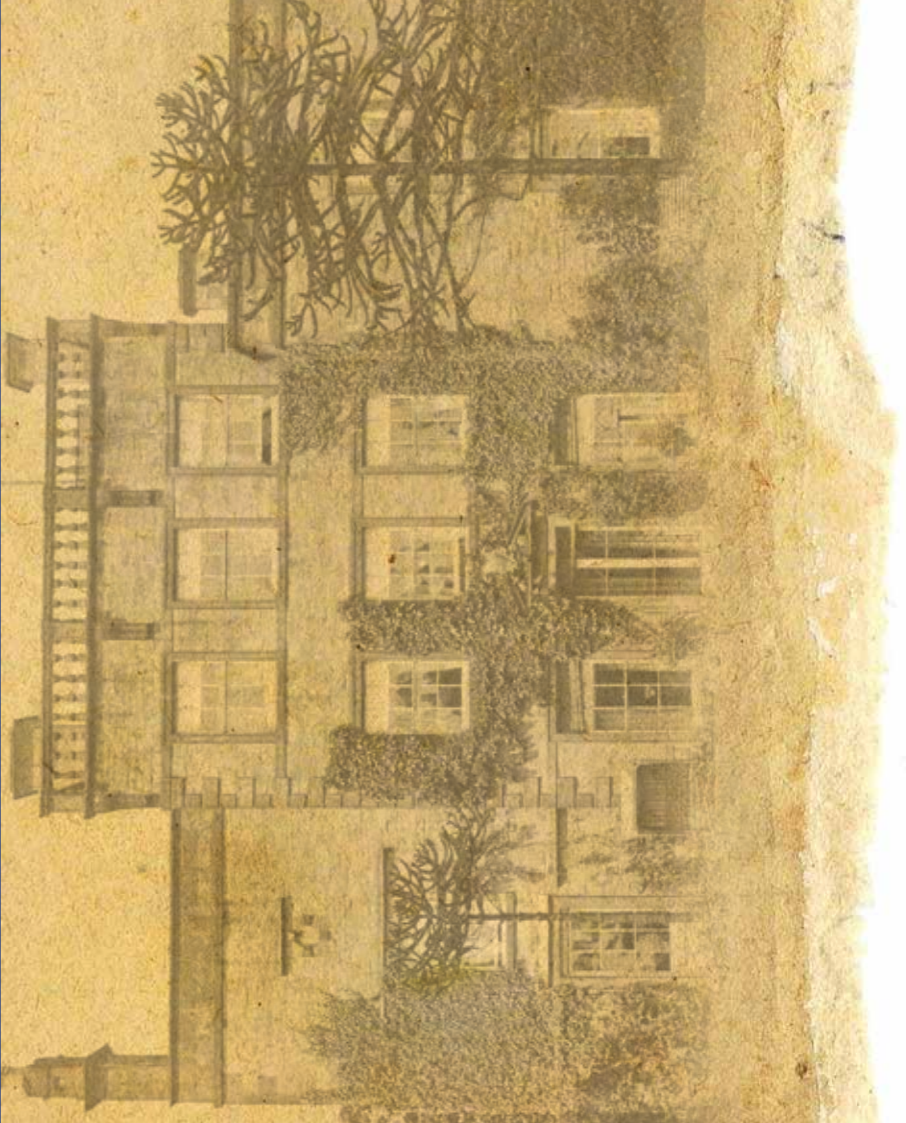




Mosborough History Meeting Group



Revealing a family's hidden industrial past around Mosborough

THE STANFORTH FAMILY HERITAGE WALK

#1 MOSBOROUGH WALKS

This self guided walk covers 5 miles of country views in the Moss Valley which were once home to thriving early industrial trades.

Allow 2.5 To 3.5 hours to complete the trail.

Suitable all-terrain footwear is advised as the walk takes in footpaths which can be muddy in places.

Stanforth is a familiar name in Mosborough but how far back does the family date from? The first mention of a Stanforth in the parish of Eckington can be found in Manor Court Rolls dating back to 15th April 1521, John and William 'Staneford'. From this date, there has always been a Stanforth presence in the parish or in the vicinity of North-East Derbyshire and due to the Sheffield boundary changes. In 1560, William Stannyforthe, son of Henry Stannyforthe of Heardynges was baptised at St. James in the neighbouring parish of Norton. William would take up the 'smithing' trade and move to Eckington where he would go on to have a number of sons, including Robert Stanforth and William. Many of the Stanforths were successful

