## Keady to Tassagh Bridge - 7.7 (or 8.35) miles

Start at Tommy Makem Arts & Community Centre (TMAC).

Irish Grid Ref. H 84515 34069 (see at <u>Google Maps</u>). Download GPX Map at <u>MapMyWalk</u>

Go west, away from TMAC, then right and down over Clea River and past Keady Mill.

Turn right, along path, then right and thru' gate into Keady Glen.

(**NOTE**: At times the gate into Keady Glen is locked. If this is the case, go up the steps on the left, then turn right up to Kinelowen Street (Main Street). Turn right along RHS pavement and after 170 yards veer right and down along Glen Road, to re-join route after 80 yards. See next instruction at 0.26 miles below)

At 0.14 miles. Exit Keady Glen and downhill towards a children's play park.

At bottom, turn right and cross footbridge over river to seating area and turn right to a waterfall (this was once the site of a beetling mill).

Retrace your steps back over the footbridge and straight on past play park to your RHS.

0.26 miles. Exit onto Glen Road and turn right and downhill.

Follow road as it veers right and **under Keady Railway Viaduct**. (Just past the viaduct, if you look up and right across the river, you can see the line of the mill-race which fed the old flour and beetling mills at Millmount Farm).

At 0.5 miles, past the lane to Millmount Farm to your right-hand side (RHS).

0.7 miles. Turn right through gap in wooden fence and follow path down thru' trees and across footbridge at bottom (now in Keady Glen Park).

**0.85 miles**. **Turn right** and follow path parallel to mill-race and eventually to a weir / waterfall. (Just across the river, in the field, was the site of two beetling mill. You can still see some of the foundations).

Retrace your steps back along the path, but only as far as another path to the right.

**0.97 miles**. Turn **right and down to cross a footbridge** and **then left** along a path with the Clea River to your LHS.

**1.21 miles**. The path comes out onto a gravel carpark.

(**NOTE**: At this point the is an **option to extend** the walk by 0,65 miles (I recommend it). To do so, turn left over the footbridge, Follow the path left, then right, up a slope. At the top, veer right around an old overgrown mill pond. Then turn right, at junctions of paths. Follow a flat path with a, dry mill race to your right. After 350 yards, stay straight on past footbridge over mill race. After another 40 yards, turn left down to cross footbridge over river. Once over, turn right – path starts to climb. Then follow path sharp left and still uphill. Follow path, then eventually downhill to car park. If you have chosen to extend the walk, you can add 0.65 miles to rest of the instructions below)

At car park, turn right and follow the ramp up, then left to the road. (Across the road, you can see the buildings which remain from what was Annvale Mills).

- **1.25 miles. Turn right** along **Annvale Road**, stay on pavement on RHS.
- **1.5 miles**. At crossroads, turn left into Granemore Road and uphill.
- **1.75 miles**. **Turn left onto narrow road** (this is Tassagh Road on maps, but is signed Granemore Road).
- At 2.35 miles. Near the bottom of a long hill, to the right are the remains of two beetling and in the distance, you can see the tall chimney and ruins of Dundrum Mills, where the Clea River joins the Callan River.

After another 160 yards the road crosses the Clea River.

- **2.58 miles**. **At T-junction, turn left** (also Tassagh Road). Stay on LHS as there is a verge.
- 2.93 miles. Turn right into Batchelors Walk.
- **3.62 miles. Turn right onto Keady Road**, signed "Armagh 6". Stay on RHS pavement.
- **3.8 miles**. **Turn left** to cross over (WITH CARE), signed "Killylea 8", and **into Killyreavy Road**.
- 4.01 miles. At crossroads, turn right into Iskymeadow Road.
- At 4.54 miles the road crosses over Roughan Burn.
- **5.04 miles**. At crossroads, turn right and uphill.
- **5.3 miles**. **Straight on**, past narrow road to LHS.
- **5.67 miles**. Cross **straight over A29** (WITH CARE) and **into Dundrum Road**, signed "Tassagh 2".
- At 5.86 miles. The road crosses Roughan Brook, then past Tassagh Mill to your LHS and soon under Tassagh Railway Viaduct.
- **Note:** Along the stretch of road from here to Tassagh Bridge, we follow the Callan River upstream and pass the ruins and previous sites of many old mills. I'll mention a few here, but to find out information on them all see the Interactive Google Map. Also, if you are here on a Sunday morning, you may get a chance to see the unique sport of Road Bowls.
- At 6.4 miles. Past Tassagh Old Graveyard to your RHS (apparently the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest Christian graveyard in Ireland and once the site of Tassagh Priory).
- **6.41 miles**. Immediately **after Tassagh Old Graveyard**, **turn right** along the lane, next to the graveyard (Vestry Lane). After 75 yards you'll see the remains of Bleach and Beetling Mill to your right, and soon past this, to the left, along a grass lane, is what once was a Corn Mill / Beetling Mill.
- **6.47 miles**. Turn around and **retrace your steps** back along the lane **to Dundrum Road** and turn right.
- 6.92 miles. Stay straight on past Killyfaddy Road West to your LHS.
- 100 yards later the Ballymacone River joins the Callan from the left. This river was also important for the linen industry and on the Interactive Google Map I have marked the closest three mills to this point.

At 7.35 miles. To the RHS is another old beetling mill. Just after this Dundrum Road crosses over the Callan River, which now runs parallel to our right.

At 7.53 miles. Past Tassagh Presbyterian Church to your RHS (use the pavement on RHS).

At 7.59 miles. Past Basil Sheils Bar & Restaurant to your LHS.

## 7.7 miles. Finish at Tassagh Bridge.

This is 8.35 miles, if you have chosen to extend as recommended above.

Just across the river, behind trees, is yet another old beetling mill.

If you decide to finish your walk here, then you can catch a 69 bus back to Keady. See <u>Bus</u> <u>Timetable</u>.

If you wish to continue, then see instructions for Part 2.