

Revealing Oldknow's Legacy

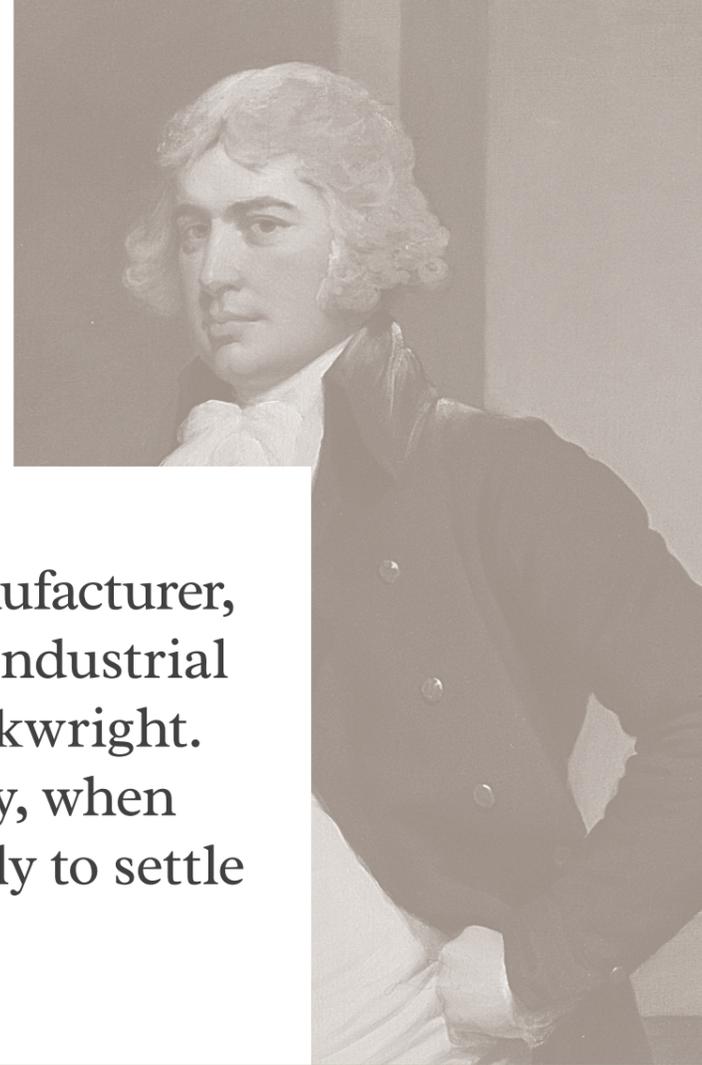
# GUIDE & MAP

MARPLE & MELLOR



[oldknows.com](http://oldknows.com)

# Mellor Mill and the Peak Forest Canal in Marple



## SAMUEL OLDKNOW

Samuel Oldknow, a Lancashire born muslin manufacturer, revolutionised Marple and Mellor, creating an industrial outpost with the help of loans from Richard Arkwright. A man with great ideas and a passion for quality, when he died his estate passed to the Arkwright family to settle his debts, but his legacy remains.



## MARPLE AQUEDUCT

Britain's tallest masonry arched aqueduct. We've conserved this Scheduled Ancient Monument for generations to come, created a new path around it and peeled back the undergrowth so that everyone can get a better view of this incredible feat of engineering.



## MELLOR MILL

When Oldknow built Mellor Mill in 1790-92, it was the world's largest spinning mill. Initially powered by a huge 6.7m diameter waterwheel, by 1804, 550 people worked here, mostly women and children. Burnt out in 1892, we're excavating to find out what's left.



## MARPLE LIME KILNS

Oldknow built his Gothic inspired Lime Kilns between 1797 and 1802 to burn limestone quarried in the Peak Forest. These Lime Kilns are now a Scheduled Ancient Monument that give us a fascinating insight into our industrial past.

# Get Involved

There are loads of opportunities to volunteer with us. Here are just a few examples!

