

## Leg 12 – Roof of England Walk

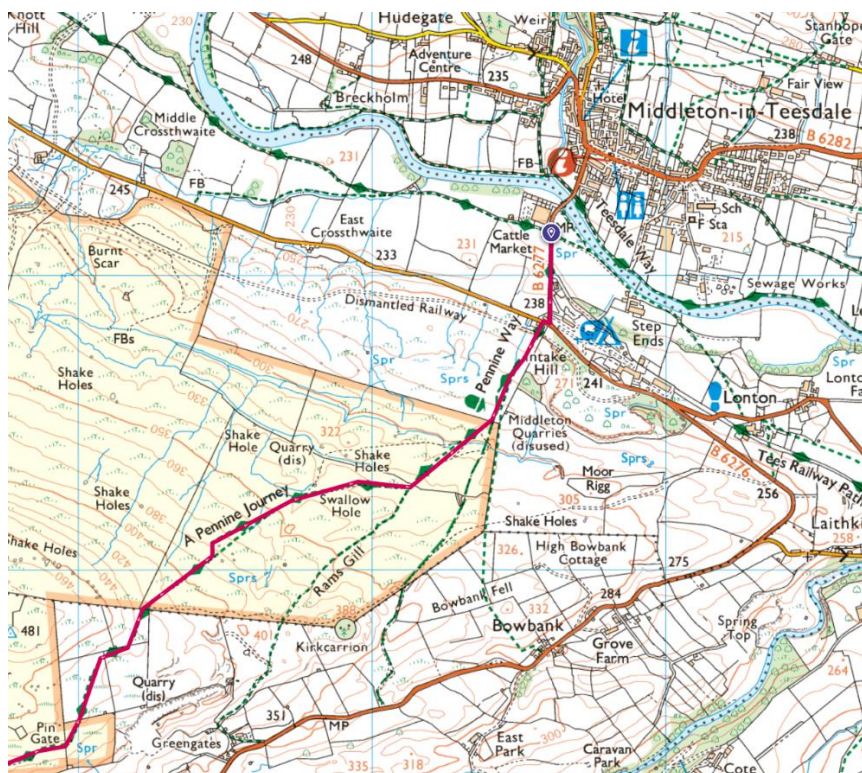
### Leg 12: Middleton-in-Teesdale to Tan Hill Inn – Directions

Length	Ascent	Time	Version	Updated
26.5km (16.5 miles)*	805m (2,641ft)*	08:13*	1.1	27/04/25

\*Using OS Maps (online)

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OS maps for Leg 12: Explorer – OL31 (E) and OL30 (N); Landranger – 92.  
The route is shown on the maps as a thin **red line**.

**A:**



Leg 12 shares the route of the **Pennine Way National Trail** between Middleton-in-Teesdale (NY 94610 25144 and [///stood.gent.lucky](http://stood.gent.lucky)) and Tan Hill Inn (NY 89704 06682 and [///span.active.slant](http://span.active.slant)).

At the road (B6277) turn right - uphill. At the sharp left hand bend turn right onto the minor road, signed – Holwick 3. Almost immediately turn left, through a wooden field gate, onto the uphill track – signed ‘Pennine Way – Wythes Hill 2¼ miles’. Go straight over the track (dismantled railway) which contours round the hillside and continue uphill on the stone/grass track. Follow the track as it winds uphill to a field gate.

Go through the field gate in the drystone wall and bear right uphill, still on the grassy track. After a short distance, a stony track bears left – continue to bear right on the grassy track. At the top of the field, cross the stile and turn right to follow the faint path round the hillside, to the right of a shallow stream feature.

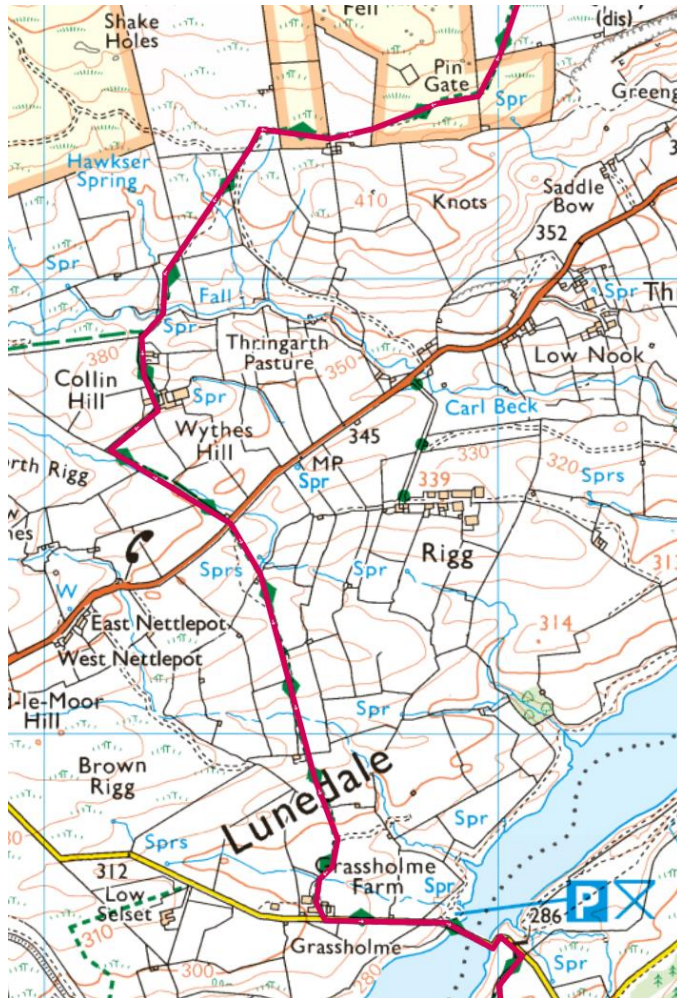
After a while, the faint path becomes more defined and turns into a track again. Follow it as it descends into a shallow dry valley and bear left uphill with the dry valley on your left. Shortly contour round the slope and pick up some cairns marking a faint uphill path. Follow this uphill to a stone wall.

