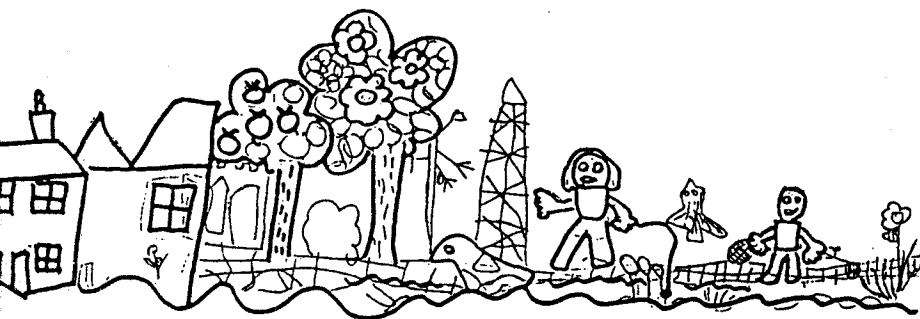
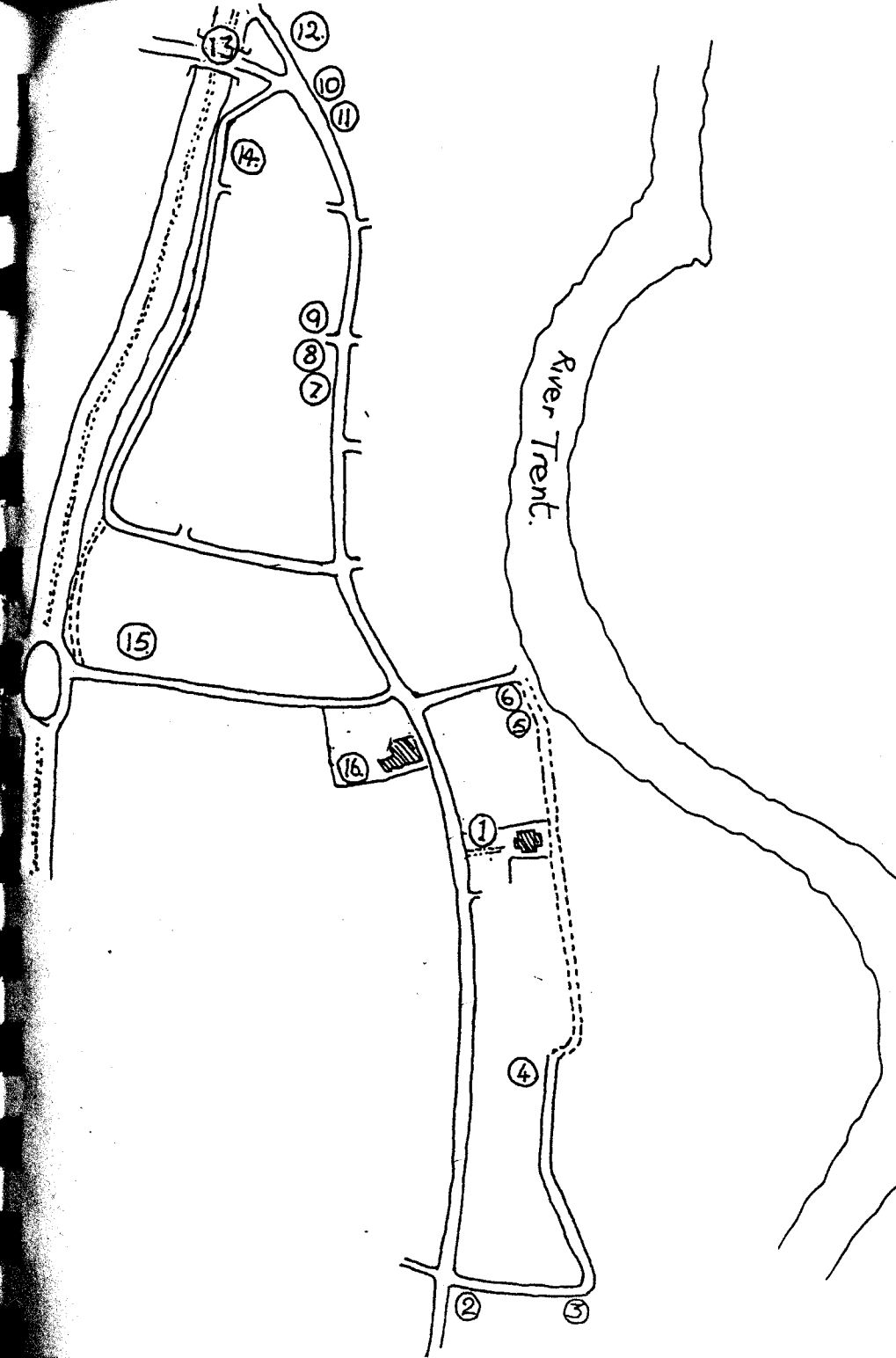


