hadden: it passes over Bentcliffe Hill by Gypsy Lane (No. 16) to Woolstocks Lane where Yew trees can be seen, which were road marks to show the way to travellers of bygone years. Continuing by Dog Kennel Lane (No. 13) to Tivy Dale then via Dark Lane (No. 1) past Brook House to Cliffe Hill bridge, it winds its way past Raw Royd to High Hoyland. This route would be traversed by the pack horse team bearing goods across the Country.

*(Pratt's History of Cawthorne pp. 66-67)

The validity of Rights of Way was always a vexed question because walkers and horse riders often had an uneasy feeling that they might be trespassing. The passing of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act in 1949, therefore, came as a great relief to many people. Part IV of the Act provided for all County Councils to carry out a survey of rights of way on foot and on horseback, together with certain other rights of way, and for the determination of disputes during the course of the survey.

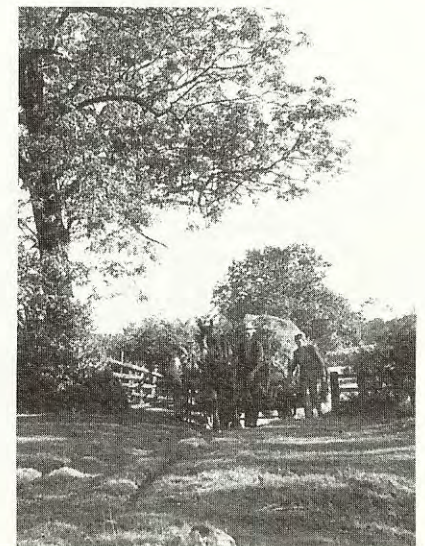
Parish Councils were asked to furnish the County Councils with information as to the rights of way in their Parish which they considered to be public, and Cawthorne Parish Council with the help of the parishioners, carried out a survey and submitted particulars and maps to the West Riding County Council. Some years later official maps were prepared showing the footpaths and bridleways. These were placed on view by the local authority, the Penistone Rural District Council. Members of the public were entitled to inspect the maps and to object to any path or comment if a path had been omitted, which in their opinion should have been included.

