WALTER CLOUGH LANE (AREA 2)

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I initially researched this path, using Ordnance Survey maps, which I subscribed to. I find this application particularly useful, with additional detail than say, Google Maps. I vaguely knew part of the route, which I was aware had an old brick works on it, having previously done a model shoot there for their portfolio.

I have tried to capture the detail of this path and specific aspects of it for posterity, which also reveal the truth about its origins. I'm fascinated with documenting society and how the world is changing, whether it is fashion or in this case the passing of time and the slow deterioration of the route as nature reclaims it.

The path between these two lanes was meticulously laid with bricks and vehicular access is still possible form the Badger Lane side. However, beyond the brick works, there is only a footpath to Walter Clough Lane. Many of the bricks are now covered with years of fallen, rotting leaves and, in some places, the path has eroded from running water and is difficult to pass. There is evidence that the water was redirected into the Red Beck, but nowadays, with no maintenance on the path, it's open to the elements.

I find the mosaic of brick walls and buildings particularly appealing. This is covered everywhere with graffiti. The decay has actually brought out the richness and variety in the colour and therefore I have not used black and white images.

This would have been a very busy thoroughfare back in the day, with people commuting from Hipperholme to Hove Edge. There is a network of other paths in other directions and Badger Lane was a main route into Halifax before the Godley Cutting. I guess now it's more a place you could consider to be part of 'hidden' Halifax.

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