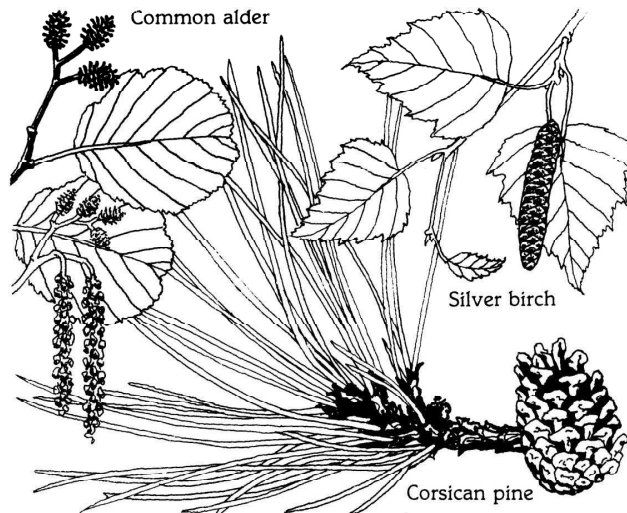


### Stops 4 and 5 : Kitcliffe Farm

Before walking downhill, notice the difference between the grazing land on the lower slopes and the rough moorland behind you. This has resulted from traditional methods of upland farming carried out at Kitcliffe Farm since 1845. The meadows and pastures produce grass to feed the animals during long winters. Around the farm lambs are born each Spring. As you cross the bridge, look upstream and imagine a once thriving woollen mill in operation, run by a wooden water wheel. In the Long Shed, alongside the stream, navvies lived whilst they worked on building the dams.

### Stop 6 : Springmill

As you arrive back at Springmill notice the Gate House, with its commanding views, built in 1862 from local quarried stone. Other cottages have been used by the watermen who worked in the valley, and the last house before the car park was once the Waterworks Inn, now a private home. Across the road was the Springmill itself, where local people worked at spinning and weaving. The old windows and doors can still be seen, whilst the office and toilet block at the car park was once the Weighbridge a reminder of the past coal mining activity in the area.



Warden's Office  
Waterworks Road  
Ogden  
Telephone 0706 Shaw 881049

Other information at Hollingworth Lake Visitor Centre.  
Telephone: 0706 Littleborough 73421



Ogden Dam — Kitcliffe — Springmill  
Distance: 1½ miles (2½ kms.)

A short walk through farmland and moorland looking at farming and industrial practices both past and present. (The route follows waymarked public footpaths. Stout footwear recommended).



Gate House



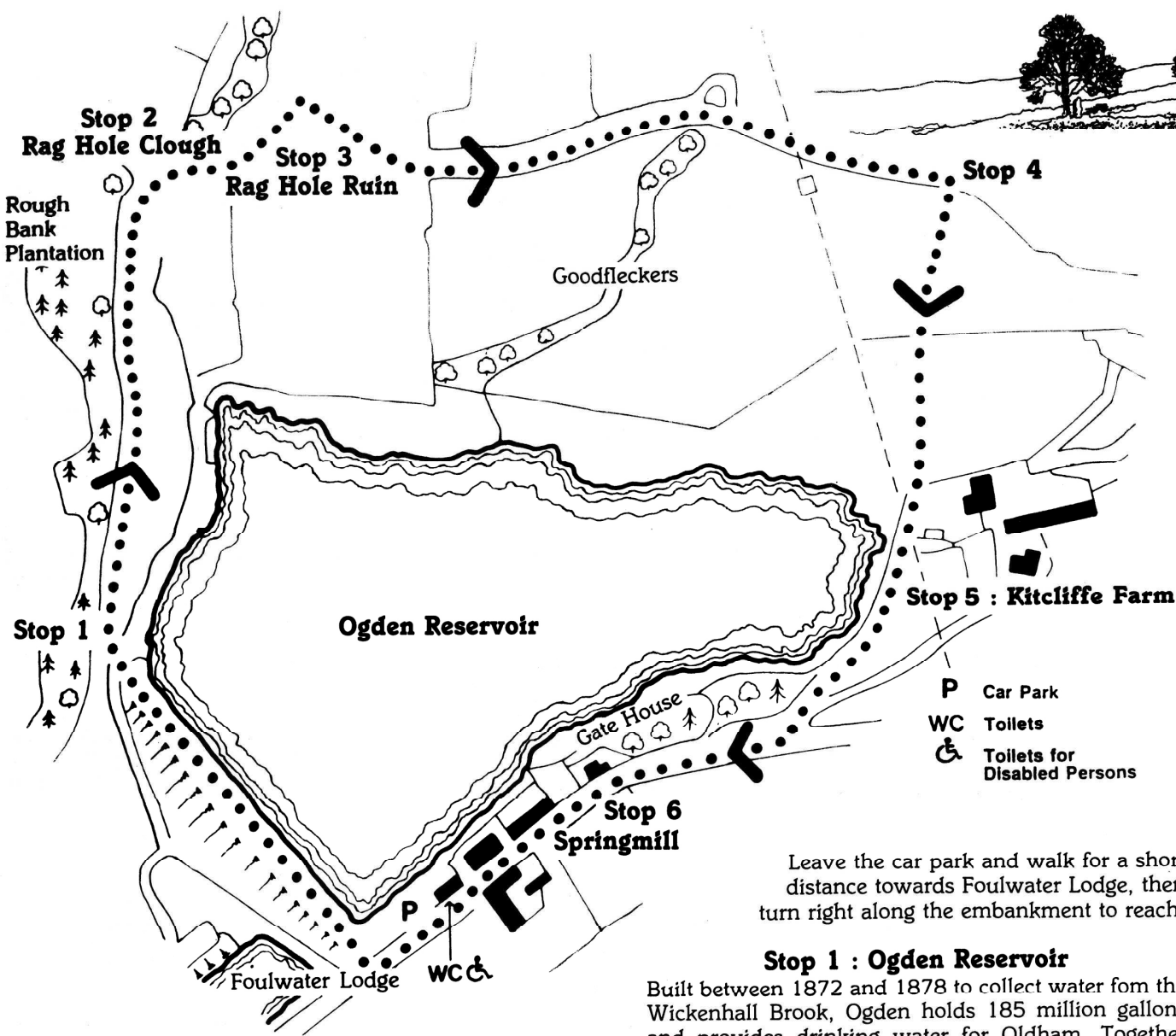
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Fasten all gates
- Keep dogs under proper control
- Keep to the paths across farm land
- Avoid damaging fences, hedges and walls
- Leave no litter
- Safeguard water supplies
- Protect wild life, wild plants and trees
- Go carefully on country roads
- Respect the life of the countryside