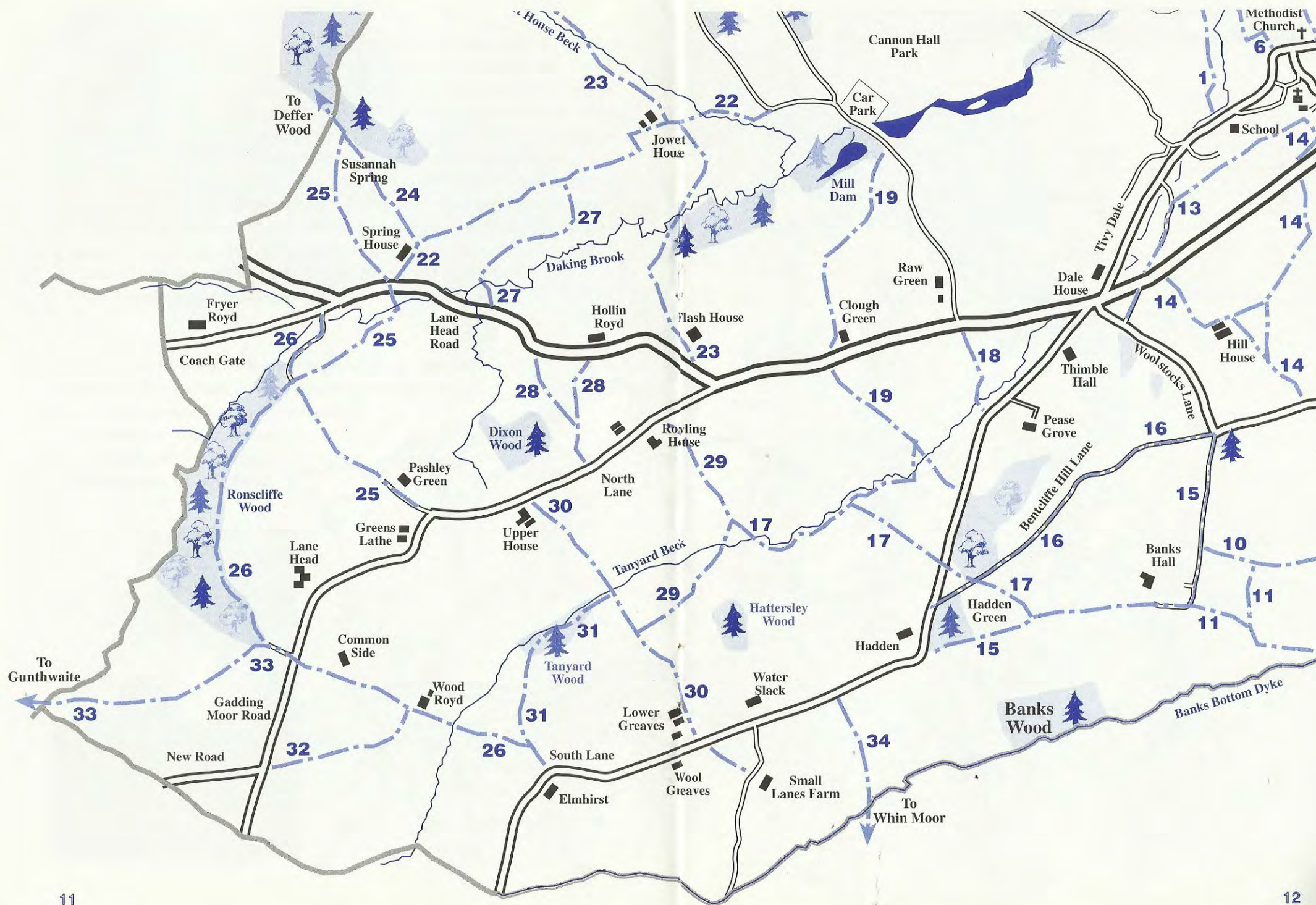




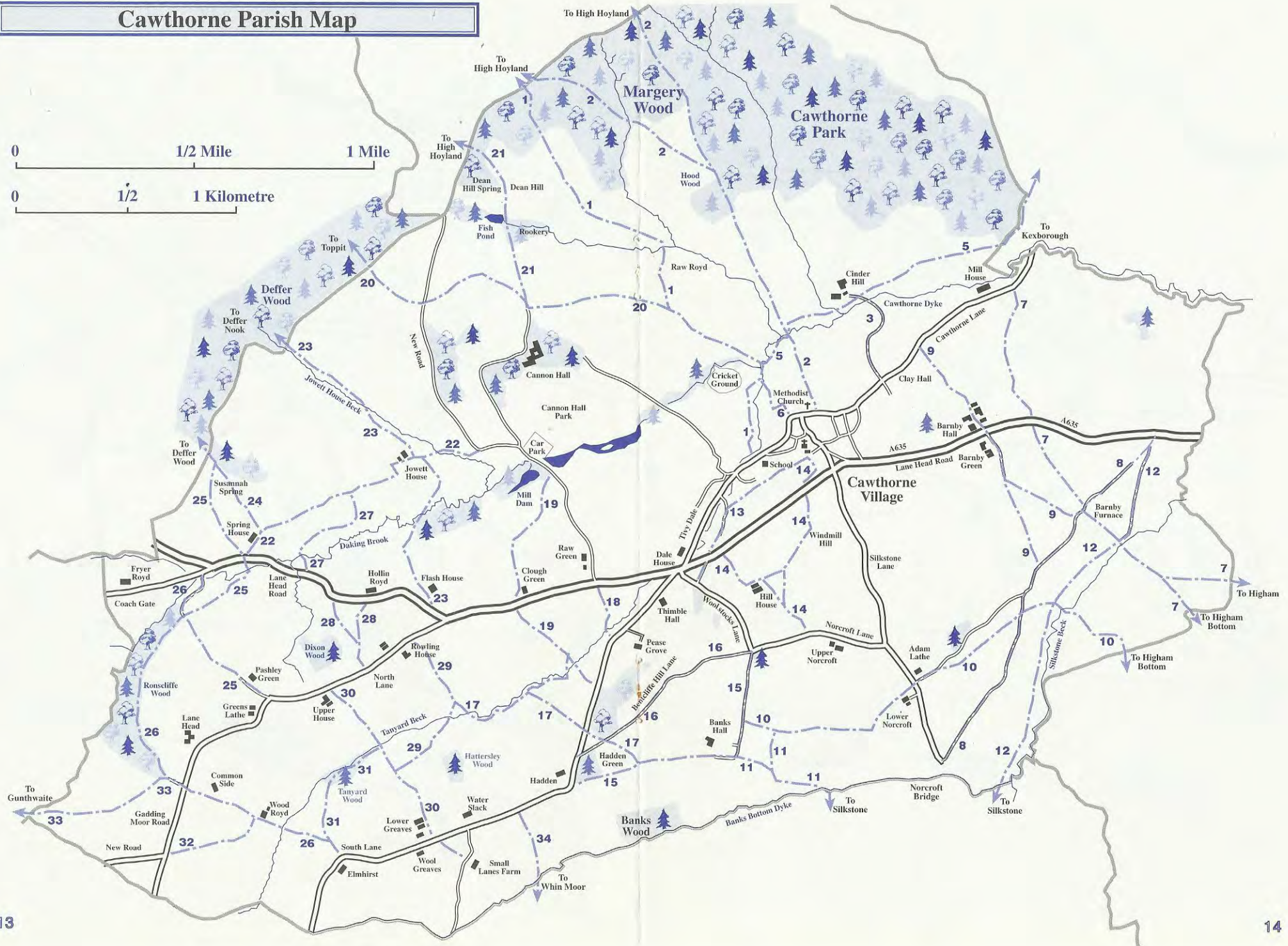
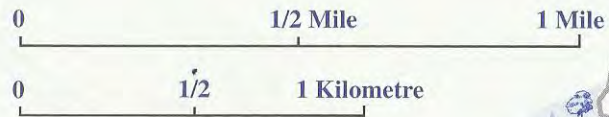
A Parish Meeting was held on 5th February, 1960, in the School at Cawthorne, to discuss objections to footpath no. 4 made by the owners of the land over which this path led. This footpath commenced near Cinderhill Farm leading north over several fields, through Cawthorne Park to Upperfield Lane, High Hoyland. Some parishioners declared that, in their opinion, this path had never been a public right of way, whilst others were empathic that they and their ancestors had travelled the path for generations. The case was taken to Wakefield Quarter Sessions where judgement was found for the land owners. Thus there is no footpath no. 4 shown on our map. Finally, when the maps were published, they were known as 'Definitive Maps' and any footpath or bridleway shown on these maps is evidence of a public right of way. A few ancient paths were not claimed, much to the relief of one farmer who had such a path passing his house through his farmyard.