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Excavate Oldknow's Mill complex and record our finds.



## GARDENING

Keep on top of weeding or help landscape Mellor Mill Heritage Park.



## LEARNING

Inspire children and adults about Oldknow's legacy.



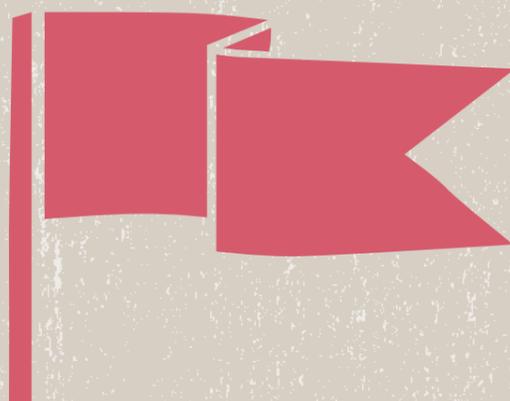
## MARKETING

Spread the word about the project.



## GUIDING

Enthuse visitors with lively walks and talks.



## DID YOU KNOW?

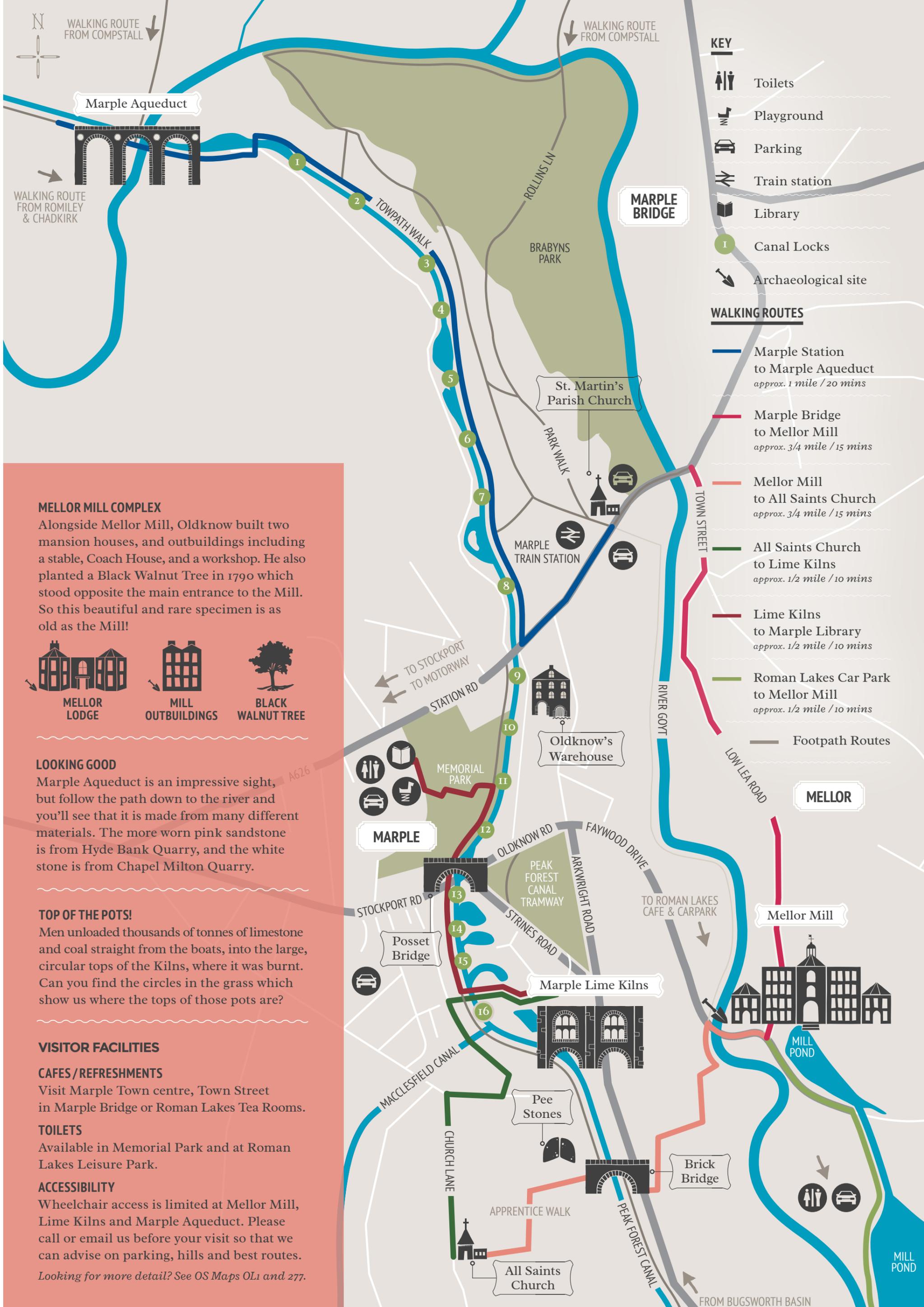
Oldknow cleverly used water to his advantage. Mill ponds filled with water, powered his Mill. Water in canals made moving heavy goods like limestone easier. He probably chose this area because of all the water.

