

7. At Upper Vicarwood Farm continue past the farm buildings and then go through the green painted metal farm gate to go out through the front driveway of the farm. Follow the tarmac track as it continues eastwards to open up to good views of Derby and the surrounding area.

*Ahead are the tower blocks of Derby University, Kedleston Road Campus with Allestree in the foreground. Further to the right is Derby Cathedral and the city centre. Beyond is the Trent Valley and the granite escarpment of Charnwood.*

8. After 750 metres follow the tarmac path on the right to Lower Vicarwood Farm. Just before the farm bear left to skirt the farm buildings and pass through a gate with a stile. Then head to a stile in the bottom left corner of the field.

9. Follow the footpath as it travels straight ahead (southwards) over the next five fields, with the hedge on the left, to a footbridge over the Mackworth Brook.

10. Once over the footbridge keep the hedge on the left and go over the stile in a hedge. Continue up the field for approximately 60 metres and turn right to follow the path up the side of the houses to the road.

11. Cross the road and go over the stile opposite to follow the footpath as it climbs up the hill to return to the start of the walk.

**WALK TYPE**

Generally easy walking with one long hill.

**DISTANCE**

5¼ miles (8½ km)

**TIME**

Allow 3 hours

**BUSES**

For up-to-date information call Traveline on 0870 608 2608

**TRAINS**

For up-to-date information call rail enquiries 08457 484950

**WAYMARKING**



**OS MAP**

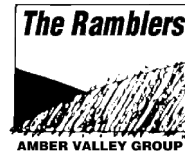
Explorer 259 (1:25,000) Derby  
Landranger 128 (1:50,000) Derby

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE**

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep your dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths around farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.



Amber Valley  
Borough  
Council



Ripley Tourist Information Centre  
telephone: 01773 841 488

If you have any comments about this leaflet contact  
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AMBER VALLEY ROUTEWAYS

Walk 17



Circular

Remains of  
Mackworth Castle

The map in this leaflet has been produced to show the route of the walk and should not be used for any other purpose.

*This walk takes you through the village of Mackworth and up into Meynell Langley skirting the edge of the Kedleston Estate. A country walk offering splendid views of nearby Derby.*

**Start:** Mackworth Hotel Banqueting suite car park (by kind permission of the manager), Ashbourne Road (A52), Mackworth Grid Ref SK 316 375

1. Turn left out of the hotel and then immediately take the footpath on the left. Go through the kissing gate and head straight on, keeping to the wall on the left, to a stile in the bottom left corner of the field. Climb the stile and cross the road. Turn left to follow the road as it winds through Mackworth village past Mackworth Castle all the way to the main road. Beware of the traffic, and face the oncoming traffic.

*Mackworth Castle was probably the site of a fortified manor house, the seat of the Mackworths. This fell into ruin and Mackworth Castle as it stands is a gatehouse of c.1495 which appears to have been an abandoned effort to rebuild the old manor.*

2. Turn right at the main road and walk for 600 metres to the garage. Continue 50 metres beyond the garage and take the footpath on the right. Continue straight ahead keeping the hedge on the right all the way until you come close to Bowbridge Fields Farm. Continue in the same direction through a gateway and go through the next field, keeping the hedge on the left, to a gateway straight ahead.