North Muskham
Village Trail



Brochure compiled by Muskham School 1984



The finding of arrowheads and cropmarks (variations in growth shown by aerial photographs), indicate that people lived here a long time ago. North Muskham was founded in the 5th or 6th century when it was the 'ham' or farm of Musca, a Saxon. He came from Saxony in Germany and travelled up the Trent, settling where he felt he could support himself and his family.

After the Norman Conquest of 1066 the Domesday Book was compiled to show William I the extent and contents of his land. North Muskham is written as Nordmuscham. During the Middle Ages, it was also written as Muscamp and Muschamp. Only with the standardisation of spelling in the 17th and 18th century did the present variation become common.

Today, the 1981 census shows there are 700 people living in N. Muskham.

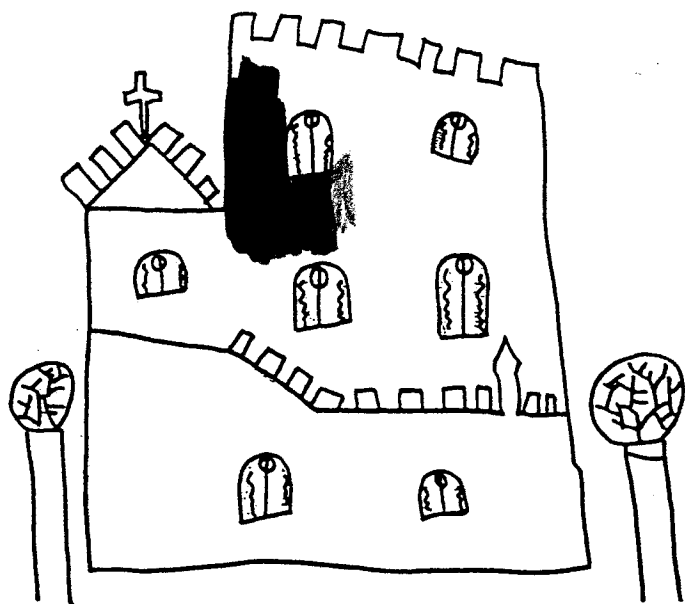
This village trail aims to show something of the life and history of the village.



Start the trail with your back to the school. If you look up and down the village, you can see the linear development. In recent years, new housing has been by in-filling.

① Walk right towards the church. St. Wilfrid's is built mainly in the Perpendicular style between the 12th and 15th centuries. Inside, there are many beautiful things including wooden pews, an old font dedicated to St. Giles and a rood screen. As well as church services, the building is used for concerts and harvest suppers.

