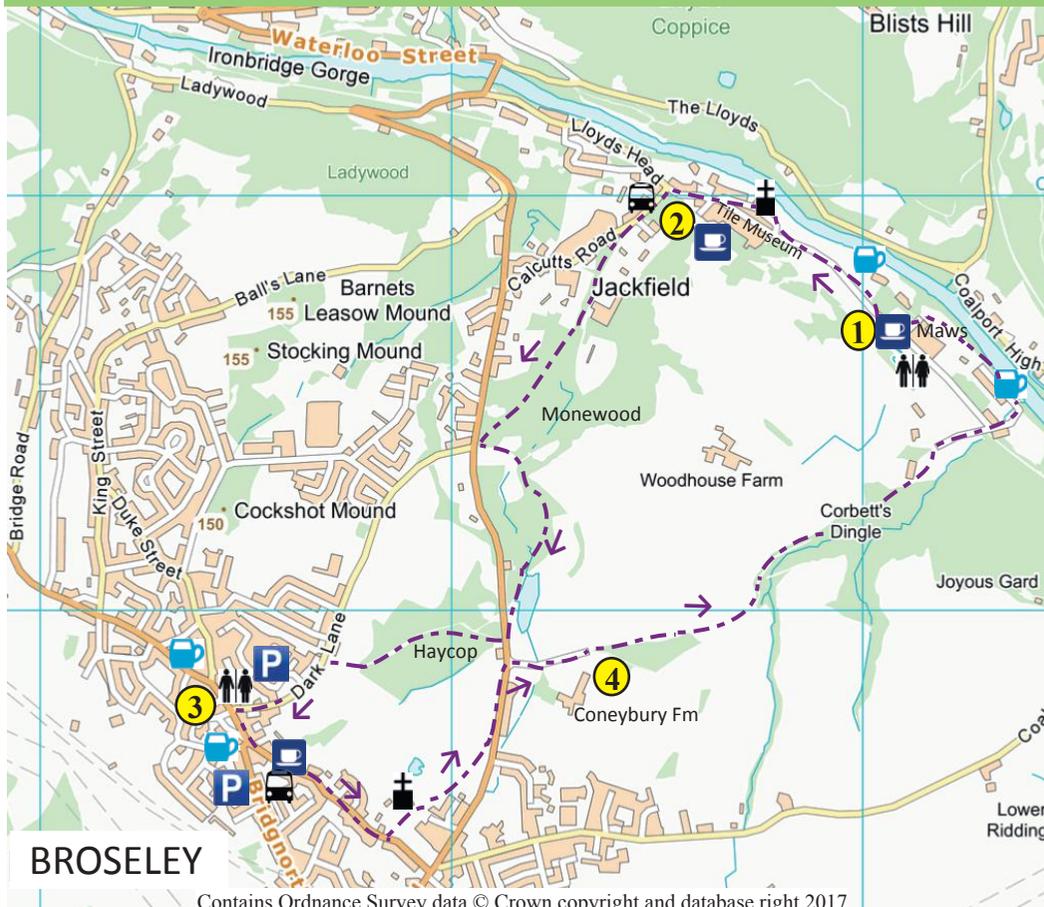


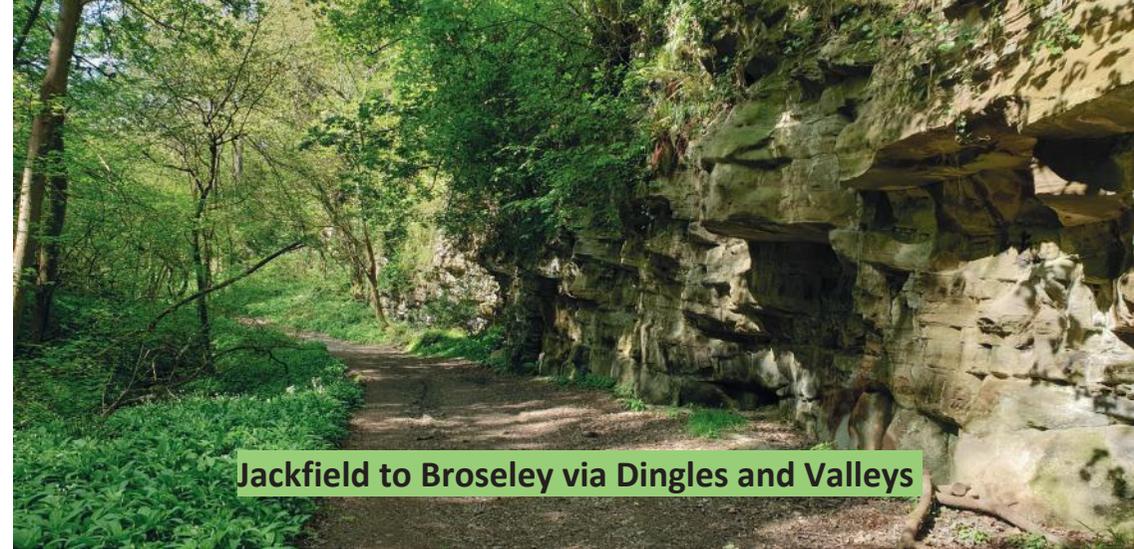
MAP Jackfield to Broseley via Dingles and Valleys Walk



BROSELEY

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For two hundred years, throughout the C19 and C20th, Broseley was famous for roof tiles because of the high quality of the deep clay found around the area, especially in Jackfield. By 1840 a number of large works were sending tiles all over the country downstream on the Severn. The first decorative 'encaustic' tiles were made by the Exleys in the 1830s. In 1852 Maw and Co. moved to Benthall to save the cost of shipping clay downstream to their works at Worcester. They opened a works at Jackfield in 1883, where Craven Dunnill (now a museum), had already started making decorative tiles in 1870s. At the turn of the century there were at least ten other firms making bricks and roofing tiles in the area, Broseley Tileries being on the outskirts of the town near point 4 on the map. 'Broseley Tiles' became a term associated with the highest quality tiles exported all over the world. St. Mary's Church, Jackfield is a showpiece of local decorative brick and tiles work, both inside and in its exterior fabric and roof and is well worth a visit.



Jackfield to Broseley via Dingles and Valleys

A 4.9 miles / 7.8 km walk with a vertical gain of 110m / 361ft: paths, woods, some road walking, can be muddy in places after rain, many historic places.

One of the favourite walks of Coalport, Jackfield, Ironbridge and Broseley residents. The walk starts along the Telford T50 50 Mile Trail in Jackfield by the magnificent River Sever, goes up through the lovely Monewood Valley and Haycop Nature Reserve to the interesting historic town of Broseley and ends with a descent through a stunning, beautiful, atmospheric gorge 'Corbett's Dingle. This is a walk not to be missed! As well as great scenic variety, there's lots of history and heritage: Maws craft centre, the tile museum, two beautiful contrasting Victorian churches, all celebrating local skills. Look out for the many information boards on your way around.

1 Through Jackfield to Calcotts Road 0.7km / 0.4 miles

There's a car park by Maws Craft Centre and a bus stop at the bottom of Calcotts Rd in Jackfield. As this is a circular walk either is a good start point. Turn right out of the car park and follow the magenta T50 waymarks to walk through Jackfield. It's full of interest and well worth allowing extra time to explore in full. Walk along the T50 by the riverside to the bottom of Calcotts Road. If you have done this before and would like a slight variation walk up the slope past the entrance gates of the Maws Craft Centre, cross the road and then turn right to along a disused railway path in front of you.