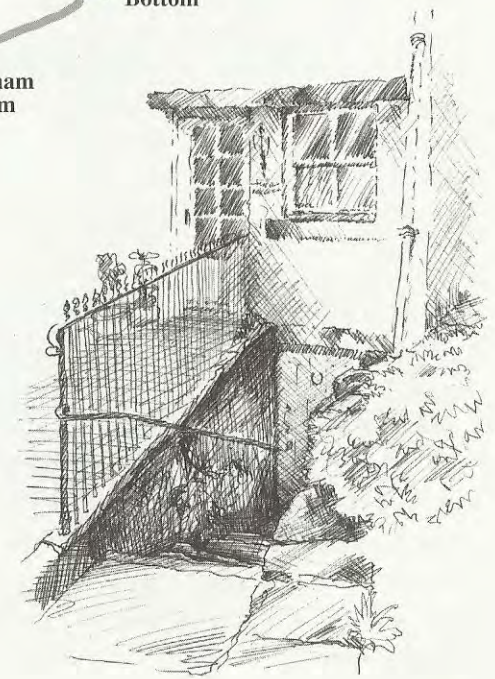
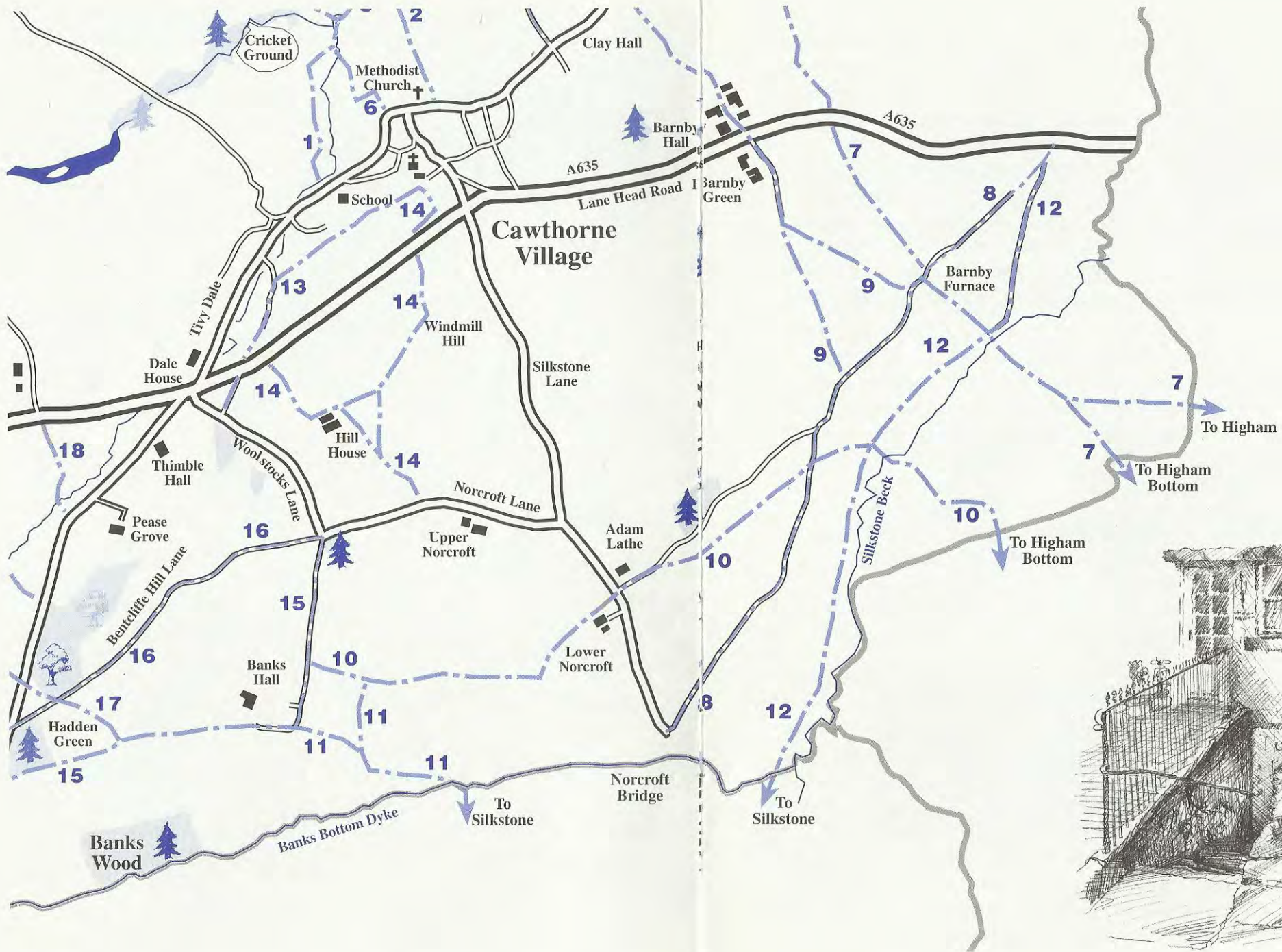
In 1805, the enclosure of land in Cawthorne Parish took place in conjunction with neighbouring Parishes of Silkstone and Hoylandswaine, although only a small portion, chiefly up South Lane, remained to be awarded in Cawthorne, the larger part of