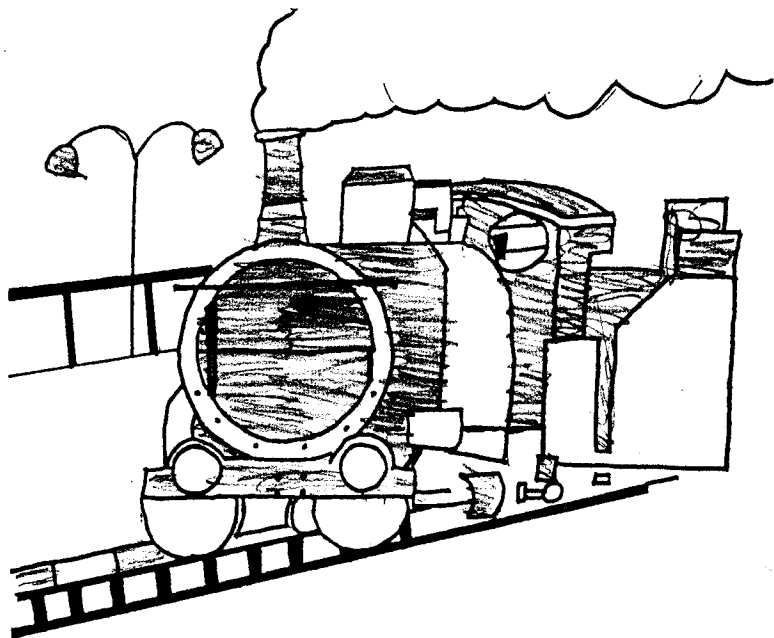
On the opposite side of the road is the Old Hall. In the Second World War, it was used as the base for the Lovat Scouts and their horses. After training, they were free to help on local farms.



Continue South along
main Street, Past the methodist
Chapel on your left and glance
at Meadow close. This used to
be a market garden. Pass the
Crown Public House.

② Stop at the junction of Crab Lane and Main Street. If you look across the road, you can see Mill Lane that used to lead to the village mill. It was then called Fillingate Lane. A hundred years ago, Mr. Streaton the miller was also a baker and he would cook food for villagers who had limited cooking facilities.

Ahead of you can be seen South Muskham. The church is twinned with N. Muskham. The railway line follows The Trent valley and is part of the London-Edinburgh inter-city route. It used to be The Great Northern Railway built in the 1850s.



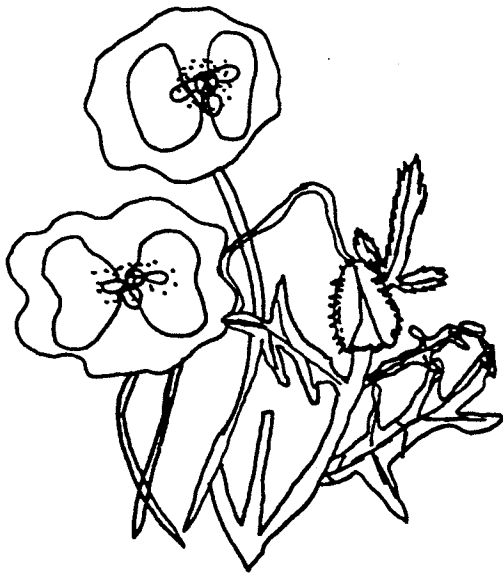
Turn left at Crab Lane. On the bend you can see Burridge Farm.
③ It is a mixed farm that keeps cattle and grows sugar beet and other crops. Round the corner is a sloping wall. Walk on the other side!



As you continue along Crab Lane, you pass some light industry. (There are only two commercial firms in N. Muskham.)

Notice the old cottages many of which are at right angles to the road, thereby facing south and the sun. Look out for a cottage dated 1835. (4).

Walk to the end of the lane and through the snicket (you might call it a cut, an alley-way or a bridle) and you come out with views of the River Trent. The land between you and the river is marshy. In summer time, cattle are able to graze, but in the severe winter of 1980-1981 it was possible to skate on the thick ice. A flood bank stops the village from flooding when the Trent rises.

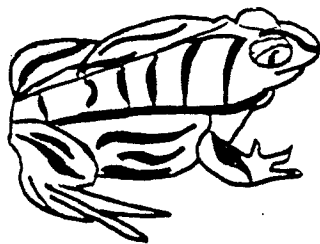


Go through the gate and walk between the houses and the stream. You will see another view of the church and then terraced cottages.