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The Countryside Commission.

Acknowledgements: Littleborough Local History Society



Kitcliffe Farm



NORTH

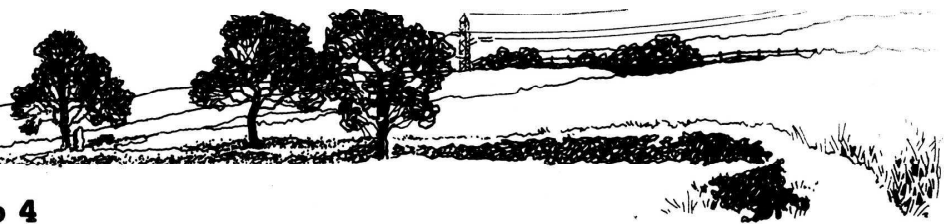
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Leave the car park and walk for a short distance towards Foulwater Lodge, then turn right along the embankment to reach:

### Stop 1 : Ogden Reservoir

Built between 1872 and 1878 to collect water from the Wickenhall Brook, Ogden holds 185 million gallons and provides drinking water for Oldham. Together with Foulwater Lodge, 1 million gallons per day are also released into Piethorne Brook. This is called compensation water and is a legal obligation under the 1870 Water Act. At that time, many factories would use the Brook, but now only a few are left. Coarse fishing takes place at the reservoir and day tickets are available.



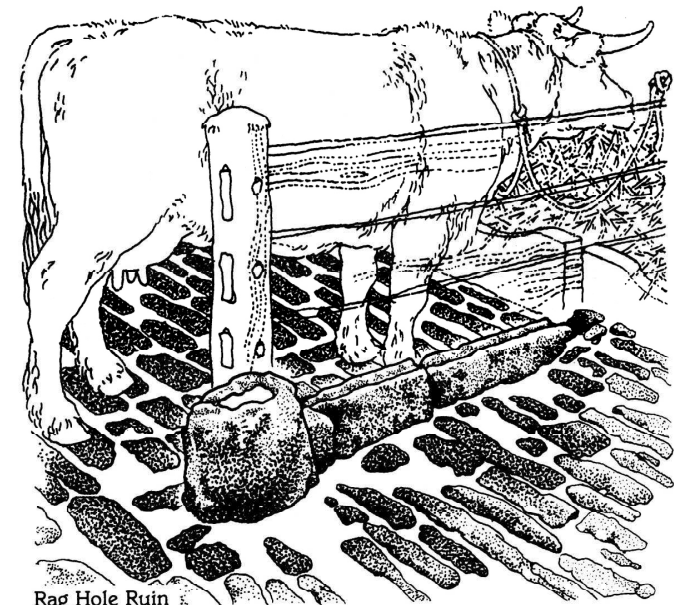
### Stop 2 : Rag Hole Clough

Notice how the trees have grown in this clough where there is water and protection from the weather. Here was once the thriving centre of a farmstead. Look around and see if you can spot the old field walls where animals were kept and crops grown.

Behind you, Rough Bank Plantation dates from 1969 and contains Scots Pine, Corsican Pine, Alder and Silver Birch. A mixed plantation like this provides food and shelter for the valley's bird life.

### Stop 3 : Rag Hole Ruin

Here are the remains of a farm once run by the Travis Family (1791 - 1858) Looking downhill you may be able to make out the farm house and shippon and lower down, hay barns. Crops grown here were probably rye, wheat and barley, in addition to the rearing of cattle and sheep.



Rag Hole Ruin