Go through the gate in the wall and cross the small field. At the next wall, go through the gateway, and turn right, keeping the wall on your right. Cross the corner of the field, go through the wall gap and diagonally cross the next field. Cross the line of the tumbled down wall to be greeted by views of Lunedale.



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**B:**



Continue ahead, bearing right to cut the corner off the field and through another gate. Continue ahead on the path/track, contouring across the field. Go through the gap in the next wall and cross two narrow fields straight ahead. After the second field pick up the stone track.

After a short distance turn left over a stone step stile and follow the track downhill. In 50m leave the track, bearing right, going through a gap in the wall. Follow the path, diagonally across the field, to the far corner. Cross the stile and bear left, downhill, across the next field, heading towards the buildings. Go through a gate and pick up a stone track between walls. Follow the track through the farm down to the B6276 in Lunedale.

Go straight across the road (care!) and continue following the faint path downhill – signed 'Pennine Way – Grassholme Farm ½ mile'. Initially bear right to cross a boggy patch, via some stepping stones. Pass to the right of the ruined building.

Climb up the slope and cross the stone step stile in the corner of the wall (next to a white bathtub) and cross the next (long, thin) field with the wall on your right. With the stone barn on your right, go through the gap in the stone wall, cross a stile, and head straight across the next field to another stone step stile.

Cross the stile and continue ahead, turn right on the farm track, and follow it through Grassholme Farm. At the minor road turn left signed – 'Pennine Way: Blackton Bridge 2¾ miles'. Pass the small picnic area on your left and cross the road bridge over Grassholme Reservoir. At the other side continue steeply on the road.

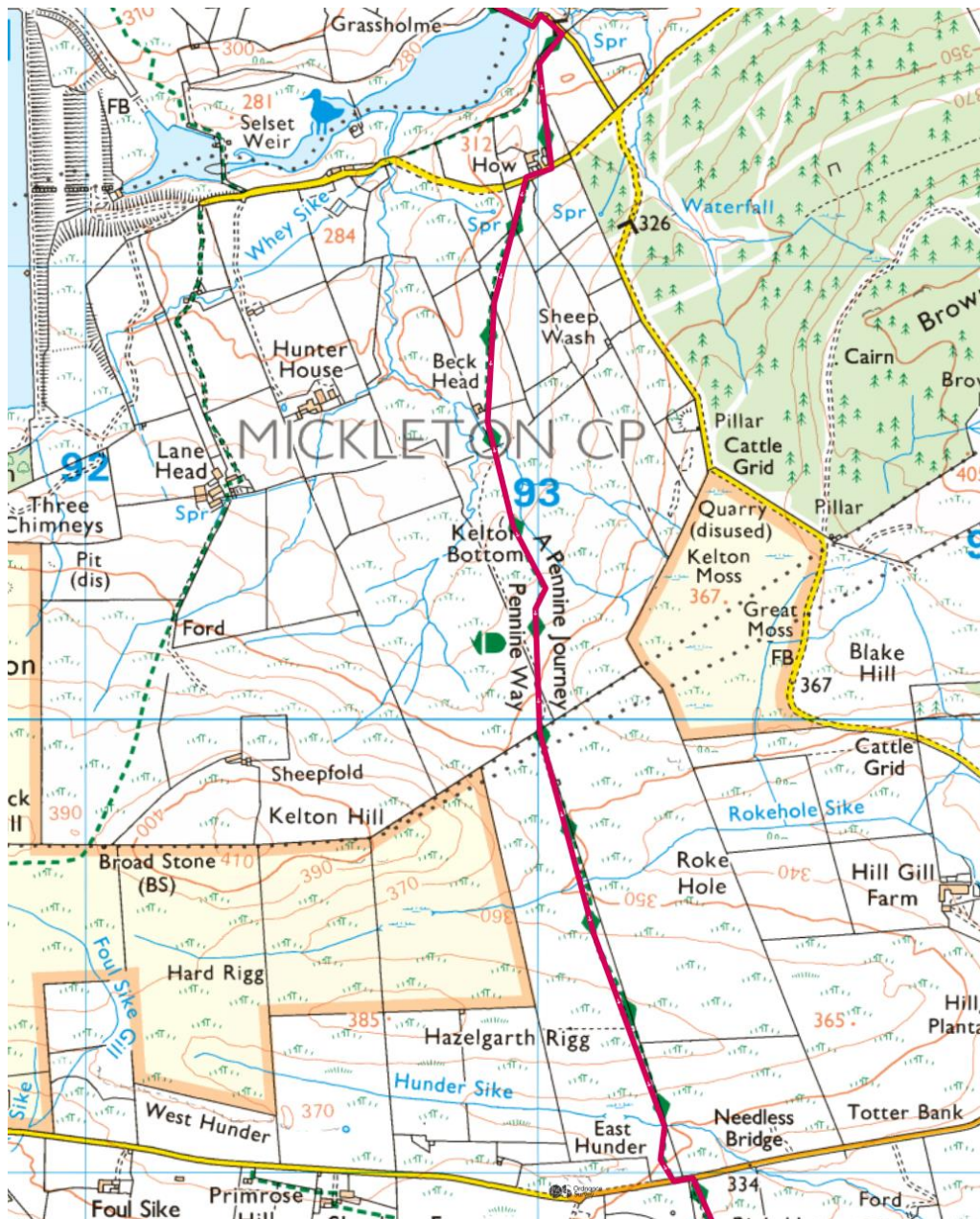
Just beyond the bend go through the gap in the wall and immediately turn right, to cross a stone step stile.