'sicklesmiths', and industry established in the Moss Valley in the late Elizabethan period, apparently by a group of families which included the Stanforths. Sickles were hand tools used mainly in agriculture. Henry Stanforth owned a number of cottages on Mosborough Commons and at one point resided at Mosborough Hill House on Quarry Hill. Elijah Naboth Stanforth was another well-known inhabitant of Mosborough and it was believed he built the other Mosborough Hill House on Moor Valley around the 1830s. Luke Stanforth rented the Never-Fear Wheel, a water powered mill and dam with a pond next to the river in Moss Valley. The area to the bottom of Ridgeway known as Litfield also has a strong connection to



Below: An original scythe used to farm locally, situated on the original wall at the Staton's Sickle works, Moor Farm.

the family, with the Litfield farmhouse being passed down through generations. The Fitzwilliam Arms was run by a Thomas Stanforth. The Stanforths continued to have a presence in the local villages well into the 20th century, with many recent members of the family being buried in local cemeteries.



Search for Mosborough History Group on Facebook

www.mosboroughhistory.co.uk

Check out the website for details of more walks



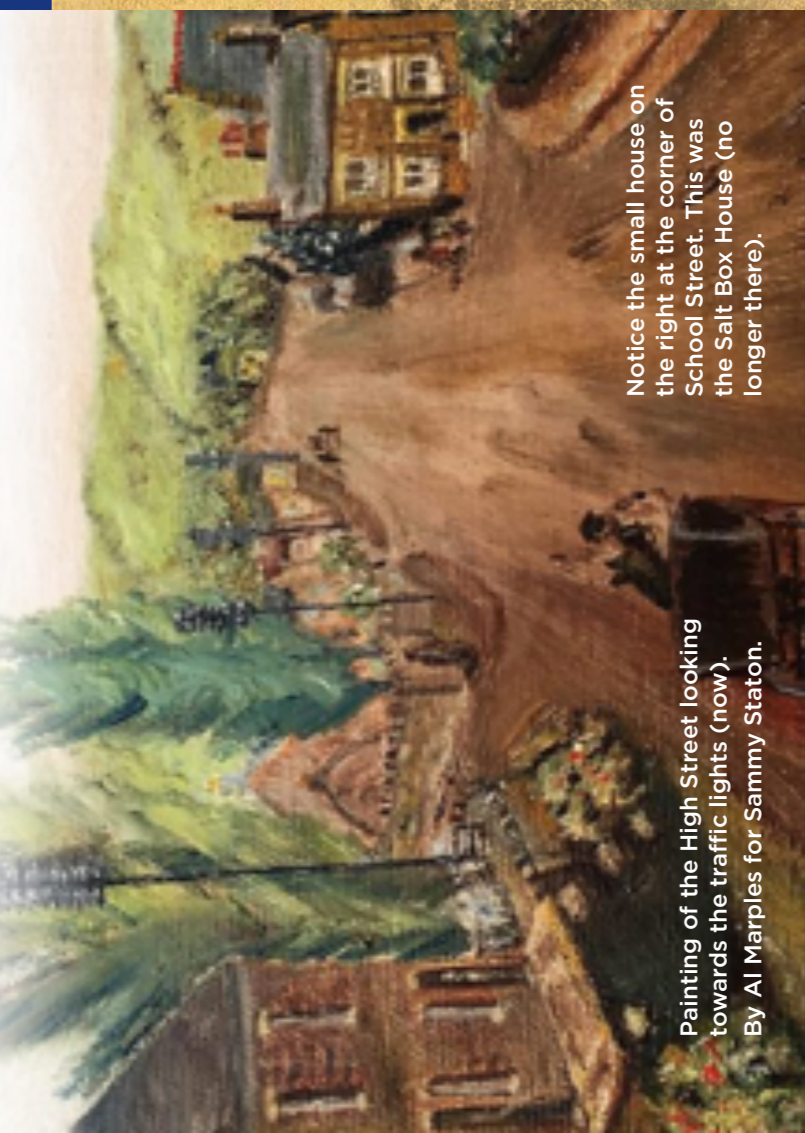
Parking for the walk can be easily found in the area around Mosborough.

For local bus details, visit www.travelsouthyorkshire.com



Notice the small house on the right at the corner of School Street. This was the Salt Box House (no longer there).

Painting of the High Street looking towards the traffic lights (now).
By Al Marples for Sammy Staton.



Take in the countryside views around Mosborough and discover fascinating facts about the Stanforths and their sickle making business.



FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE STANFORTH FAMILY AND THEIR SICKLE MAKING HERITAGE

THE STANFORTHS IN MOSBOROUGH

MOSBOROUGH HALL

Samuel Stanforth was baptised in 1751. When his father passed away in 1766, Samuel inherited Mosborough Hall amongst other properties at Brincliffe Edge.

Samuel was known more for his mines on the Mosborough Moor rather than sicklesmithing.

