

Crayke has a long history dating back to the Bronze Age. The village remained part of the Bishopric and also the County of Durham until the mid 19th century. Both the present castle and the church date back to the 15th century although their histories go back much further

Continuing the walk.....

Before you get to the Durham Ox, take the waymarked Foss Way to the left. Follow the path down to reach Mosswood Lane and turn left along the lane. Take the diverted path round Mosswood House and then follow the clear track. After about fifteen minutes you pass through Marton Park Farm, cross over the Foss again and once more come to the Brandsby Road. Cross the road bearing slightly right and take the farm road up towards Marton Abbey Farm on the left. Take the farm road to the right in front of the farm and then through the gate.

Marton Abbey Farm is built on the site of an old Priory, evidence of which can just be seen in the field on your right. Some well preserved ecclesiastical carved stones are built into the wall surrounding the front doorway to the house.

F

Continue along the Foss Way back to the "White Bridge" where you turn right over the bridge, retracing your steps across the pasture field and over the foot-bridge, but, rather than continue across the field, turn left and follow the DEFRA Conservation Walk (waymarked as such). This meets the river Foss again after a short distance. Follow the path along the river until it turns right and goes up to the Brandsby Road.

G

Go straight ahead across the road, with Pond Cottage on your left and follow the track until you reach the little bridge at the end of Lucy Balk which you crossed at the beginning. Go over the bridge and retrace your steps back to the Post Office.

Information

This walk is one in a series prepared by people from Stillington for the enjoyment of visitors and villagers.

Walk 1	Marton Circular	3 miles
Walk 2	Moxby Pram	4 miles
Walk 3	Crayke via Bumper circular	8½ miles
Walk 4	Marton Pram	2½ miles
Walk 5	Walking the Parish Boundary	10 miles
Walk 6	Wigginton Lane End bus walk	8½ miles
Walk 7	Moxby Circular	4 miles
Walk 8	Illustrated Map of Stillington	

All the walks in the series are available as a free download from the village website: www.stillingtonvillage.org, or in a printed form for a small charge from the village post office (the starting point for all the walks).

Maps: OS Explorer Maps 299 and 300
OS Landranger Map 100

"Please follow the country code"



Since July 2003 the Stillington Post Office & Stores has been run as a community shop, purchased by the village community and operated largely by volunteers. A full range of sandwiches, snacks and drinks is available to sustain you on your walk.

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday	6.30am-5:30pm
Saturday	6:30am-1:00pm
Sunday	Closed

Stillington Local Walks

Walk 3

Stillington via Bumper to Crayke and back to Stillington

Start of Walk:

Stillington Post Office and Stores

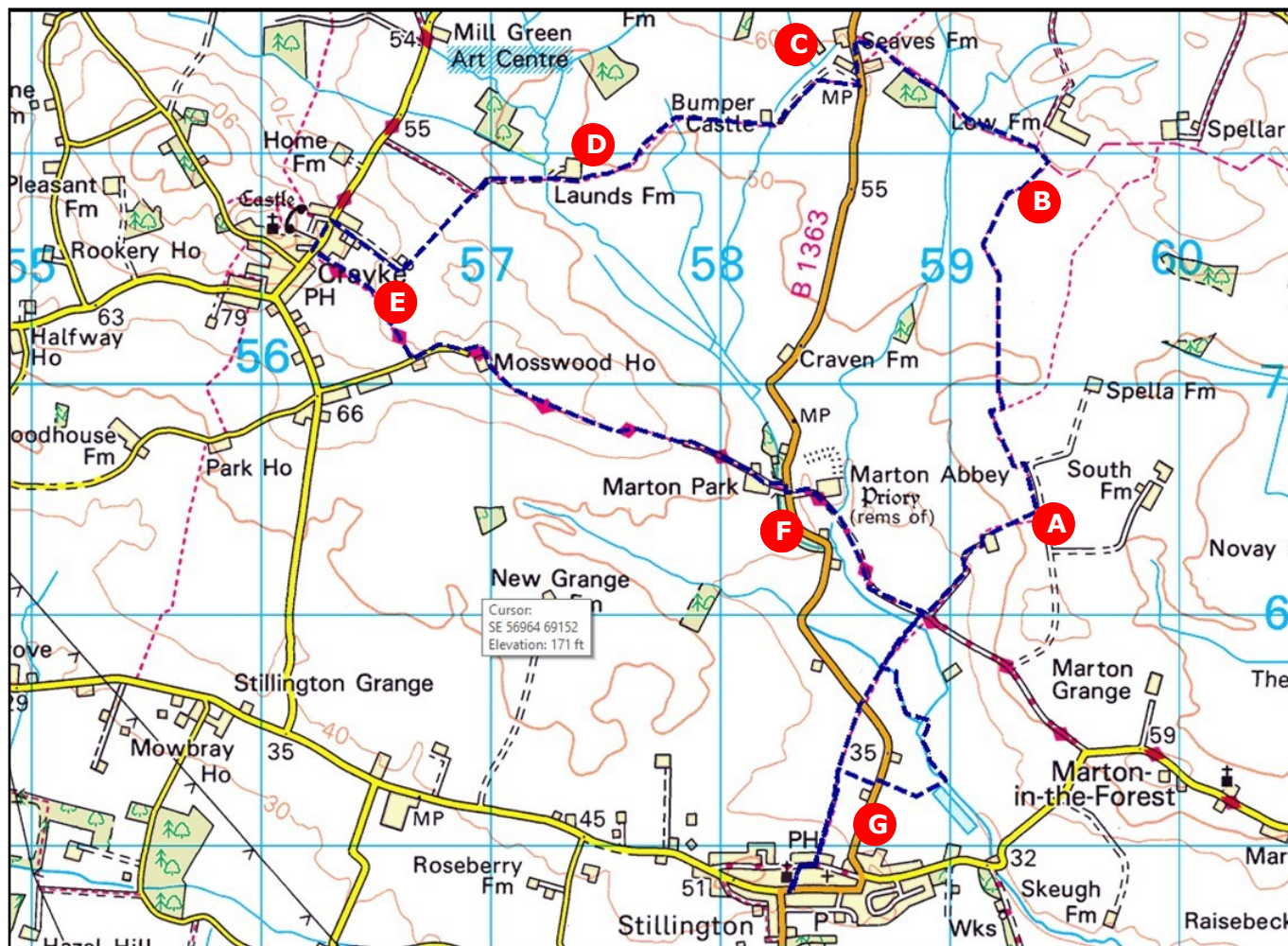
Distance:

Approximately 8½ miles (14 km)

Allow 4 hours walking time

Grade:

Easy walking - the route is flat and reasonably well waymarked, though there are some parts where the path shown on the map has been ploughed up by the farmer but there is always an alternative easy route around the field boundary.



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A circular walk from Stillington

Cross the road from the Post Office & Stores and take the snicket to the right of the Old Vicarage into North Back Lane. Turn right and then take the footpath, known locally as Lucy Balk, going north from opposite the rear entrance to Stillington Primary School straight ahead for about ¼ mile to B1363 to Brandsby (Jack Lane). Take the footpath almost opposite, just to the right. Walk across the field to the footbridge over a small stream and straight ahead again over the field to another footbridge over the River Foss, known as White Bridge but no longer white!, walk over the bridge to Harryfield Lane. There is a finger post marking the Foss Walk which you are crossing, but

the sign for our footpath straight ahead has been sawn off! Continue ahead up the farm road (the gate may well be closed) towards a group of farm buildings. Pass through the farm buildings and up the hill on what remains of the field boundary, up to the hedge and turn left.

A Continue with the hedge on your right, noticing the road to Spella Farm running parallel on the other side of the hedge. The hedge turns left then right again and follow it down until you come to a waymark post at the end of the field. Turn right through the gap in the hedge and continue with the hedge on your left for about 20 yards until you reach a waymarked gap through the hedge to the north. Go

through the gap and continue on with the hedge on your right to the end of the field and then through the gap in the hedge over a small footbridge. Continue with the hedge on your right which is interspersed with a series of large trees. At the next hedge, go over the stile and turn left following the field boundary with the hedge on your left. At the next hedge, go through the gateway and turn right following the field boundary with the hedge on your right. Continue to the top of the field and turn left to the West.

B After a few yards you will see a waymark sign at a gate where you bear left down the slope keeping the hedge on your right. At the end of the field go through the gate and follow the field boundary to the left to the corner of the wood (the official path goes straight to the wood, but it is better to stick to field boundary). Go through the gate and continue on the field edge with the wood on your left until you come to a post and rail fence on the left. Follow this fence to the Brandsby Road at Seaves Farm.

C Turn left down the road and after about 100 yards take the waymarked path diagonally across the field to the right towards Bumper Castle Farm. Do not go down the drive which is not a right of way. Just before you reach the farm gate take the waymarked path to the left, turn right through the gate and on to a secluded path. Go through the next small gate and continue straight ahead with the hedge on your right to a small bridge and stile in a hedge just to the left of two oak trees.

D Follow path across the field aiming slightly left of the buildings at Launds Farm. Go through the gate and then skirt around the left of the farm keeping to the field. Go through another gate and out onto the farm road up the hill. At the second bend turn left off the road onto the permissive path with its mosaic waymarks. Keep the hedge on your right.

E Turn right at the water treatment works, following the path which turns into a minor road out into the village of Crayke. Turn left, up the hill and into the village. There is a spectacular view over the Vale of York from the top of the village and the Durham Ox pub can provide an excellent meal if you wish to spend time exploring the village.

Continued ...