



Points of interest/history

1) Mount Pleasant, also known as Harefield West, is the most westerly settlement in Greater London. Domesday Book recorded the presence here of mills on the River Colne. The construction of the Grand Junction (now Grand Union) Canal brought some quite noxious industries and their spoil heaps in the early 19th century, and it is likely that the name Mount Pleasant was applied ironically. Lime kilns, copper mills and iron works were followed later by factories making printing inks and rubber products.

2) This area is part of West Hyde, Hertfordshire. Pynesfield and Troy derive from ancient manors owned by the abbey of St Albans and were first recorded in the years 796 and 1314 respectively. The Troy Arm of the canal is now a quiet backwater but was dug in the early 1800s to service industry at Troy Mill and a nearby chalk pit.

3) Look back behind you for great views of three counties. This is the spot where representatives of Hillingdon, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire met in 1965 and the concept of the Colne Valley Regional Park was born. In those days there would have been fewer trees, and the views over the valley would have been even more impressive. If HS2 is built, trains will scar the hillside to the west before entering a tunnel.

HELP US CAPTURE THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Take your photo of a place in the Colne Valley Park and upload it to our collection at:
www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/landscapecamera



Explore the Colne Valley Park Countryside on your doorstep

CIRCULAR WALK 10: MOUNT PLEASANT

3¼ MILES (SHORT ROUTE 2 MILES)

Experience a slower pace along historic canals and pleasant lakes with lots of bird life. Fantastic views over the Colne Valley.

Access: Mostly level walking on good paths. However, the hill from waypoint 4 is steep and can be muddy. Some stiles.

Refreshments: Three pubs, The Kings Arms (A), The Coy Carp (B), The Old Orchard (C). Plus Jack's Mill Cafe located on Black Jack's lock along the canal way point (4). Several pubs and cafes in Harefield Village Centre.

Public transport: U9 bus from Harefield to Uxbridge. Several other buses stop in Harefield village centre.


By road: From J17 of the M25, head south towards Denham on the A412, and then turn left following signs for Harefield.

Postcode: UB9 6BJ

OS Grid Ref: TQ 052 906


Latitude: +51.604550, **Longitude:** -0.481711




For points of interest/history, turn over when you see this 

1) From Harefield Village Green, walk past the King's Arms down Park Lane for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile before carefully crossing the canal at Coppermill Lock, keeping a look out for traffic. Turn left onto a footpath just after the Coy Carp.

Shortcut = Turn left onto the canal towpath before the Coy Carp and follow it for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile until Black Jack's Lock (waypoint 4) is reached.

2) Follow the footpath along the causeway across Pynesfield Lake, turning left at the end and following Old Uxbridge Road, now a quiet country lane parallel to the A412, past the 16th century Corner Hall at the junction with Tilehouse Lane. Continue for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile before turning left along a concrete track just before a garage and a white house at Troy Mill.  (2)

3) After crossing the second stream, the track turns left with the Troy Arm of the canal on your left and Troy Lake on your right. When the track bends to the right, continue ahead, crossing the River Colne via a footbridge. On reaching the Grand Union Canal, turn right on the towpath.

4) At Black Jack's Lock, cross the canal via the bridge and then turn left at a T-junction. Just before the farm track, turn right over a stile onto a footpath up the hill. Cross another stile, keeping the field edge on your right until you cross a third stile into Park Lane.  (3) Turn right along Park Lane and walk back to Harefield High Street.