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C:



Go across the small field, wall on your right, and cross a second stile. Turn left, uphill, following the stone wall. Shortly pass through a small wooden gate and go through some trees. On the far side of the trees cross a fence and head to the left of the farm. At the road turn right. After the farm turn left, through a gate signed 'Pennine Way – Blackton Bridge 2¼ miles', and head diagonally across the narrow field to a further gate.

Cross the corner of the next field. At the gate head just to the left of the building in the far corner of the field.

Cross the stone step stile just on the left of the buildings at Beck Head. Cross the small field to a wooden field gate. Continue ahead, across rough boggy ground, heading to a waymark post. Then bear slightly right – heading towards the fence/wall in the distance. Cross the stile over the wall and then the tiny, triangular field to another stile. Continue ahead with the stone wall, on your left. Follow the wall until you reach a minor road.

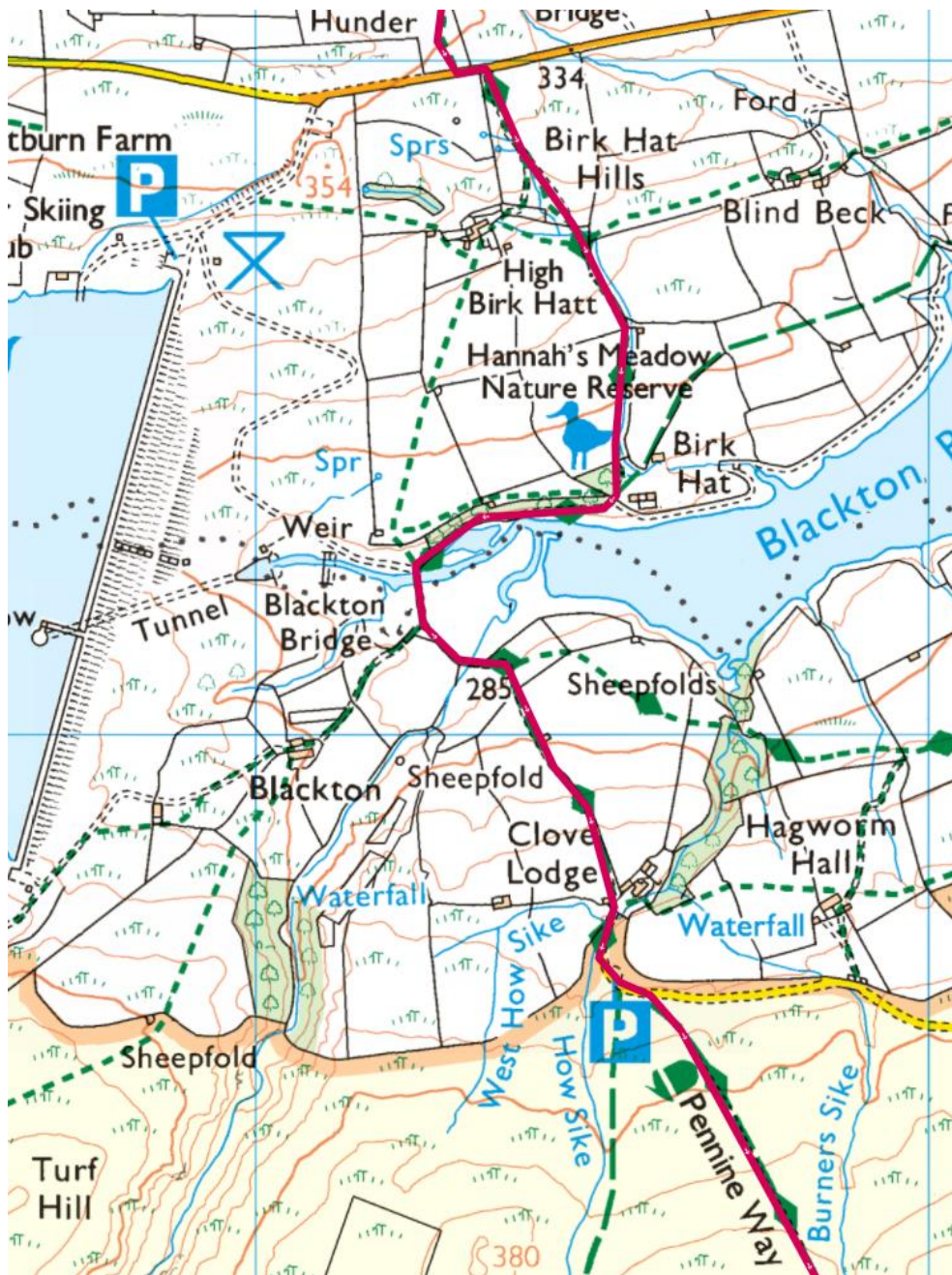
At the road turn left and, after 50m, turn right – signed 'Pennine Way: Clove Lodge 1 mile', onto the downhill access road.





