

Description of the boundaries of Deadwen Clough in 1845

Patrick Stevens

A Few Notes Having Some Bearing on the History of the Borough of Rawtenstall.
pp 77-79

area: 767 acres, 1 rood, 6 poles

Grid references are at the point at the end of the description unless otherwise stated.

1. *'Commencing at a point at the north-east corner of the Railway Bridge, East Lancashire Railway on the south side of the River Irwell, This bridge is now removed with the closure of the line from Rawtenstall to Bacup; OS series 1 maps suggests it was at SD 811226*
2. *following the south bank of the said River Irwell to 'Cawl Top', Cawl top is marked on the 1st series OS 1:2500 at the weir over the Irwell at Dam Top, Cawl Terrace at SD 818227.*
3. *then crossing the river right angles and following the north bank to a point 170 feet beyond Clough Bridge (Cloughfold); SD 823 225.*
4. *crossing the River Irwell at right angles and following the south bank to Myrtle Grove aqueduct; SD Not sure whether this refers to the road or the railway bridge, there is no aqueduct as such. The railway bridge is at SD 825223 and the road bridge at SD 827223. I think it refers to the railway bridge as the next item makes more sense in this context.*
5. *proceeding in an easterly direction across Hare Holme to a point at the junction of a wall with the River Irwell; From the railway bridge, this cuts across a neck of land to rejoin the river, which takes a northwards loop at this point. The boundary rejoins the river at SD 827222 if a east course is taken.*
6. *thence following the south bank to a point immediately opposite from the south-west corner of Baltic Mill; Baltic Mill was demolished in the 1990s and its site is now a housing development. The 1908 OS map indicates this point was at SD 833 219.*
7. *thence following the exterior of the western wall of the said mill and proceeding in a north-easterly direction along the reservoir adjoining the said Mill crossing Burnley Road and meeting the Whitewell Brook; The Mill has been demolished and the reservoir is drained or underground. The 1908 OS map indicates SD 834220.*
8. *thence proceeding for a distance of 430 feet along the west bank of the said brook and passing in a north-easterly direction through Mill End to meet the western bank of Whitewell Brook; This implies that the boundary leaves the river bank but the 430 feet mark isn't feasible to pace now. I suspect it leaves the river at Gaghills Road SD 835221 and rejoins at Bridge St, Mill End SD 836222.*
9. *thence following the said western bank to a point at the north-east of the reservoir at Mill End; Again the reservoir is no longer visible but the 1908 OS map indicates SD838213.*

10. *thence proceeding at right angles to the centre of the Whitewell brook.*
Pretty much the same grid reference
11. *and following the said centre to a point at Whitewell Bottom opposite the approach to Height Top;* It doesn't help that the next farm to the north is called Top o' th' Height. SD 835235.
12. *thence for 420 feet following the north boundary of the said approach to Height Top;* This turns off the approach to Height Top beyond the lower farm, which didn't have a nameplate, SD 834234
13. *thence proceeding along the east side of a wall for a distance of 800 feet;*
The 1st series OS map shows this boundary going to the north of Height Top. It is difficult to be certain that the modern field boundaries follow the old ones, also rights of way limit exploring. SD 834238
14. *thence turning at right angles and proceeding along a wall to Saunder Height Lane;* SD 832238
15. *thence following the east side of said lane for a distance of 220 feet;*
Helpfully it doesn't indicate whether to follow Saunder Height Lane to the north or the south. The sweep of the field boundaries on aerial images, the following reference to Isle of Sky and the 1st series OS map suggest to the south. SD 832237.
16. *thence crossing said lane at right angles and proceeding in a north-westerly direction along field walls to a point at the junction of Meadow Head Lane with the approach to Isle of Sky farm;* The old field walls do not survive and their courses are not readily traceable on the ground. Isle of Sky does not survive either but the OS 1st series suggests it was located at SD 825243. The approach road appears to join the Meadow Head lane at SD 825242.
17. *thence crossing Meadow Head Lane and proceeding along west side of said lane a distance of 250 feet;* Helpfully the document does not state whether this is to the north or the south. A combination of the modern and OS map and satellite imagery suggests to the north, in which case SD 826243.
18. *thence following a wall in a south-westerly direction for a distance of 160 feet;* Probably SD 825242.
19. *thence turning in a north-westerly direction and following a wall a distance of 475 feet;* Probably SD 823244 .
20. *thence proceeding in a south-westerly direction along field walls to a point on the east side of Chapel Hill Lane at the junction of the north wall of Lower Chapel Hill farmyard.* Lower Chapel Hill Farm is on Hurst Lane not Chapel Hill Lane, which it to the north. Higher Chapel Hill Farm is on Chapel Hill Lane but the subsequent instructions do not make sense if this is used. There is an existing field boundary which makes an arc from the above point towards Lower Chapel Hill Farm and their extrapolation will meet this farm, but it hasn't been possible to retrace these on the ground. The north part of Lower Chapel Hill Farm meets Hurst Lane at SD 817236.
21. *and proceeding along the said wall in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 350 feet;* SD 816237
22. *thence proceeding in a north-easterly direction along a wall for a distance of 320 feet;* I haven't been able to trace this wall on the ground, the 1st series OS suggests SD 818236

