

THE PUDDLE STONES

WHETSTONE GATE WIRELESS STATION, ROMBALDS MOOR

An inspiring, relatively level walk, high on wild moorland.

TIME TAKEN 15 minutes each way.

DISTANCE 1km/0.7 miles each way.

ACCESS A sandy and flagged path across moorland. Not suitable for wheelchair users or buggies. Determined pushers might make it with an all-terrain type buggy.

REFRESHMENTS AND TOILETS

Pubs and cafés in Silsden and on the B6265.

Toilets: in Silsden.

For all details see Dew Stones walk.

GETTING THERE AND PARKING

Follow the directions from Silsden or Bradford for the Dew Stones. See page 3.

Instead of turning down Banks Lane, continue on the Silsden Road towards East Morton and Menston for another mile, until you come to the cross roads of Ilkley Road and Street Lane. (Map ref SE087432.)

Turn left here up Ilkley Road, which is marked 'Unsuitable for vehicles after 1¾ miles'. Follow this road through moorland to Whetstone Gate Wireless Station, where you will find an informal car park.

The Walk

As you stand in the car park looking towards the wireless masts, go through the main metal gate on your left.

Immediately turn right along what is currently a sandy path, although due to be flagged.

Walk up this path, passing the masts of the Wireless Station on your right.

Follow the path (now flagged) through the large scattered rocks on either side – some of these are known as the 'Thimble Stones'.

The path curves to the left and then to the right. Once it straightens out look for the **Puddle Stones**.

They are about 200 metres beyond the Thimble Stones. Look for a large round rock outcrop to your right. The **Puddle Stones** are two large slabs lying on the ground about 3 metres off the path.

About the Puddle Stones

"These gritstone pavers were reclaimed from an industrial site near Bolton. Originally quarried on the Yorkshire moors in the nineteenth century, and transported for mill-factory flooring, they have made their return journey, over a hundred years later, to rest on Rombalds Moor.

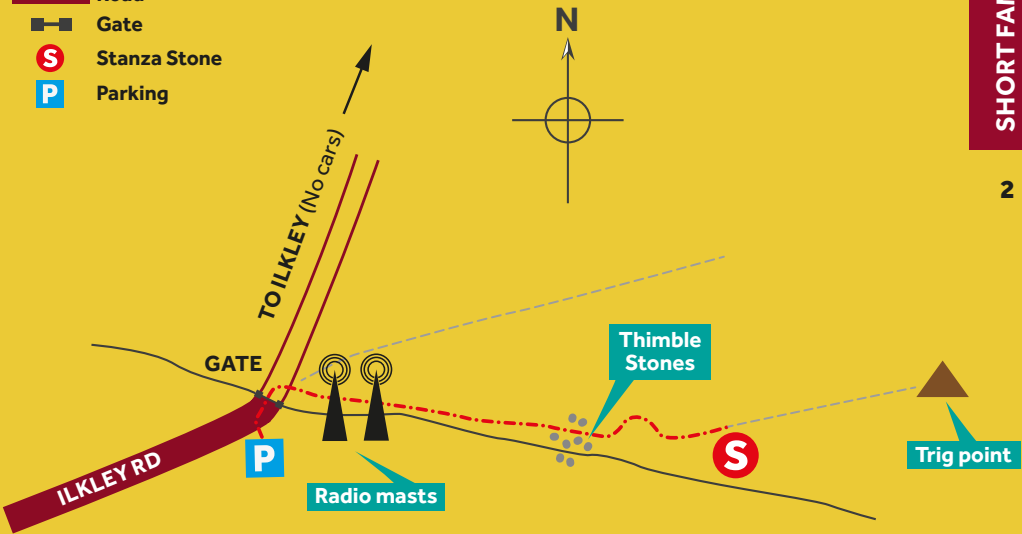
The holes cut in the stones still have rust in them, showing where iron machinery was once set. In places where the iron fixings wouldn't budge, they have been cut out, leaving rusty stumps. For a poem which begins 'Rain-junk', using these recycled stones seemed appropriate." **Pip Hall**

PUDDLE STONES WALK

2KM/1.4 MILES IN TOTAL

MAP KEY

- Stanza Stones Trail
- Footpath
- Road
- Gate
- S** Stanza Stone
- P** Parking



Some May mornings
Atlantic storm-horses
clatter this way ...

THE DEW STONES

RIVOCK EDGE, OFF THE SILSDEN TO EAST MORTON ROAD

REFRESHMENTS AND TOILETS

Plenty of pubs and cafés in Silsden and several family pubs on the B6265 at the bottom of Ilkley Road. National Trust café at East Riddlesden Hall. (www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

Toilets: Bridge Street, off Bolton Road Silsden, in the public car park in front of The Punch Bowl Inn.

GETTING THERE AND PARKING

From the A629 (Bradford-Skipton Road) take the A6034 to Silsden, a pretty town beside the Leeds Liverpool canal. Coming into Silsden go over the metal sided canal bridge and turn immediately right into Howden Road, marked 'Clog Bridge to Howden Road' on a gable end.

From the A65 (Leeds-Skipton Road) take the A6034 to Silsden. In Silsden, turn left into Howden Road as above, just **before** the metal sided bridge over the canal.

Follow this lane twisting through the countryside for 3 miles (5 minutes) until you come to a right hand turning, Banks Lane. (Map ref SE071438.)

For safe parking, turn down Banks Lane and park in the layby on your right hand side.

Alternatively

You can approach the same junction from the B6265. At the traffic lights at East Riddlesden Hall, turn right, from Bingley, or left from Keighley, up Granby Lane. Take the second left onto Banks Lane. Follow for 1 mile up the hill to the T-junction with Silsden Road.

Photo:
Gateway in
Rivock Edge
Forest where the
Dew Stones are
now installed.