Cawthorne Parish Map





the parish having been enclosed in the 17th century. The Commissioner, a Mr. Teal, took great pains to determine the boundaries of the parishes and noted the perimeter in great detail. The south eastern limits presented little problem as the boundary was determined by Banks Bottom Beck and the Silkstone Beck, but difficulty arose between Hoylandswaine and Cawthorne, There has been considerable friction between these two villages during the 17th century for in 1614, during the 'Perambleation'* George Whittaker and 30 others from Cawthorne, moved the boundary stone on Gadding Moor because Cawthorne was short of pasture land. They met with opposition from the 'Swainers' and fighting took place between the two factions. However, the Cawthorne lads proved too strong for the 'Swainers', who withdrew in some confusion. In 1805, the Commissioner had a straight, staked line fixed, 1000 yards long, which finally determined the disputed boundary across Gadding Moor.



The distance around the perimeter of Cawthorne is about 10 miles and the perambulation, or beating of the bounds, used to take place each year at Rogation Tide, just before Ascension Day, in 1695, there was an entry in the Churchwardens' Accounts "ten shillings spent at the 'Perambleation'." In addition to awarding certain lands, the Commissioner awarded footpaths and bridleways in the south western area of Cawthorne and these have been identified with nos. 14, 17, 18, 19, 26, 29 and 30 on our map. There are special qualifications in the Footpath Laws for footways awarded under the Enclosure Acts. Awarded at the same time as a public bridle road and private carriage way was the road from South Lane to Guyder Bottom, known as Small Lane, leading past Small Lanes Farm.

* 'Perambleation' a colloquial 17th century spelling of perambulation.

Some confusion may result from seeing on the map two North Lanes. One is a highway which leaves the A.635 at Naylor Brothers Clayware Works heading south west over Gadding Moor to Penistone. The other is a bridleway (no. 8), which leaves Silkstone Lane near Norcroft Bridge leading north to join bridleway no. 7, crossing the A635 and continuing to Darton Road near Kexborough Bridge. This would be a packhorse road, a continuation of a similar bridleway through Silkstone, which passed near the former Pack Horse Inn, a place of call for the travelling teams of horses.



Even cycling had its problems, as this carefully posed photograph by Edgar Moseley, of his wife having repairs to her cycle wheel done on the Silkstone Wagon Road, shows.

Bridleway no. 13 from Tivy Dale, is known locally as Back Lane for such lanes would be used in the past for the movement of cattle so as to keep them off the highways. This bridleway had an unenviable reputation as it was said that a dog-like creature with large feet and saucer-like eyes known as the 'padfootit', roamed in the adjoining fields, and when a person walked on the lane at night, the 'padfootit' could be heard running in the field over the wall. In recent years, persons with a dog, walking at twilight in the Toll Bar and Bentcliffe Hill areas have had disturbing experiences caused by some supernatural presence in the dog being terror-stricken.

A grim story is attached to Tanyard Wood, through which passes footpath no. 31, for at the turn of the century, a Silkstone man was found drowned in a well, after having been reported missing for some weeks. The time-lapse was, no doubt, due to



the fact that the stone covering the well had been replaced over the opening. Tanyard Beck, which rises near this point, flows down to Tivy Dale and its name helps to perpetuate the tanning industry which formerly existed in Cawthorne, as does Bark House Lane, where the peeling and processing of oak bark to produce tannic acid was carried out. This lane ultimately merges with New Road, made in the 18th century, to provide a more suitable road to High Hoyland, replacing the route used by the pack horses, footpath no. 1.

On the west side of Woolstocks Lane are ten hornbeam trees which lead to the entrance to Gypsy Lane (bridleway no. 16) and about 100 yards up the lane in the field on the left, known as Dog Pit Close, can be seen traces of the shaft, down which the apparently dead foxhound Rover belonging to the Spencer pack, was thrown. Fortunately the hound survived, and after being down the pit for 12 weeks and 5 days Rover was hauled to the surface and lived to a ripe old age. At this point the lane widens out and here would be the site of a Gypsy encampment.

Leading from the Silkstone boundary to Barnby Basin is the old Wagon Road (bridleway no. 12), once the scene of great industrial activity. Along here can be seen relics of old mines and Low Mill Iron Furnace, which fell into disuse in the latter part of the 18th century. Users of these footpaths and bridleways can appreciate the sense of history attached to these ancient byways.