



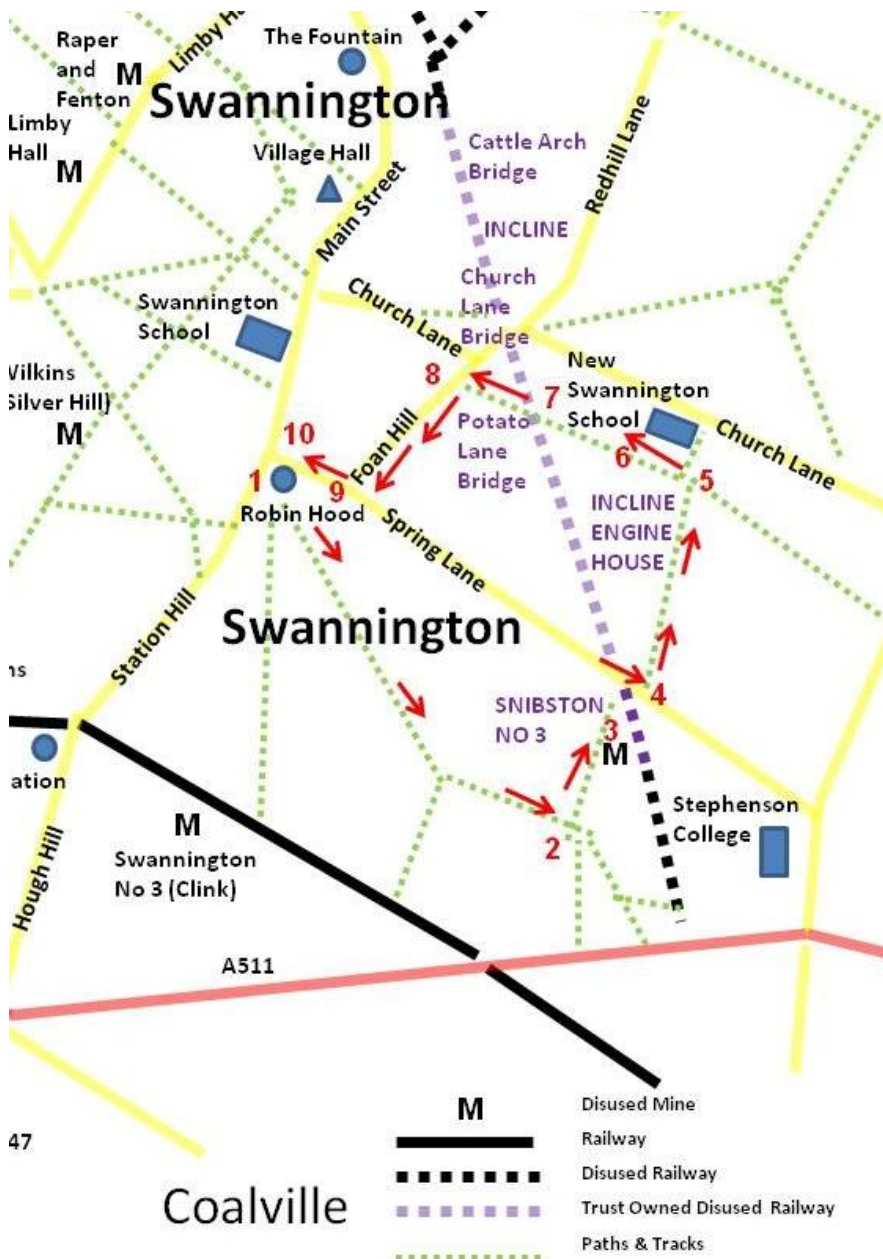
## Series – Just An Hour Walk – Stephenson’s Legacy

Starting at the Robin Hood Public House trek along an ancient green lane to the site of the former Snibston No 3 colliery and the 1832 Leicester and Swannington railway. Head through the fields towards New Swannington school before turning towards Potato Lane Bridge which has great views of the 1 in 17 Swannington Incline from above. Catch tantalising glimpses of the village on your way back to the start.

Walking on paths only crossing one stile.

Distance = 1.6 miles / 2.5 kilometres, duration = 1 hour.

The sketch map below is not intended to be a substitute for an Ordnance Survey map.



1. Start the walk at the “Robin Hood” at the confluence of Station Hill, Main Street and Spring Lane. Follow the road to the right (not extreme right) of the Robin Hood and pass some houses. The public byway quickly becomes a track that proceeds up hill.
2. Follow the track with young trees on the right. Continue until reaching a yellow footpath post next to a disused stile. Turn left up a short steep bank along a narrow track.
3. Continue until a fence and proceed through the small gap between two posts. Explore the grounds of the former Snibston No. 3 Colliery, including 2 pit wheels. There is a section of rail track on the route of the 1832 Leicester to Swannington Railway.
4. Proceed over the stile into Spring Lane, turn right and pass the former Miners’

Cottages. After a short distance cross the road to take the footpath on the left in between two fields.

5. When reaching the hedge keep it to the left. Pass through two fields on the left and a smaller field with farm buildings set back from the path, then a conifer plantation. Turn left to follow the track between the wood and the school grounds.
6. On emerging into the open, admire the view over the valley noting Hough Mill (at one o'clock), the brick chimney at Newbold Coleorton and St. George's Church (at two o'clock).
7. Continue along the path, passing the farm buildings on the left and keep close to the hedge, reaching Potato Lane Bridge. Appreciate the views up and down the Swannington Incline Plane which was used to haul coal trucks up to join the 1832 Leicester and Swannington Railway (one of the earliest in the world).
8. Continue along the path until reaching the road (Foan Hill). Turn left, while walking along Foan Hill try to identify the buildings in Swannington. Possibly the easiest to identify is the circular window in the former Missions Hall that is now part of the school.
9. Reach the T junction with Spring Lane and turn right towards the Robin Hood.
10. On returning to the Robin Hood, look around and see the Primitive Methodist Chapel, the former butchers (now a joiner's shop), abattoir and animal pound.

Swannington Heritage Trust maintains:-

- Snibston No. 3 colliery 1850-95, adjacent the 1832 Leicester to Swannington Railway;
- Swannington Inclined Plane with a 1:17 slope connecting horse tramways to the railway
- Califat Spinney nature reserve, a mine 1855-1873
- Gorse Field, a fragile heath grassland, adit and bell pit mining from 1204.
- Hough Mill, built shortly after the land purchased in 1804.



Details of more walks, guided walks and mill visits are on [www.swannington-heritage.co.uk](http://www.swannington-heritage.co.uk). Any constructive comment on the walks would be welcomed, email [walks@swannington-heritage.co.uk](mailto:walks@swannington-heritage.co.uk).