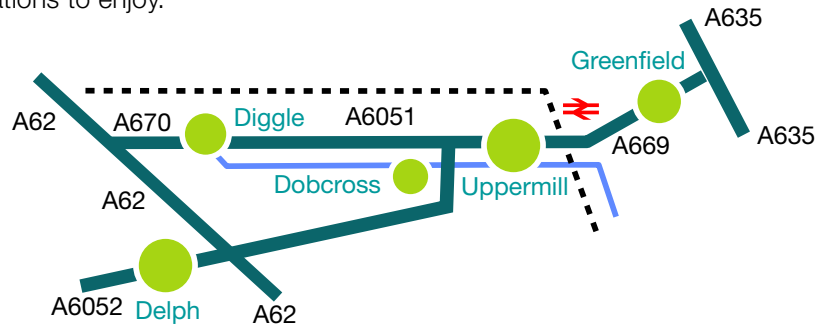


Go exploring with Saddleworth Village Trails

These trails are a great way to explore the historic villages of Saddleworth and learn more about the history of the area. Please enjoy your visit responsibly and respect village life so that we can keep Saddleworth a special place for future generations to enjoy.



Keeping Saddleworth Special

Never drop litter. Take it home with you or use one of the bins provided.

Follow the Countryside Code

Guard against fires, respect plants and animals. Keep your dogs under close control, stick to public paths across farmland and consider other people.

Step on to public transport

Walking, cycling, riding and canal trips are a great way to explore the area. Help to reduce congestion, protect the environment and support the local community.

Stay, eat and buy local

Enjoy all that Saddleworth has to offer by staying overnight in one of our hotels, guest houses or self-catering accommodation.

Sample local produce at the farmers market or pop in to one of our great pubs, cafes or restaurants.

Useful information

Oldham Tourist Information Centre

Gallery Oldham, Greaves Street,
Oldham OL1 1AL
T: 0161 770 3064
E: tourist@oldham.gov.uk
www.visitoldham.com

Saddleworth Museum,

Art Gallery and Visitors Centre
High Street, Uppermill, OL3 6HS
T: 01457 870336
E: saddleworthtic@oldham.gov.uk

Brownhill Countryside Centre

Wool Road, Dobcross,
Oldham OL3 5PB
T: 01457 872598
E: env.brownhill@oldham.gov.uk

Local bus and rail information

T: 0871 200 2233
www.gmppte.com

Published by Oldham Council

T: 0161 770 3064
E: tourist@oldham.gov.uk
www.visitoldham.com

When you have finished with this leaflet,
please recycle it.

All information correct at time of going
to press. Published March 2011.