3. Continue through the gateway and bear right to pass through a gateway by a large ash tree. Follow

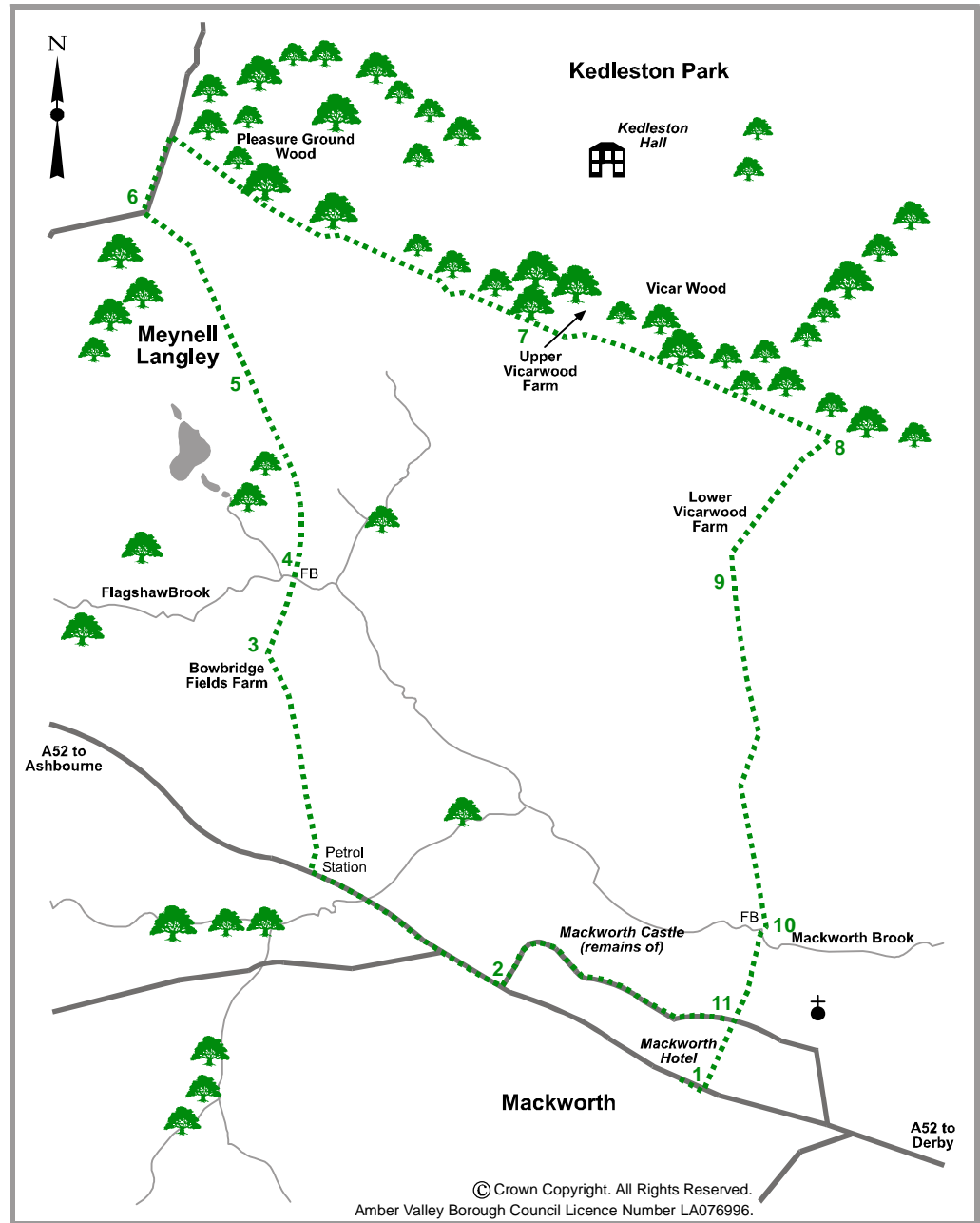
the path as it heads down the field towards a wooden footbridge crossing Flagshaw Brook. (Not the one to take vehicles)

4. Follow the footpath as it continues straight ahead crossing the two fields and stiles. Follow the footpath as it climbs up the hill alongside a mature hedge to the top left corner of the field.

5. Continue climbing gradually uphill, keeping the hedge on the left, over several fields until you reach the road.

*As you will see there are several pillboxes in the fields and at the roadside. This area is part of the Kedleston Estate which during World War II was an important centre for training new recruits. More importantly Kedleston Hall itself was a wire station where ATS girls intercepted enemy messages and passed them on to Bletchley Park, home of the Enigma machine.*

6. Turn right and walk along the road verge facing the oncoming traffic. After 250 metres follow the



bridleway on the right travelling through the gate. Follow the path/track with the woodland on the left as it travels all the way past Upper Vicarwood Farm.