

## History Trail Information:

Length: 1 hour 15mins (approx)

Terrain: Surfaced paths. Steep at times,  
may be muddy

Waymarkers: Follow the orange arrows



On our History Trail you will uncover the hidden, and sometimes forgotten, history of lives in the Severn Valley landscape. In the area, industry flourished for hundreds of years. The landscape sustained ferries, farmers and families living in cottages as well as holiday makers in wooden chalets on the banks of the River Severn.

The Lives in the Landscape project was funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Shropshire Council and The Jean Jackson Charitable Trust.

We want to say a massive thank you to all our volunteers and to everyone who helped make the project possible.

For more information about the project, please visit:  
[www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk/lives-in-the-landscape](http://www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk/lives-in-the-landscape)

### Play Areas



### Picnic Spots



### Bird Hides



### What's next?

There's so much  
more to discover at  
Severn Valley  
Country Park!

### Pools and wetlands



### Visitor Centre



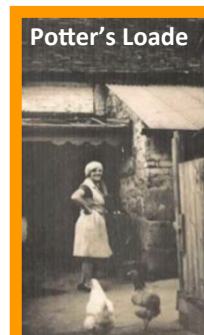
### Wonderful Wildlife



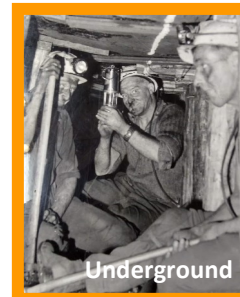
## Discover *Lives in the Landscape* on our History Trail



Potter's Loade



Potter's Loade



Underground



Ferry crossing



Shaping a grindstone



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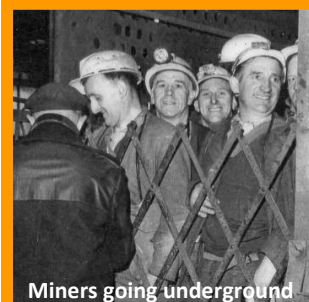


Sandstone and coal formed in the area over 310 million years ago. These resources provided employment for the local community for centuries.



Wood Cottage

The remains of Wood Cottage can be seen in Hall Close Coppice. The final residents to live here were the Knowles family. The ferry moved up river to Wood Cottage from Potter's Loade. It closed soon after the completion of the bridge as people could cross the river on foot.



Miners going underground

A mine shaft was first sunk at Highley in 1877. By 1940, production had fully transferred across the river to Alveley. The striking sculpture of a life saving detaching hook is dedicated to all the workers at Highley and Alveley collieries.



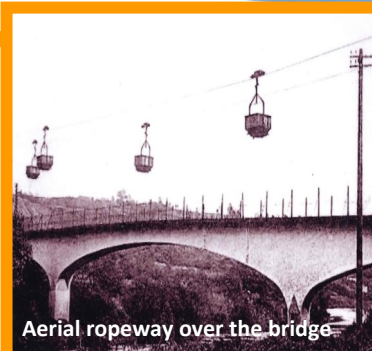
Ferry crossing

Ferries transporting people, goods and livestock between the river banks at Alveley and Highley were a common sight. Records show this happening since the 1600s. Residents living at Potter's Loade, including Davies family, operated the ferry for many years.

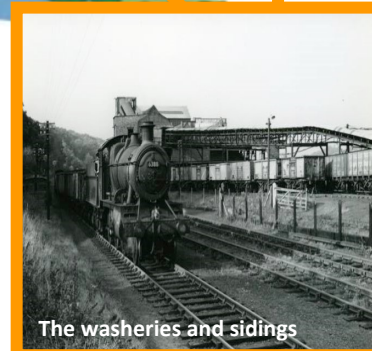


Workers at the local quarry

The Country Park Halt is the former location of the washeries and sidings. Here, by using machinery such as shakers and conveyors, the miners would separate and clean the coal. This process would make the coal ready for transportation around the country.



Aerial ropeway over the bridge



The washeries and sidings

The original Miners' bridge, built in the mid 1930s, enabled coal to be transported over the river to the railway sidings. In 1960, an aerial ropeway, was built as a more cost effective way to move the coal. A new bridge, to replace the original was completed in 2006.

Visitor centre, toilets & car park



Visitors enjoying the park

After Alveley Colliery closed in 1969, the area was left a wasteland. In 1986, a land reclamation project began to stabilise the spoil heap to ensure the safety and future of the area. Now, Severn Valley Country Park is a working landscape for the enjoyment of visitors and wildlife.