Oldham

Diggle Trail

A great way to explore the
historic villages of Saddleworth

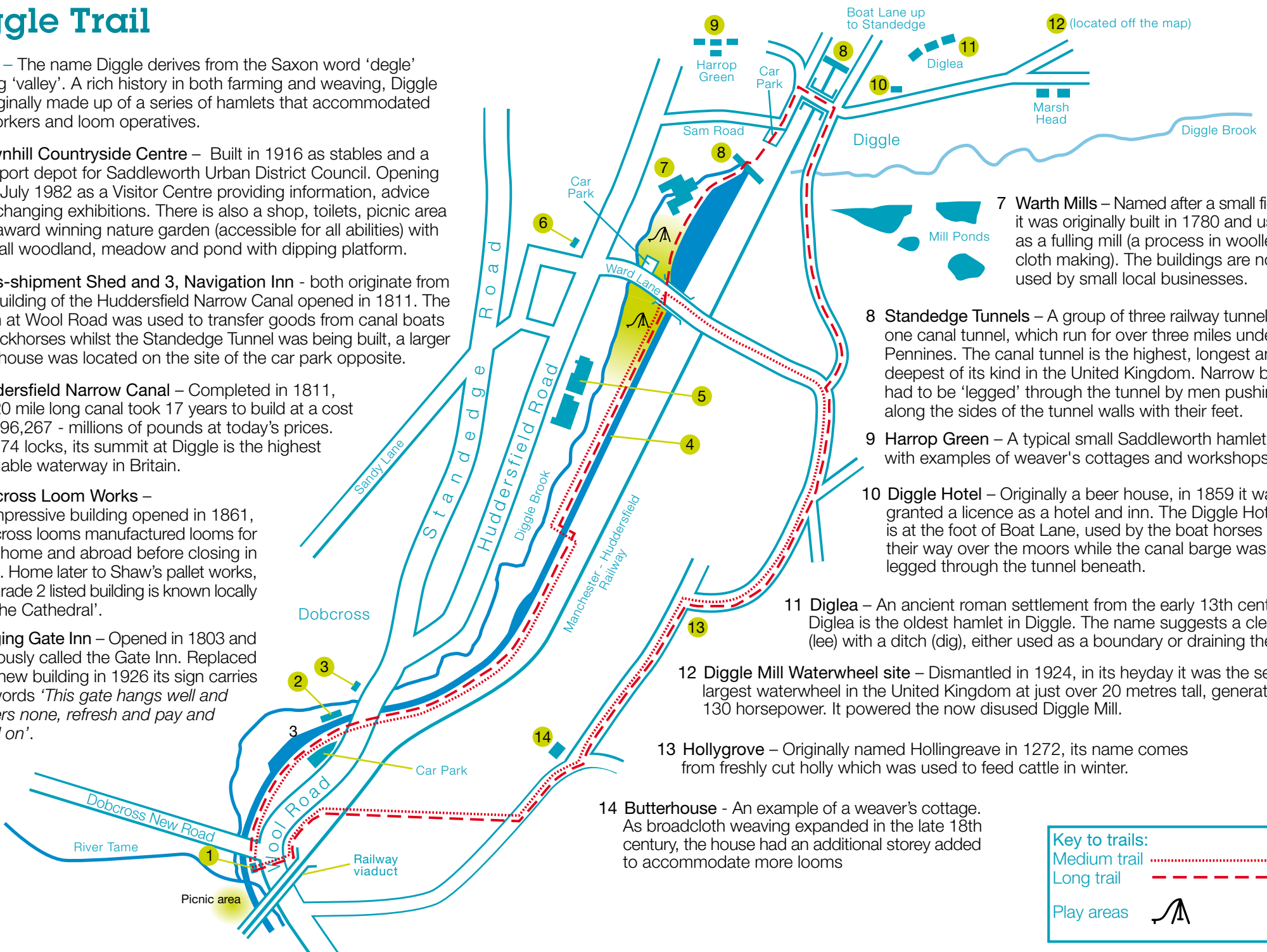


Oldham

Diggle Trail

Diggle – The name Diggle derives from the Saxon word ‘degle’ meaning ‘valley’. A rich history in both farming and weaving, Diggle was originally made up of a series of hamlets that accommodated farm workers and loom operatives.

- 1 Brownhill Countryside Centre** – Built in 1916 as stables and a transport depot for Saddleworth Urban District Council. Opening on 5 July 1982 as a Visitor Centre providing information, advice and changing exhibitions. There is also a shop, toilets, picnic area and award winning nature garden (accessible for all abilities) with a small woodland, meadow and pond with dipping platform.
- 2 Trans-shipment Shed** and **3, Navigation Inn** - both originate from the building of the Huddersfield Narrow Canal opened in 1811. The basin at Wool Road was used to transfer goods from canal boats to packhorses whilst the Standedge Tunnel was being built, a larger warehouse was located on the site of the car park opposite.
- 4 Huddersfield Narrow Canal** – Completed in 1811, this 20 mile long canal took 17 years to build at a cost of £396,267 - millions of pounds at today's prices. With 74 locks, its summit at Diggle is the highest navigable waterway in Britain.
- 5 Dobcross Loom Works** – An impressive building opened in 1861, Dobcross looms manufactured looms for both home and abroad before closing in 1967. Home later to Shaw's pallet works, the Grade 2 listed building is known locally as ‘The Cathedral’.
- 6 Hanging Gate Inn** – Opened in 1803 and previously called the Gate Inn. Replaced by a new building in 1926 its sign carries the words ‘*This gate hangs well and hinders none, refresh and pay and travel on*’.



- 7 Warth Mills** – Named after a small field, it was originally built in 1780 and used as a fulling mill (a process in woollen cloth making). The buildings are now used by small local businesses.
- 8 Standedge Tunnels** – A group of three railway tunnels and one canal tunnel, which run for over three miles under the Pennines. The canal tunnel is the highest, longest and deepest of its kind in the United Kingdom. Narrow boats had to be ‘legged’ through the tunnel by men pushing along the sides of the tunnel walls with their feet.
- 9 Harrop Green** – A typical small Saddleworth hamlet, with examples of weaver's cottages and workshops.
- 10 Diggle Hotel** – Originally a beer house, in 1859 it was granted a licence as a hotel and inn. The Diggle Hotel is at the foot of Boat Lane, used by the boat horses on their way over the moors while the canal barge was legged through the tunnel beneath.
- 11 Diglea** – An ancient roman settlement from the early 13th century, Diglea is the oldest hamlet in Diggle. The name suggests a clearing (lee) with a ditch (dig), either used as a boundary or draining the land.
- 12 Diggle Mill Waterwheel site** – Dismantled in 1924, in its heyday it was the second largest waterwheel in the United Kingdom at just over 20 metres tall, generating 130 horsepower. It powered the now disused Diggle Mill.
- 13 Hollygrove** – Originally named Hollingreave in 1272, its name comes from freshly cut holly which was used to feed cattle in winter.

14 Butterhouse - An example of a weaver's cottage. As broadcloth weaving expanded in the late 18th century, the house had an additional storey added to accommodate more looms

Key to trails:
 Medium trail
 Long trail - - - - -
 Play areas