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D:



Enter Durham Wildlife Trust's Hannah's Meadow Nature Reserve (information board on gate).  
At the fork with the track, bear left, still following the tarmac.

Immediately after the cattle grid detour right to follow the short boardwalk to the barn – which houses a small exhibition about the reserve. Return to the tarmac and continue downhill.

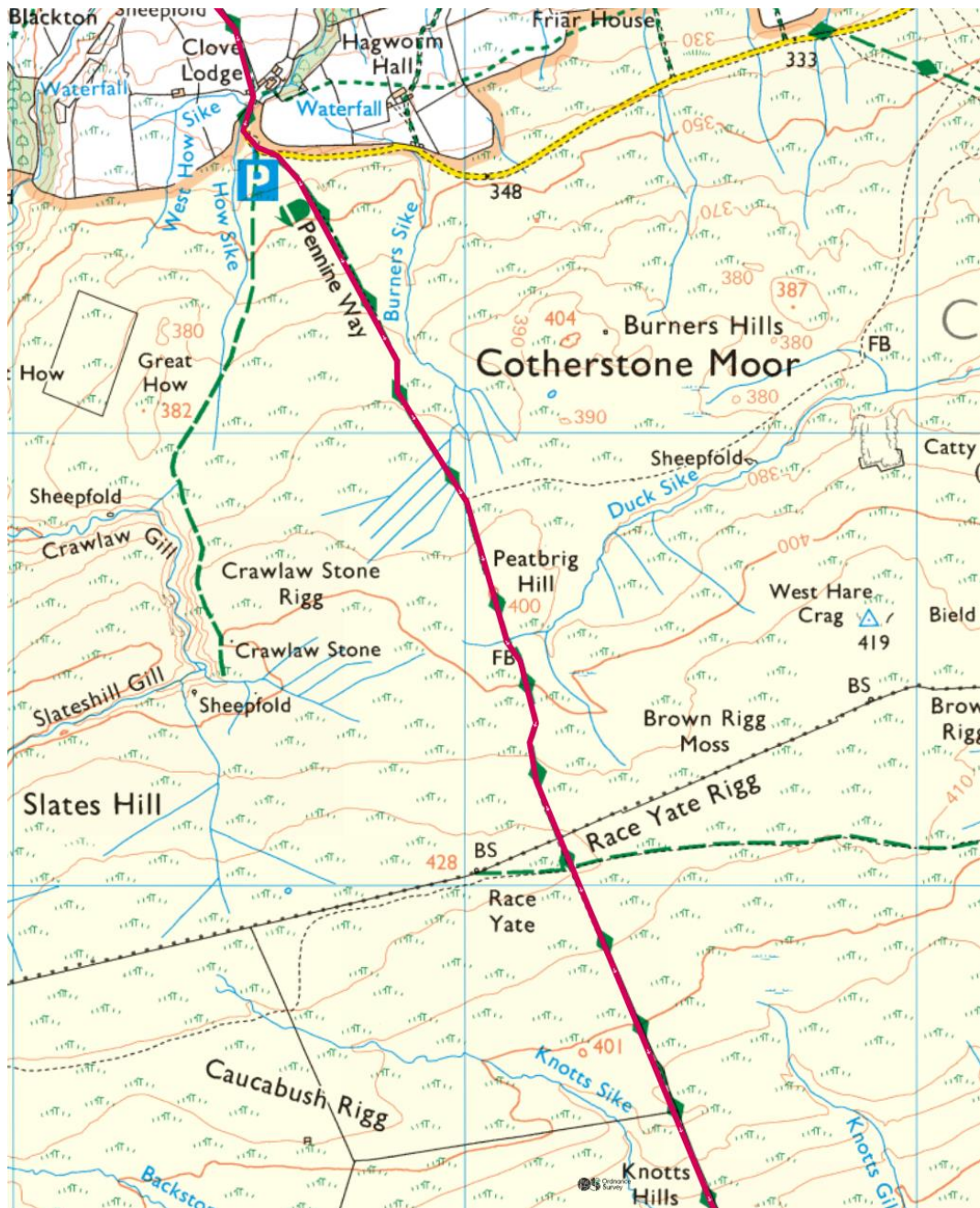
When you reach the bottom of the hill at Low Birk Hat (Hannah's former home) turn right (signed 'Pennine Way') and go through a metal gate. Bear right along the downhill track, with Blackton Reservoir on your left. Cross Blackton Bridge at the end of the reservoir and follow the stone track ahead all the way to the road end at Clove Lodge.

Note the alternative 'Bowes Loop' peeling off just south of Blackton Bridge at NY 93373 18102.



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E:



Follow the track past Clove Lodge (on your left) and follow the tarmac road. Go past the small parking area and just after the bend turn right (signed 'Pennine Way – Pastures End 3 $\frac{1}{3}$  miles') onto the path across the open moor. The path is indistinct in places – head to the right of the grassy hill and towards a wooden waymarker post.

At the first waymarker post continue ahead to another one on the horizon, keeping the small stream Burners Sike) on your left. At the next waymarker post continue across the moor on the indistinct path – a further post is just visible on the horizon. When you reach it continue ahead across the moor to the fence line in the distance.

