

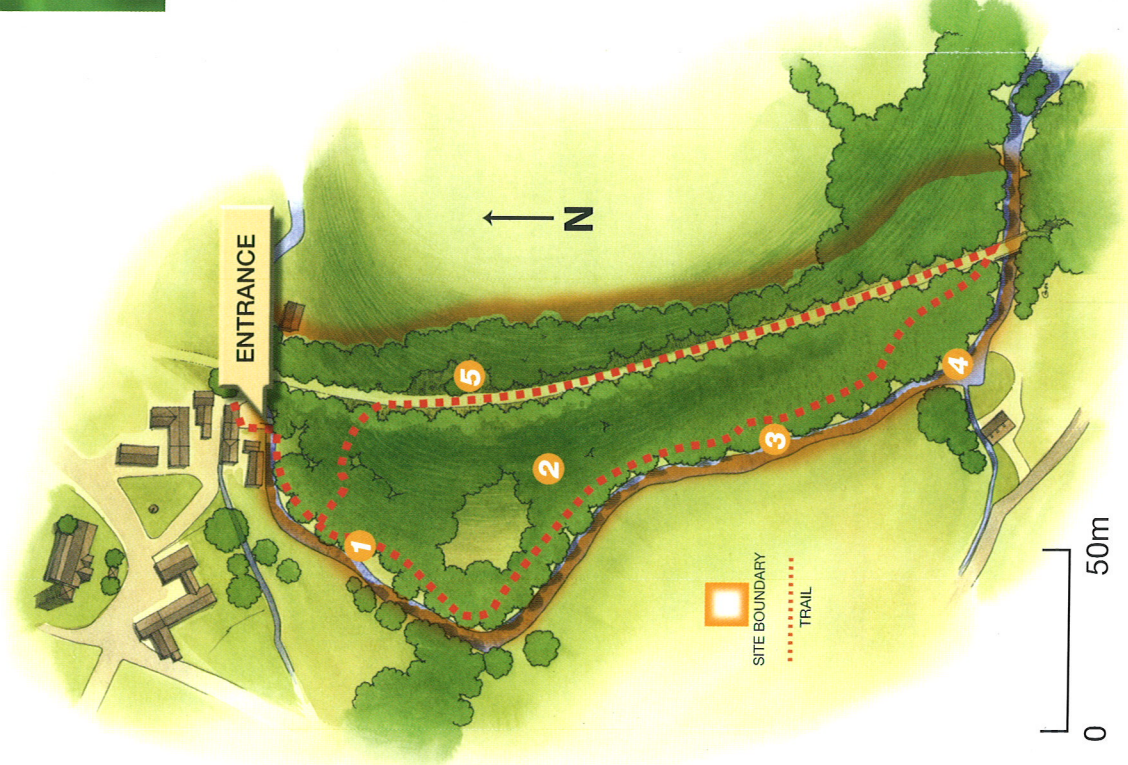


# Stationary stones gathering moss



Blue tits nest in the reserve and village gardens

Mill Bottom has a closed in feel – ancient granite boulders hide amongst the trees and the rocks' cracks create the perfect spot if local bats want to hang out.



Access to the reserve is by permit only – contact Devon Wildlife Trust for details.

Beautiful damselflies like fast flowing streams – J Chubb



Times have changed but this land has remained a functional part of the village. It was once open fields and belonged to the mill, it hosted a busy railway route, had vegetable plots and chicken runs. Now it's a place for wildlife to thrive.

The surging Wray Brook is the perfect stream for a cooling dip of the toes on a hot summer's day. Perch on the rounded boulders and watch the watery life bustle around you.

- 1 Keep a lookout for signs of otters - their droppings (or 'spraint') on rocks or tree roots have a sweet smell.
- 2 The overgrown rocks amongst the trees give the feeling of an ancient place.
- 3 Metallic blue-green beautiful damselflies flit gracefully past as the brook twists and turns around mossy boulders.
- 4 The water-filled leat (or channel) that powered the mill rejoins the stream here.
- 5 The railway cutting is a great place for lichens and mosses – they love the rocky damp conditions.