⑤ The next two detached houses are interesting. The one on the right was once a public house called The Reindeer where travellers could stay and stable their horses. In 1880, it was valued at £500. The house to its left was worth £125.



You might see a heron or a black-headed gull. In the Stream can sometimes be seen a water vole. There are also minnows, pond skates, newts, frogs and toads and the occasional trout.



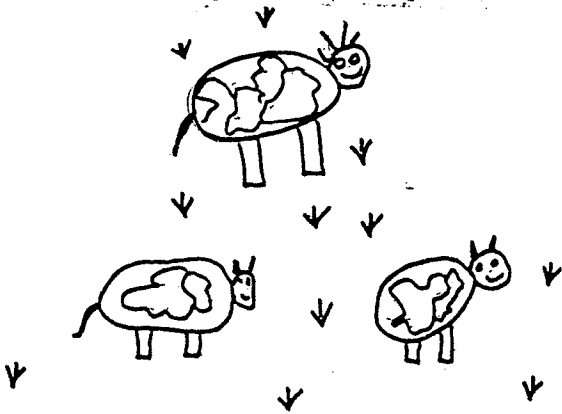
⑥ When you reach Muckham Ferry, sit down and have a rest!

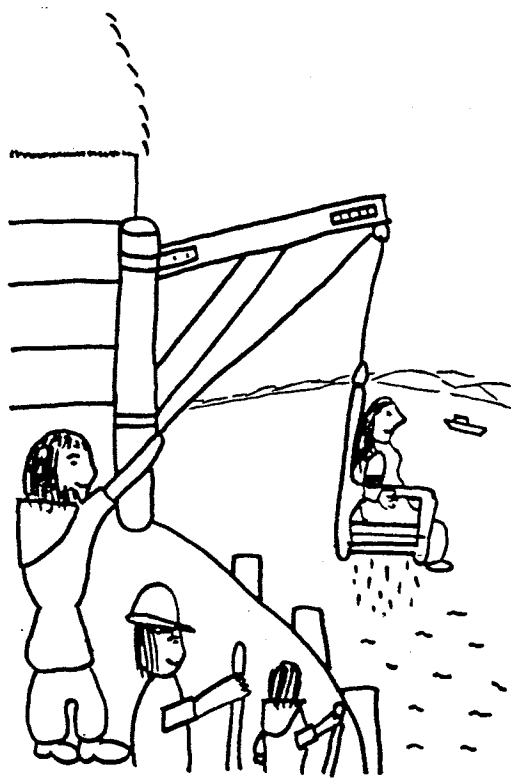
It used to be called The Newcastle Arms because it belonged to the Duke of Newcastle. The licensee was also the ferry-boat owner. The boat was rowed over to the village of Holme. In the school log book, there are many entries in the Second World War when children could not come across to school because the Trent was high.

Now, there are proposals to build an inland port either at N. Muckham or at Newark so that goods could be brought by barge from the E.E.C. The Trent would need continual dredging.

It is mainly used by pleasure boats and fishermen.

What would Mrs Parker who lived in 1681 think? She was ducked (placed on a ducking-stool and dipped in the river) for being a scold.



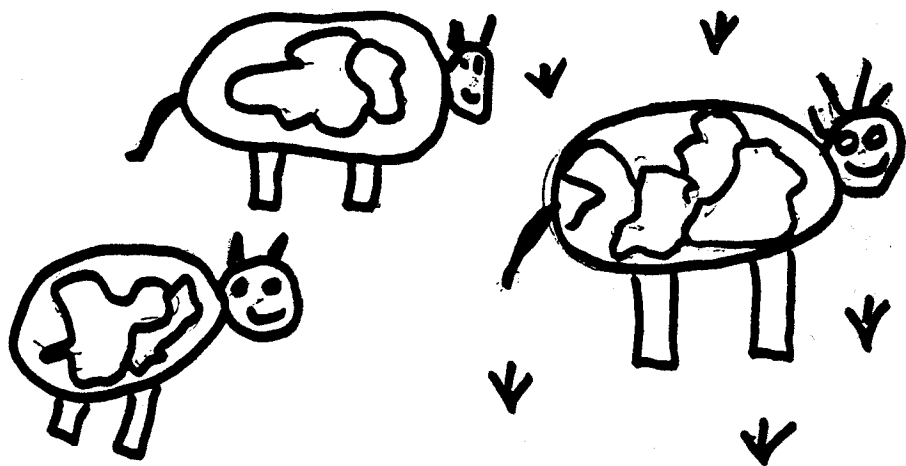


Turn into Ferry Lane which is to the right of the pub. In one of the terraced houses you can see, a lady raised twenty-one children earlier this century.