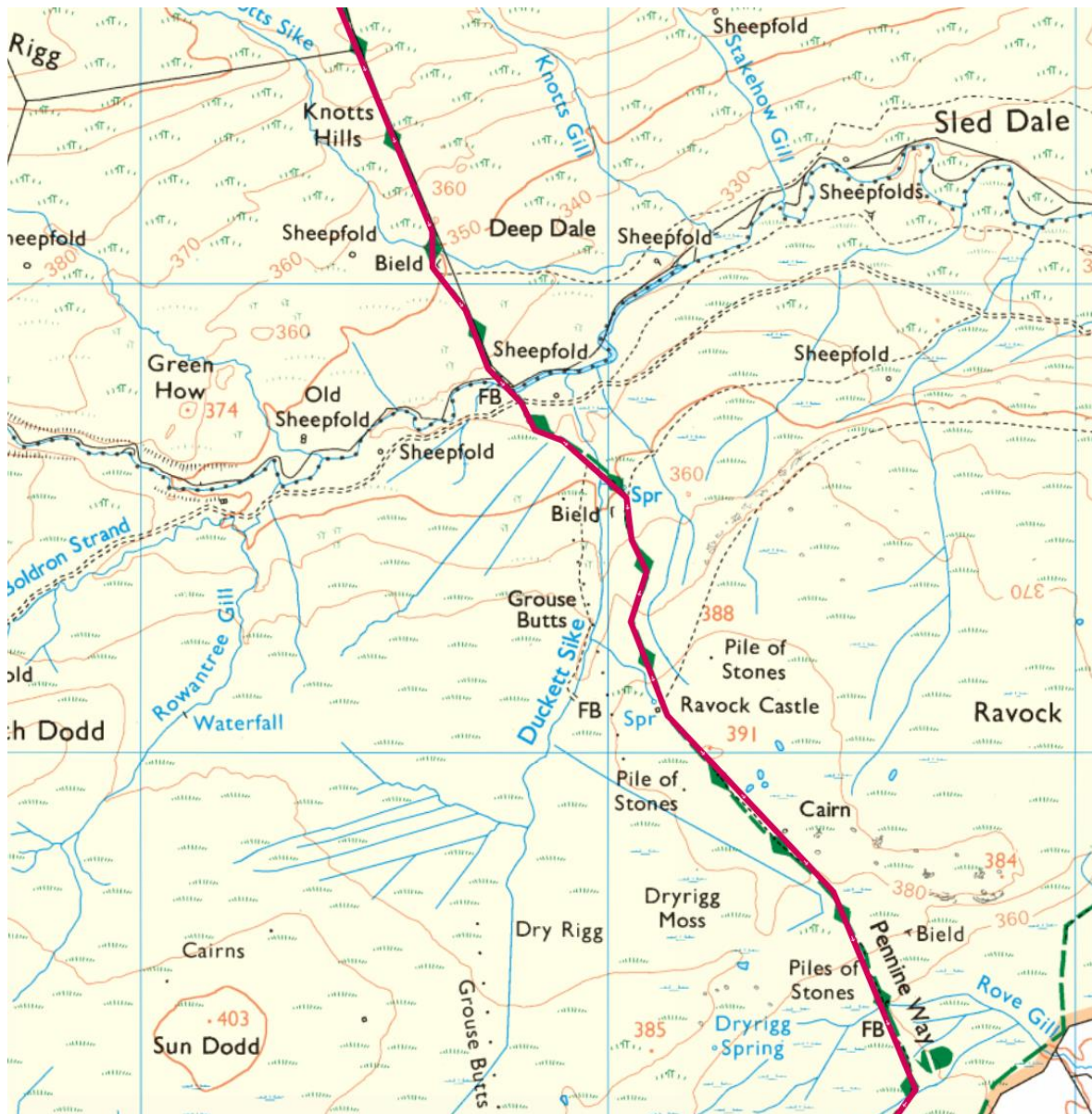
Cross the stile/go through the bridle gate and continue straight ahead with the drystone wall on your left. Go through the gate and continue ahead.





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F:



Continue ahead, downhill, keeping the wall on your left.

After a short distance cross the stream, just downstream from the circular sheepfold. Continue ahead, crossing a footbridge over Deepdale Beck. Cross over the stone track by the black hut (walkers shelter at one end) and follow the grassy path ahead, initially heading to the small cairn and then bearing left, keeping the drainage channel on your right.

Cross Duckett Sike, using the stepping stones and bear right, uphill. Pass a waymark post and continue to bear right, across the open moor. At the first fork, bear left up towards a small cairn. Continue bearing right again.