23. *thence turning in a south-easterly direction and proceeding along a wall to Waingate Lane; SD 819235.*
24. *thence following the centre of the said land to Waingate; SD 818233.*
25. *thence turning at right angles and following the north side of the path to meet Chapel Hill Lane; Right angles from Waingate (to the north west, which is where the path goes) will meet Hurst Lane at SD 817233.*
26. *thence proceeding along the south bank of a brook to a point 130 feet from its junction with a stream called Limy Water; This brook is not extant now but the 1st series OS map shows it running along what is now the southern border of the cemetery, meeting the Limy just north of Tup Bridge. The point just before this would be at approx. SD 812232*
27. *thence turning in a south-easterly direction and crossing the Haslingden and Todmorden Trust Road to meet the bank of the reservoir of Rawtenstall Higher Mill; The Haslingden and Todmorden turnpike is now Newchurch Road. Higher Mill is now a housing development named after the Whitehead brothers, the mill owner. The reservoir no longer exists but the 1908 OS map indicates SD 813231.*
28. *thence crossing the said Trust Road and proceeding in the rear of the houses on the north side of the said Road to a point in the centre of Waingate Lane where Balladen Clough Brook meets said Lane; The route has been blocked by a new development but the brook meets Waingate Lane at SD 817232.*
29. *thence turning and proceeding in a south-easterly direction to meet the west side of a field approach near Plantation House; Plantation House is shown on the 1st series OS map 1:10.000 at SD 820229.*
30. *thence following west side of said approach, crossing the Haslingden and Todmorden Trust Road and meeting a wall near Green Bank Cottage; From the 1st series OS, south to SD 819229*
31. *thence turning in a westerly direction and following walls to a point in the centre of the Burnley and Edenfield Trust Road; The main road in 1845 is now Bank Street. The 1st series OS suggests that the boundary skirts Greenbank to the south at SD 819228 the west to meet the road at SD 812229.*
32. *thence following the centre of the said Road to a point near Lower Turnpike; Lower Turnpike is shown on the 1st series 1:10000 OS map as being where the Limey passes under Bank St, SD 811228.*
33. *thence proceeding by the rear of the said Turnpike to a point in the centre of Limy water; SD 811228*
34. *thence proceeding along the centre of said Limy water to the central point of a bridge carrying the Stacksteads and Laneside Branch of the Haslingden and Todmorden Trust Road over said Limy Water; Now Bacup Road, SD 812232*
35. *thence proceeding along the central line of said Trust road to its junction with the Burnley and Edenfield Trust Road; Now Bury Road, SD 811232*
36. *thence following the central line of the said Burnley and Edenfield Trust Road to a point opposite the greenhouse of Newhall Hey House; Newhall Hey House was situated at the south west side of the Queen's Square roundabout, near to the location of the fire station. SD 810225.*
37. *thence turning in a south-westerly direction to meet the north-east corner of the railway bridge, being the point of commencement. SD 811226*

NB An area comprising farmlands at Height Side, Edge Cote, Cote Doals and Meadow Head and entirely enclosed within the area described above forms part of a detached portion of the Parish of Lower Booths.'

[it is interesting that Deadwencloough has been regarded as a distinct entity for about 450 years before this was written, yet it is described largely in terms of structures built in the early 18th century.]

See the OS 1st series 1:10 000

<http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/agsmario/default.aspx?point=382373:422898:500>