Do pop into Maws Craft Centre. It has a tea shop cafe (ice creams!) an art gallery, craft shops and free public toilets. There is a free open exhibition area about the history of the famous tile works you can visit. The car park is past the entrance down

Continue straight on along the disused rail track, now a broad cycleway: ignore the turn down to the Half Moon pub and riverside picnic area (unless of course you fancy a pint). Just before where the road forks, cross the road and enter a picnic area, turn left, stop and admire the children's art work as you pass. If you want to explore this area in more detail there are many information boards about Jackfield and free leaflets in dispensers. Take the lower road past one of the gems of this walk, St Mary The Virgin Church, don't miss the opportunity to appreciate the beautiful tile work and calm atmosphere inside. Walk to the end of the road and turn right. Continue straight on and then turn left to go left uphill on Calcutts Rd.

2 Calcutts Rd to Broseley High St via Monewood 2.1km / 1.3 miles

Walk up Calcutts road for about 200 m, passing a bus shelter and information board take the track on the left towards the small industrial unit. At the end of this track the start of the footpath is not visible until you reach the gates. The footpath to the right now takes you through the first half of the Monewood valley, first next to a metal fence, then alongside a small stream. After a kissing gate turn left, follow the path past houses, as it swings round to enter the second part of the wood bear right. This is an old workers path from Broseley down to the

tile works, mines and foundries at Jackfield. At the Ironbridge Road cross over to enter the Haycop opposite. Take any path up hill to explore this lovely nine acre, nature reserve with a rich mosaic of habitats including heathland, a flower meadow, old established broadleaf woodland, and a pond. All ways through are good choices.



Coloured bricks and tiles create decorative effects

If time, stop to admire the impressive entrance to the former Craven Dunnill tile works, now The Tile Museum. There's a free exhibition about this major local industry in the cafe and shop area, it is inside the entrance on the left.



Remains of the 'flexible' wood tracks

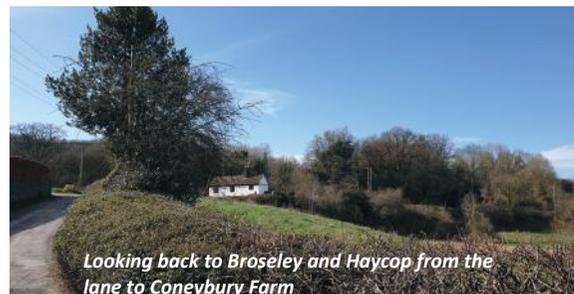


Monewood Valley woods are shown on C17th maps

There are habitat information boards in the Haycop Reserve. There is a series of steps to commemorate a Broseley Olympian near the top! At the exit you pass the brick covered Down Well, this was once Broseley's water supply. Continue straight on, then turn left down Dark Lane which leads onto Broseley High St, turn left.

3 Broseley High St to Coneybury Farm 1.2km / 0.75 miles

At the mini roundabout at the bottom of High St go straight on down Church Road. Enter All Saints Church grounds passing one of the Gerry Foxton sculptures of the mining industry on your left. All Saints is the finest early Victorian Church in Shropshire, well worth a visit. The view from the far wall is outstanding. Aim for a metal kissing gate near the far right corner of the church grounds, continue straight on down past houses and enter a small field. When you reach the road at a small gate turn left, walk past the cemetery, cross the road and take the lane on the right to Coneybury Farm. Continue straight on, the views are pleasantly rural, the lane becomes a bridleway track at the entrance to a wooded area.



Looking back to Broseley and Haycop from the lane to Coneybury Farm

4 Coneybury Farm, Corbett's Dingle to Maws 1.7km / 0.miles

Carry straight on along the bridleway for about 500 m, sometimes it can be muddy. A mine once stood here, spoil heaps are all that remains, colonised by birch, ash and hawthorn. You then begin the descent of the beautiful Corbett's Dingle. This beautiful wooded gorge is home to many species of birds, ferns and woodland flowers with white wood anemones and wild garlic blooms in Spring. The Cornbatch Brook flows down to the Severn. There are impressive exposures of sandstone, weathered over time to produce the striking 12m high sides to the gorge. The dingle ends in a lane, go straight on, under an old railway bridge and turn right. The lane goes down to the River Severn, curves left to pass the famous flood door of The Boat Inn and the UK's only war memorial bridge. Continue along the riverside path to return to Maw's.

