



Over one hundred native trees have been planted and habitat piles created to provide food and shelter for wildlife.



 Search for 'Friends of Owley Wood' on Facebook.



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Bottom Pitch Meadow

Bottom Pitch was set aside by ICI for recreational use by its workers and their families when they built Owley Wood housing estate. Many residents recall playing on "Bottom Pitch" where there were see-saws, a shelter and seats.

Welcome to Weaverham

Weaverham was an important Saxon hamlet on the banks of the River Weaver. The walk starts at St Mary's Church, a beautiful building dating back to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and then continues through the village to Owley Wood Housing Estate, a 1920's model housing estate built for ICI employees.

Owley Wood is a haven for wildlife on the steep banks of the River Weaver where you can meander through the woodland or stop and watch the river go by.



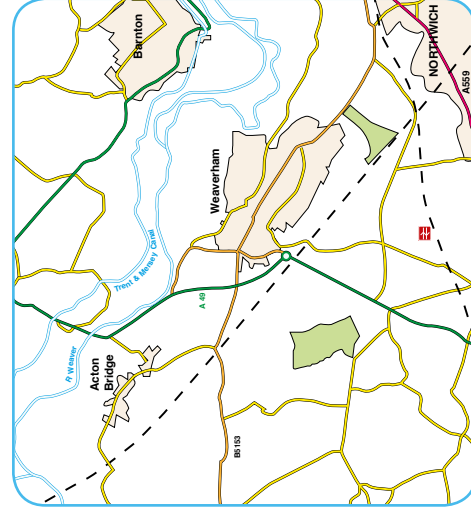
Saltscap - a unique landscape

Salt was first discovered in Cheshire during the Iron Age and by 1700 the salt towns of Northwich, Middlewich and Winsford had grown around the thriving salt industry. The River Weaver was the key transport corridor that continued to serve the chemical industry that followed.

Although much of the industry has gone there is a legacy of unique habitats, post-industrial landscapes, rivers and canals. Salt marsh vegetation normally found on the coast thrives around brine springs while the flashes caused by salt subsidence and lime-beds created from industrial waste are rich in wildlife.



Weaverham Petal Walks Bottom Pitch & Owley Wood



A 2 mile circular walk exploring the village of Weaverham, Bottom Pitch Meadow and Owley Wood.

Weaverham Petal Walks have been devised by Weaverham Trust and funded through Saltscap Landscape Partnership.
www.weaverhamtrust.co.uk
Saltscap - Follow the story at www.saltscap.co.uk



Weaverham Petal Walks Bottom Pitch & Owley Wood

Owley Wood Housing Estate

Weaverham was a quiet, rural village until the 1920s when ICI needed more housing for their workers as demand grew for new chemical products such as dyestuffs, plastics and paint.

Owley Wood Housing Estate was almost a separate village and was revolutionary in design, heavily influenced by the 'Garden Cities' movement started by Ebenezer Howard.

The challenge set by ICI for William Tarr of Warrington was to build 365 houses within 365 days. The development was well planned with tree-lined roads and homes grouped around allotment areas. Houses were solidly constructed with a steel frame clad in pebbledash and cement type brick. Floors were concrete and roofs tiled.

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