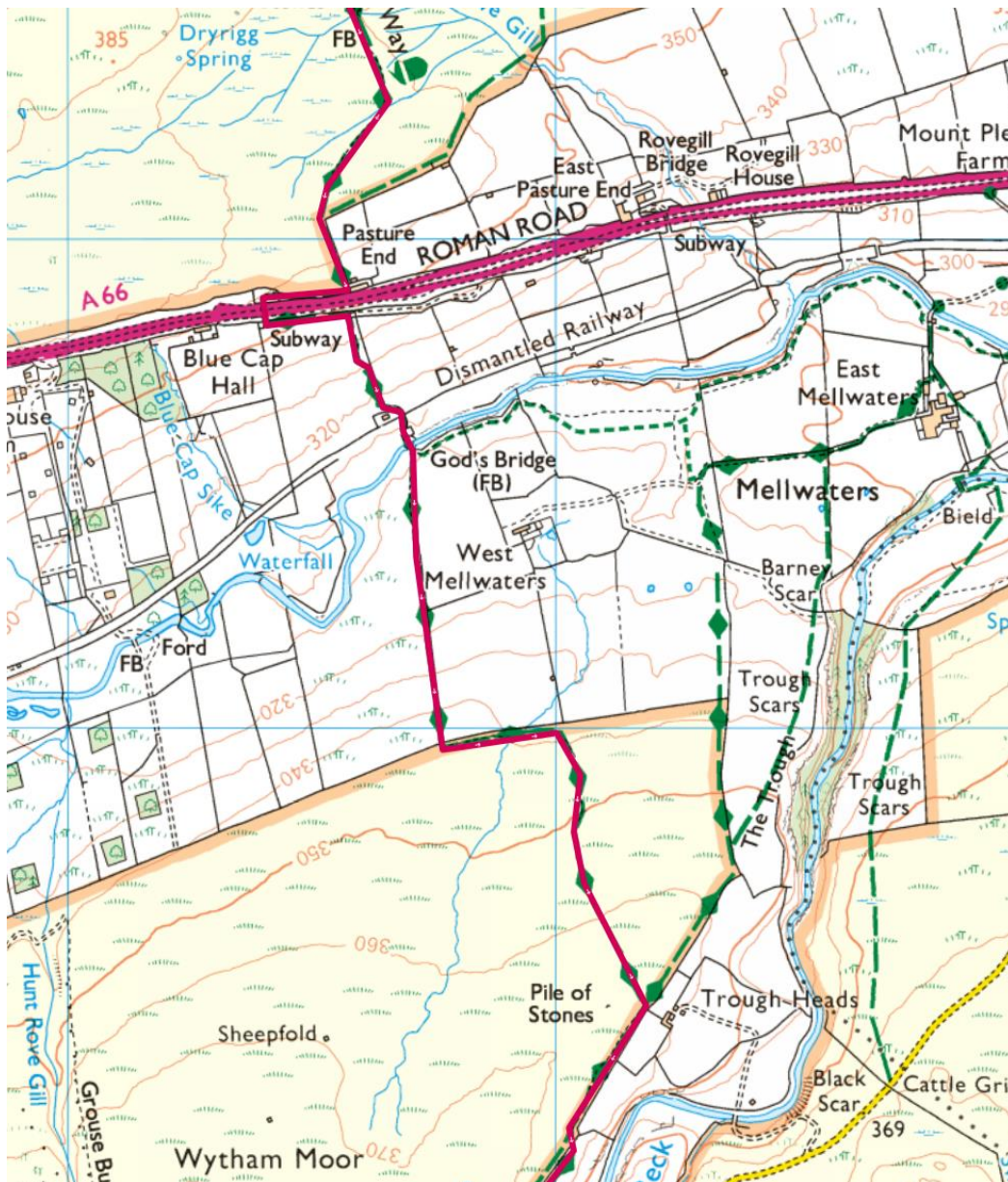
At the larger cairn continue straight ahead, over the open moor. Follow the small cairns across the moor, heading ever closer to the roar of the A66.

Cross the small wooden footbridge over Rove Gill and continue ahead, slightly uphill now. Just beyond a pile of stones cross the stream/boggy area.



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G:



Bear right across the moor to join the corner of the wall at Pasture End.

Head down to the A66, with the wall on your left. When you reach the road turn right and after 200m go through the underpass. On the other side turn left.

When you reach the track (before the cattle grid) turn right and follow it downhill, towards the house, signed 'Pennine Way – God's Bridge ¼ mile' Cross God's Bridge (natural limestone bridge over the River Greta). Climb uphill, keeping the wall on your left.

Go through the bridle gate and turn left, following the grassy path alongside the wall, on your left. After about 250m, turn right at the waymark post and cross the moor on the feint path, following the waymark posts.