At the Main Road, turn right and continue walking. Go over the cross-roads and on your left look for a house dated 1901, the year Queen Victoria died.

⑦ Next door, after the barn which you can see is quite old, is the village Post office. Look for low cottages with steep roofs that may have been thatched in previous centuries.

⑧ Chapel yard just beyond the Post office is of special interest. It now has three houses but in the 1881 census there were eighteen dwellings, all occupied. People who lived there included a blacksmith, a baker, six boatmen, two dressmakers, a railway labourer, an unemployed coal-miner, six agricultural labourers three annuitants, an army pensioner, a farmer and a farm servant. They all used communal toilets and one pump for water.

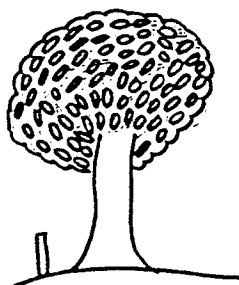


- ⑨ The only store in the village sells groceries, vegetables and meat. It also sells milk, jumpers, socks, newspapers and much more.

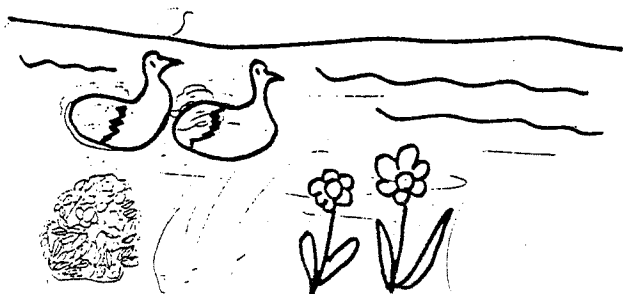


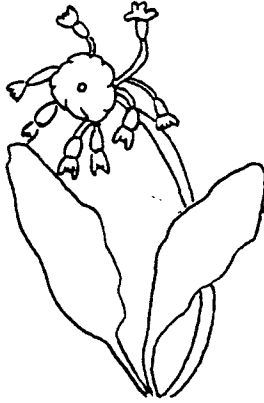
Continue walking along Main Street, past the estate of new houses on your left and the fishing complex on your right.

- ⑩ The Shodes is an attractive old house extended at various times, but the main part is ⑮.



- ⑪ Just before the Shodes, look over the fence into the field and you will see remains of a Saxon Cross. Here was a stopping place for travellers. They said prayers at the Cross before fording the river.





(12)

Beyond the Shades, bear right. Past the bungalows you will see a large building with a house at the side. This was the Woolhouse Hall. It was the Board School that opened in 1881. By the end of the second week, there were one hundred and fifty scholars aged five to fourteen. Mr. Alfred Nolan, the school-master, was paid £80 a year and he lived next door to the school. Children paid 2d..

13

Retrace your footsteps and take the other fork until you are standing on the bridge over the A1.

The large house you can see behind the trees is Edgefield, the vicar's house in Victorian times. Next door is a caravan site for travellers.



14

Return a little way down the bridge and take the slip road to the right leading to the new houses.

As you walk along Walton's Lane (part of the old A1), you can see The Park and The Grange; modern housing developments. They are on the site of a large Georgian House in which Rastall Dickinson (the Notts. historian) once lived.

On the bend with the street lamp, take the path that is parallel to the sliproad of the A1.