MOSBOROUGH HILL HOUSE

Elijah Naboth Stanforth baptised in 1790 (died 1842) was the son of Thomas Stanforth and Mary Bayley.

In 1816 Elijah married his first cousin Ann Stanforth. Ann was the daughter of William Stanforth, brother to Elijah's father, Thomas, and was a notable grocer whose sons and grandsons went on to run Tea shops and corn mills in Sheffield.

MOSBOROUGH MOOR

- leading down to Hackenthorpe.

After the death of Samuel Stanforth in 1812, there were no coal pits in Mosborough for several years. Coal was fetched either from Bramley Moor on the top end of Eckington; a good deal being carried in panniers across donkeys' backs.

Donkeys were also used to carry sickles, which were placed in pack saddles, to the grinding wheels. This method of carrying sickles continued in vogue until 1860.

Left: William Stanforth and son

John of Mosborough remembered in a plaque in St Peter & St Pauls Church, Eckington

Below: Baptism of William, son of Henry in 1560





4 GEERLANE FARM / SLOADE LANE / LITFIELD FARM

<http://staniforthfamily.com/Litfield.html>

Litfield Farm is located on Sloade Lane, Ridgeway. Numerous Staniforths and other families owned land in 'Lytfield' and 'Litfield' from the late 1500s onwards.

3 PLUMBLEY

The hamlet itself consists mainly of farmland, and historically farming along with sickle-smithing along the local brooks and streams would have been the main occupations in the area.

There was a Plumbley Hall here. An old tramway and quarry site are shown on 19th century maps in the Cadman Wood area.



5 PHOENIX WORKS, HIGH LANE

The Staniforth and Hutton families throughout the 19th and 20th centuries competed alongside each other selling their tools to countries around the world.

The Huttons operated out of the Phoenix Works at High Lane, Ridgeway and the Staniforths operated out of Hackenthorpe.

In 1822, the Phoenix Works were built at the High Lane location. It was opposite an open cast mine from which coal to fuel the steam boilers was readily available. During the first two years in the new building, the combined output had increased to a total of 50,500 items.



6 MOSBOROUGH HILL HOUSE / RIDGEWAY ARMS

Mosborough Hill House (pictured below).

The cannons were added at a later date by the Savage family.



7 GREENSIDE HOUSE AND HACKENTHORPE WORKS (on extended route)

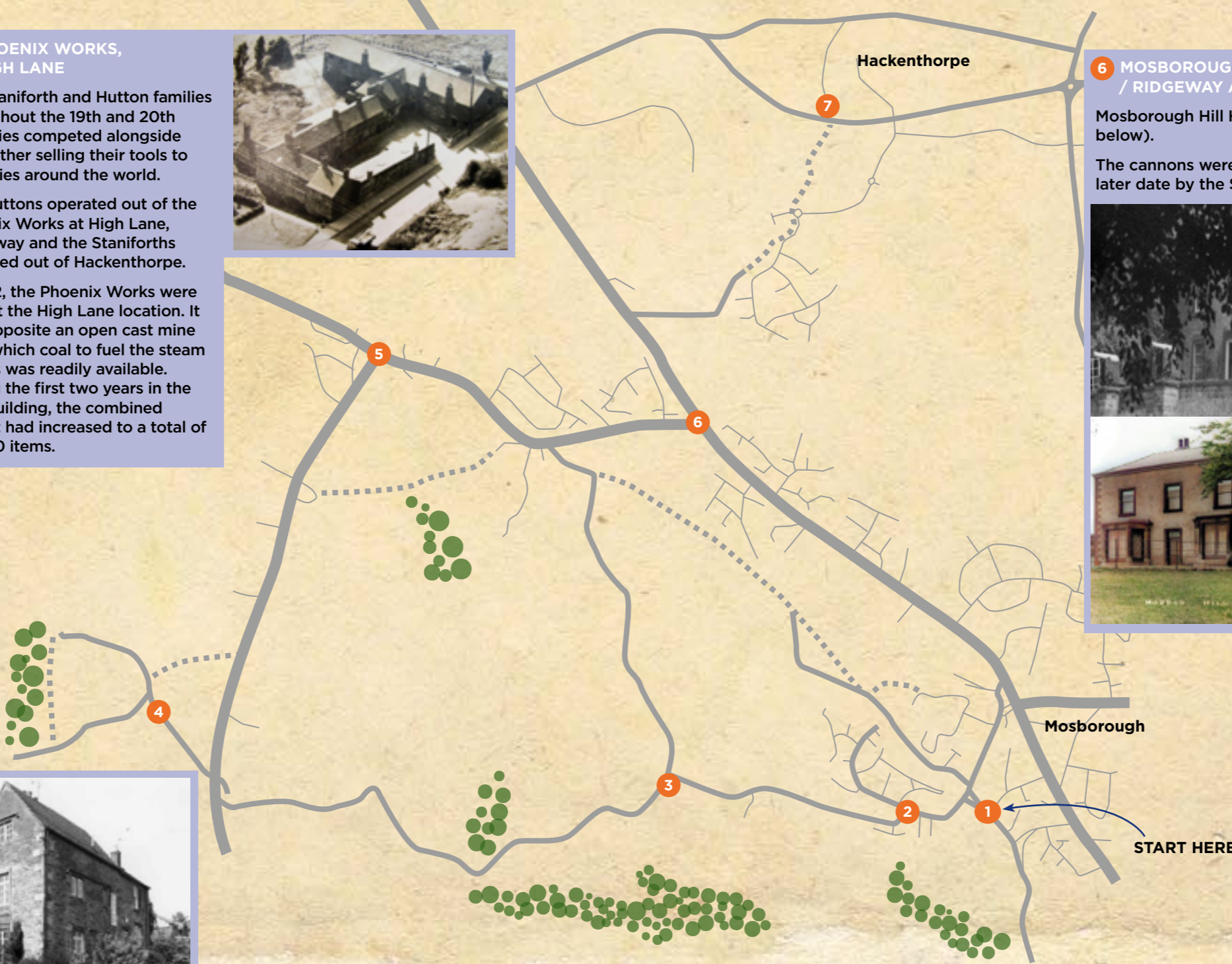
Thomas Staniforth & Co. was a sickle and scythe smithing business that stood on the corner of Main Street in the village of Hackenthorpe.