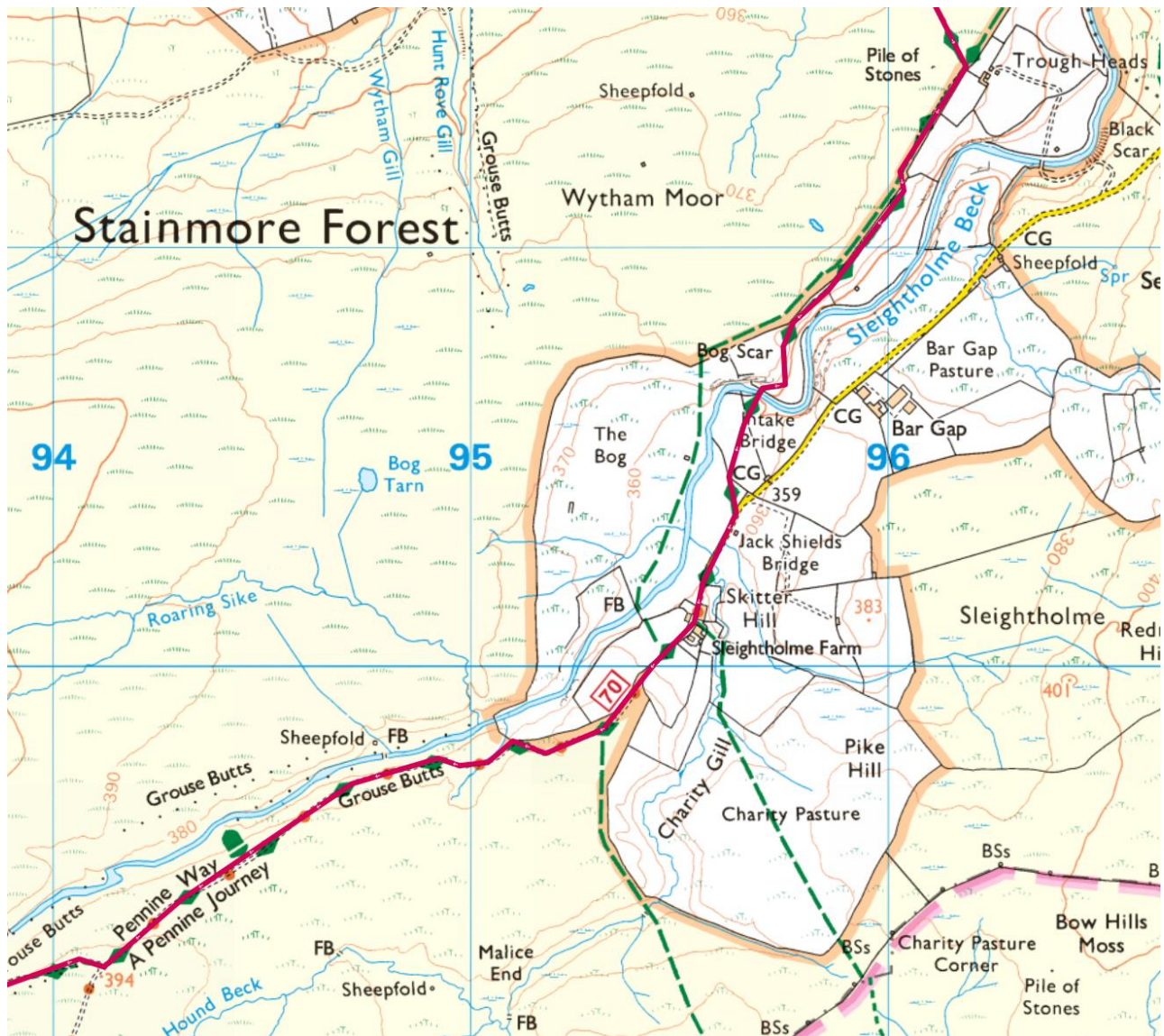
When you reach the wall (at Trough Heads) on the other side of the moor, turn right, keeping the wall on your left. Note that the alternative route, 'Bowes Loop', rejoins the main Pennine Way here (NY 96186 11431).





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H:



Follow the indistinct rough path, keeping the drystone wall on your left. After a short distance (c300m) bear left and go through a wooden gate in the wall. Turn right and follow the rough path, with the wall now on your right.

Just after a clump of trees on your left, bear left, crossing a flat area of ground. Descend to cross a footbridge (Intake Bridge) over Sleightholme Beck.

On the other side of the bridge, cross the corner of the field and go through a wooden bridle gate. Walk diagonally across the next field and through another wooden gate. Head across the corner of the next field, aiming for a gate just to the left of a building.

Turn right on the lane, signed 'Pennine Way - Tan Hill 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles'. Pass Sleightholme Farm, on your left, and continue following the uphill track.

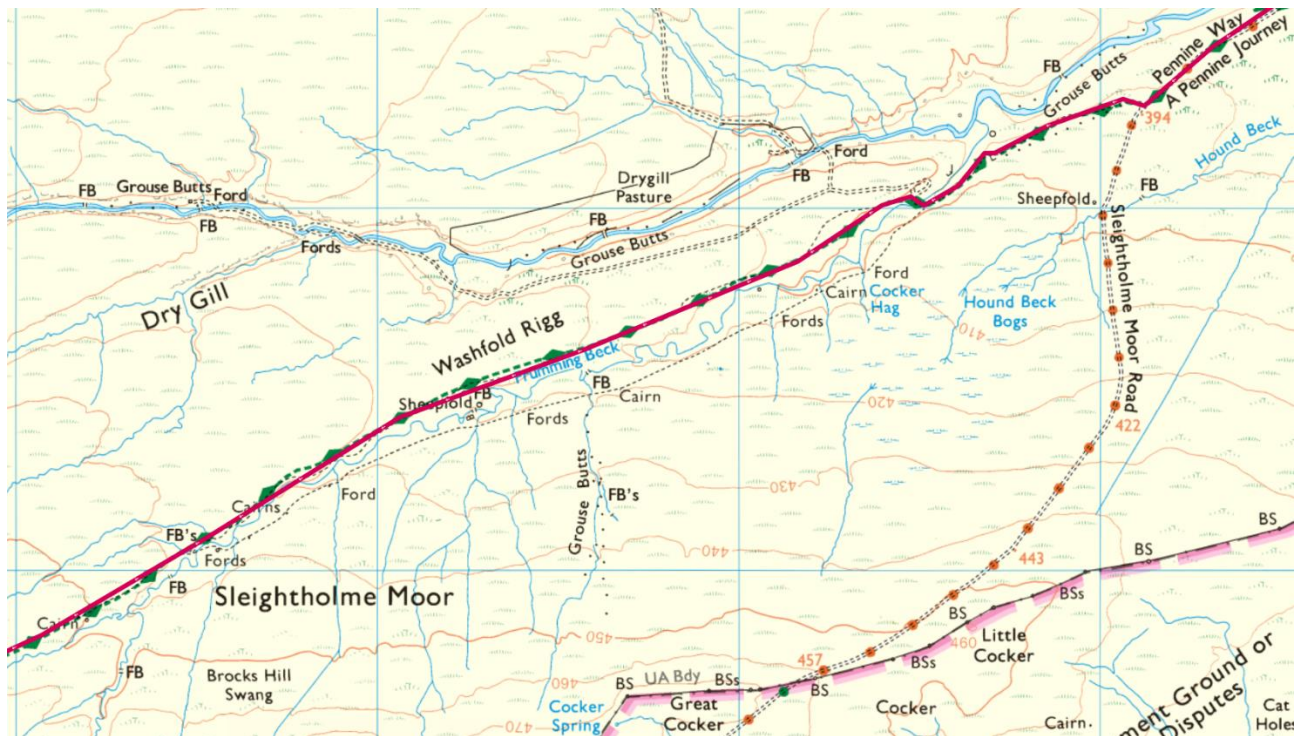
After following the track for 1.6km you will reach a junction. Take the righthand fork (signed 'Pennine Way - Tan Hill 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles').