It took 4 years to find the money and to build Marple's flight of 16 Locks. It was an expensive business!

Samuel Oldknow's Bridge near lock 13 is known locally as Posset Bridge. He encouraged his workers to complete it quickly by giving them ale posset for breakfast each day!

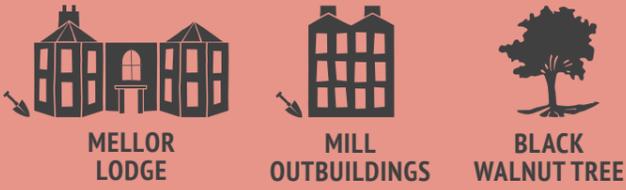
The Pee Stones were placed on the Mill apprentices' route to church, so that they could pee behind them on their way, instead of disrupting the service!

If you have time to spare, skills to share, or want to learn something new, then get in touch with us at [hello@oldknows.com](mailto:hello@oldknows.com) or call 07825 044 379, to find out more.



**MELLOR MILL COMPLEX**

Alongside Mellor Mill, Oldknow built two mansion houses, and outbuildings including a stable, Coach House, and a workshop. He also planted a Black Walnut Tree in 1790 which stood opposite the main entrance to the Mill. So this beautiful and rare specimen is as old as the Mill!



**LOOKING GOOD**

Marple Aqueduct is an impressive sight, but follow the path down to the river and you'll see that it is made from many different materials. The more worn pink sandstone is from Hyde Bank Quarry, and the white stone is from Chapel Milton Quarry.

**TOP OF THE POTS!**

Men unloaded thousands of tonnes of limestone and coal straight from the boats, into the large, circular tops of the Kilns, where it was burnt. Can you find the circles in the grass which show us where the tops of those pots are?

**VISITOR FACILITIES**

**CAFES / REFRESHMENTS**

Visit Marple Town centre, Town Street in Marple Bridge or Roman Lakes Tea Rooms.

**TOILETS**

Available in Memorial Park and at Roman Lakes Leisure Park.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

Wheelchair access is limited at Mellor Mill, Lime Kilns and Marple Aqueduct. Please call or email us before your visit so that we can advise on parking, hills and best routes.

Looking for more detail? See OS Maps OL1 and 277.

## HOW TO FIND US



## VISIT US

We're a 15 minute drive from Stockport, or only 30 minutes on the train from Manchester, and 1 hour from Sheffield.

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

To see our exciting programme of free activities for all ages visit our website.

## LEARNING

If you'd like to book a talk, tour or educational visit then please contact us on [hello@oldknows.com](mailto:hello@oldknows.com), or fill in the contact form on our website, and let us know what you're interested in.

You can find us at:



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