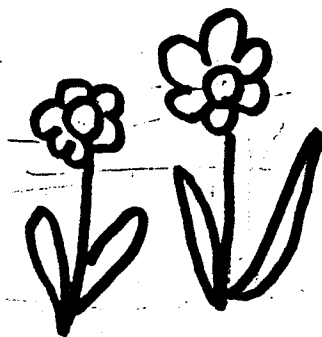
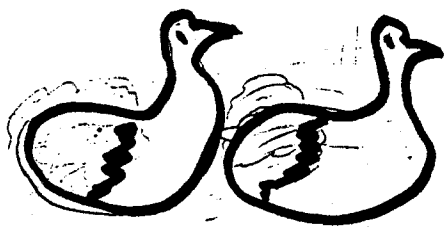


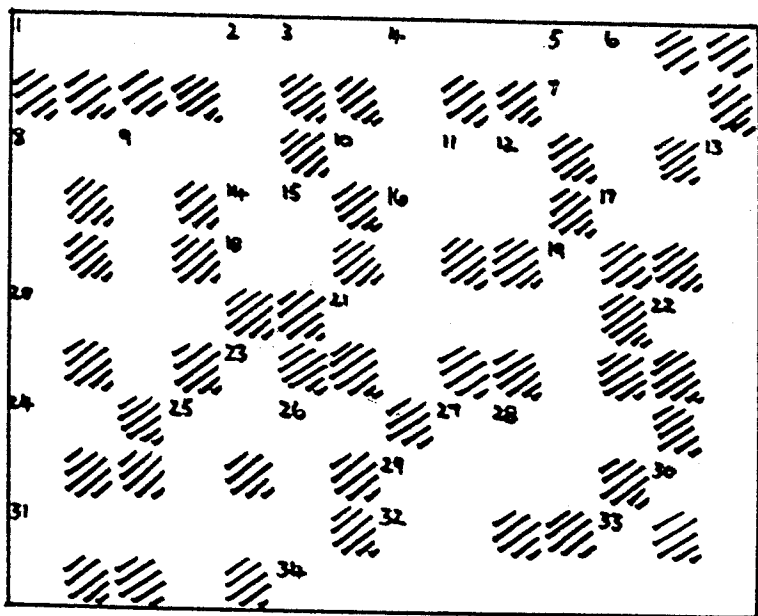
As your bear left, look right under the bridge over the new A1 and you will see the hord Nelson Pub. The road you are now on is Nelson's lane.

15 The playing field was developed by village effort, especially raising money at the Muskham Feast; an event in September that had lapsed but is now a highlight of community life.

16 Muskham School was built in 1965 and has about 140 children from the villages of N. Muskham, S. Muskham, Little Carlton, Baintrey and Fromwell. The children are aged five to eleven and afterwards go to a senior school in Newark.

We hope you have enjoyed the Village Trail and maybe you will want to discover more. The crossword will test your memory!





Across

- 1, & 3. where this trail is
- 7 a century
8. tap, stream or river
10. salmon, trout or pike
14. the clock is -- the church
16. Friesian, Jersey, Guernsey or Hereford
17. title for a man
18. Is there a railway station in the village?
20. Crab ----
21. it took you across the river
22. initials of Post Office
24. school is a part -- North Muskham
25. can be done in the Post Office and the Trent
27. the mansion of the Grange has ----
29. initials of lake, angling, fishing, agriculture
30. pronoun for Musca
31. you started and finished here
32. you've looked -- many styles of architecture
34. it used to be the Vicar's house

Down

2. a large river bird
4. a twitchel
5. the main road
6. tiny green plant on the church wall
8. the old school
9. it drains one-seventh of England
11. it sounds like what a dressmaker would do
12. initials of high water
13. early remains
15. Are there four pubs in the village now?
19. the old house called the Grange used to have this animal in its grounds before it was sent to a zoo
23. she had twenty-one children
25. a general store
26. sometimes wrongly called a water rat
27. don't leave one open
28. Church -- St Wilfred
29. Did you --- behind, going up the All bridge?
33. rhymes with tea that you might need now

The following pages are for
your own notes and drawings of
North Muskham.