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I:



After a further 700m following the stone track, drop down slightly to cross a green metal bridge. Immediately after the bridge bear left, leaving the track, to follow a grassy footpath, with the Frumming Beck on your left. In foggy conditions use map and compass to ensure that you stay on the right track.

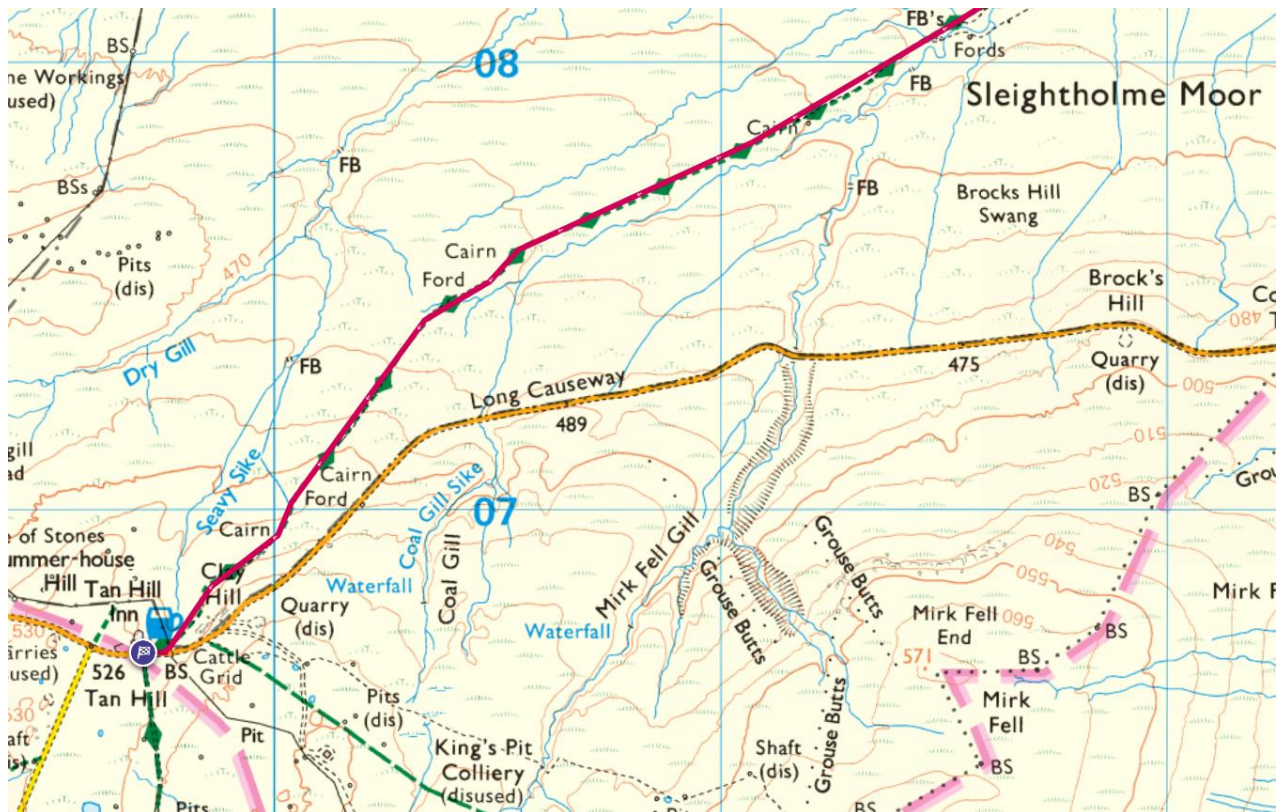
After a kilometre you will pass two sheepfolds on your left. Continue over a short boardwalk, still following the grassy path across the moor. As you gradually gain height the path becomes increasingly boggy.

After a while you will pass a cairn on the right side of the path. Continue ahead on the boggy path.



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J:



Keep following the boggy path as it bears left – following the white-tipped marker posts. In foggy conditions you would be advised to use map and compass work to ensure that you are on the right track.

Eventually you will reach the Tan Hill Inn. Go through the kissing gate and turn right on the road.

Leg 12 finishes in front of the Inn – the highest in Britain.

**Roof of England Walk** – a journey around the North Pennines. This is Leg 12 (of 14) of this multi-day 301km (188 mile) route. The whole trail takes you on a fantastic journey exploring the North Pennines National Landscape and UNESCO Global Geopark. Find out more at [www.roofofenglandwalk.org.uk](http://www.roofofenglandwalk.org.uk)