

Reservoir Monument Trail

Around the route a number of monuments will be seen. The QR codes adjacent to each monument provides information about the monument itself and the Rivington Reservoir chain as a whole.

The route can be completed in either direction however we will start the trail at the small monument to remember the **(1) 'The Black a Moors Head Pub'** on Horrobin Lane.

We walk on with the reservoir on our right until we meet the next turning on the right, In the wall is the monument remembering the main Architect of the Rivington Reservoir Chain **(2) 'The Hawksley Stone'**.

We follow the road on the right, known as the 'Street Drive'. On the left we see Monument **(3) 'The Water Valve'**.

Further on this road we see a large house, this is the 'Street' built 1853 after the original building was demolished to allow the reservoir building.

Opposite the end of the road we are on we see the **(4) 'Navvies Memorial'**. We turn right and continue until the road takes a sharp left turn, we leave the road on the right and follow the path around to the right and up the hill until we meet another path, we turn left onto this path.

Around 50 meters on the right we see the next monument **(5) 'The Face in the Wall'**. We then about turn and walk down the road we just joined with the Yarrow Embankment on our left.

After the embankment on the left we see last monument **(6) 'Dan Stang's Walking Stick'**. We make our way staying right back to the Black-a-Moors Head monument to complete the trail.

Reservoir Monument Trail

A guided trail around the Upper Rivington Reservoir which takes the walker to six monuments positioned to tell the history of the Rivington Reservoir chain, including the Architects, the construction and remembering the thousands of navvies, their families and many other workers who actually built this 19th century engineering masterpiece.

The walk; is on paths and roads, some of which are a little uneven with some small gradients; is around 4 km, 2.5 miles long and will take between one to two hours. Please consider your mobility before taking this walk.



Please follow and respect
the Country Code

United Utilities & Horwich Heritage 2025

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5. The Face in the Wall. This replica replaces the original heavily vandalised Face which sat here from the 1870s. The head is said to be that of a Reservoir worker, possibly an unpopular foreman navvie.

6. Dan Strang's Walking Stick. Daniel worked on the building of the Yarrow Reservoir. He needed a stick to help walk after a previous injury. He died while working near by, with his stick being found in the workers cabin.

1. The Black a Moors Head pub. The Pub stood in the area now covered by the Upper Rivington Reservoir from at least 1600 until its demolition with the construction of the reservoirs in the 1850s.



4. The Navvies Memorial. Thousands of Navvies arrived in the area to build the reservoirs using only picks, shovels and barrows. Many lived, and some died in make shift camps with their families in this area for around 25-years.

3. The Reservoir Valve. The Rivington Reservoir system was built between 1850 and 1875 to provide the rapidly growing city of Liverpool with clean, fresh drinking water. One of the greatest water undertakings of its time was copied around the world.

2. The Hawksley Stone. Thomas Hawksley FRS was a prominent Civil Engineer of the 19th Century. Responsible for the design of Impounded water systems (reservoirs), sewerage and gas delivery systems in the UK and around the world. Hawksley was the main architect of the Rivington Reservoir System.