The brooks that flowed through Hackenthorpe, as well as the surrounding villages of Mosborough, Eckington and Ridgeway were vital for the sickle industry.

There were many water wheels and damns in the brooks.

Another reminder of the Staniforth's presence in Hackenthorpe is Greenside House. The house is mentioned in documents from the early 1700s.

<http://staniforthfamily.com/ThomasStaniforthCo.html>



1 Start at Chapel Street, the Mosborough Methodist Church on your right, pass the triangle land of Green known as "Lambicks".

2 Take the next left onto Plumbley Hall Road, go around the bend and turn next left up Plumbley Lane.

3 Passing Plumbley Lane Farm you enter a sunken road towards the hamlet of Plumbley. Follow the road past Bushes Wood until you reach a small ford. Continue to follow the road this will eventually reach Ridgeway.

4 Cross the road and walk slightly uphill and you will see Sloade Lane. Follow this down the hill until you reach ford crossing and bear left up the hill past Litfield Farm. Continue along the

bridleway. To the left is Birley Hay and Geerlane Farm where a small diversion to the trail can be made at Litfield farm. The path rejoins the road at Birley Hall and you should follow the road towards Geerlane Farm. Follow the path uphill back towards Ryall's Wood.

Rejoin the bridleway and walk towards the corner of Ryalls Wood. Go down the slope and turn right towards Sloade Lane once more.

Follow the lane back towards the ford crossing and back to the main road. Continue up the road past the church into the centre of Ridgeway. Near the Swan Inn (opposite) is a waymarked path between the houses. Follow this to the left and over the fields towards High Lane.

5 White Lane lies Phoenix Works (now private homes) to your left (a slight diversion is necessary should you want to look at the old buildings more closely). The path passes Haven Farm No. 1 (Once called Cuckold Haven, owned by the Gales family late 1700s).

On the corner of White Lane as it bends you will see a water reservoir, follow the Bridle Stile along the ridge back towards Mosborough.

6 Carry on down Quarry Hill towards the A6135 and on your right is Ridgeway Arms once known as Mosborough Hill House. At the junction cross the road either turn right, towards Mosborough, or take the extended route...

Go left towards Sheffield. If you go left on your right is a small bridle path leading down to Moorhole Lane but if you carry and go around the bend there is another private property

which was known as Mosborough Hill House, Moor Valley and was built by Elijah Staniforth.

Take the next right down Moorhole Lane, head downwards towards Moorhole, follow the Bridleway down Owlthorpe Hill, over the Ochre Dyke, eventually passing over a footbridge onto Donetsk Way.

7 Cross over and walk-up Brook Lane into Hackenthorpe village centre. Once reaching

Sheffield Road turn right for a short while. On your right is Hackenthorpe Post office and across the road are the former Staniforth Works and Greenside House. Across from Greenside House follow the footpath through the estate until you reach Westfield Plantation.

You can turn either left or right here (Owlthorpe Hill or the Westfield estate) as both paths lead back into Mosborough onto High Street.

Suitable all-terrain footwear is advised as the walk takes in footpaths which can be muddy in places.

EXTENDED ROUTE