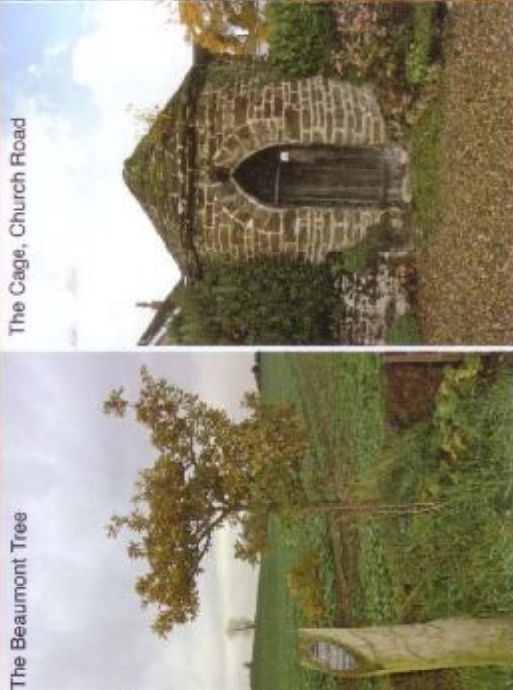


Refreshments and Facilities

There are no public facilities at the start point. Refreshments can be found at The Star and Garter and The George pubs nearby, and at Public Houses that the walks go past in Wardhedges, Flitton, Pulloxhill and Clophill.

The Beaumont Tree



The Cage, Church Road



Rushymeade



Upbury Moats



Other walks in the series:

Walk 1 - Silsoe - Beaumont Farm - Wardhedges
3 Miles

Walk 2 - Silsoe - Pulloxhill - Upbury Moats
3.8 Miles

Walk 4 - Silsoe - Pulloxhill Church
4.7 Miles

Walk 5 - Silsoe - Higham Gobion
5.3 Miles

Walk 6 - Silsoe - Upper Gravenhurst - Clophill
6.7 Miles

Points of Interest

The Beaumont Tree - was an ancient elm on the Parish Boundary between Silsoe and Flitton. The legend arose that the tree grew from an elm stake that had been thrust through the body of a highwayman that had been shot on the road nearby in 1751. It became the custom of locals to nail locks of hair and toenails to it as the Flitton Church clock struck midnight. This was to ward off the ague, a type of malaria once prevalent in this marshy district. Be sure to look for the carved figure of the highwayman on his horse.

Rushymeade - Pulloxhill's ancient meadow is an Open Access Area where there are seats and picnic tables available to enjoy the views and wildlife in a rare example of undisturbed Bedfordshire grassland. The site has interest for its vestiges of Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation using oxen.

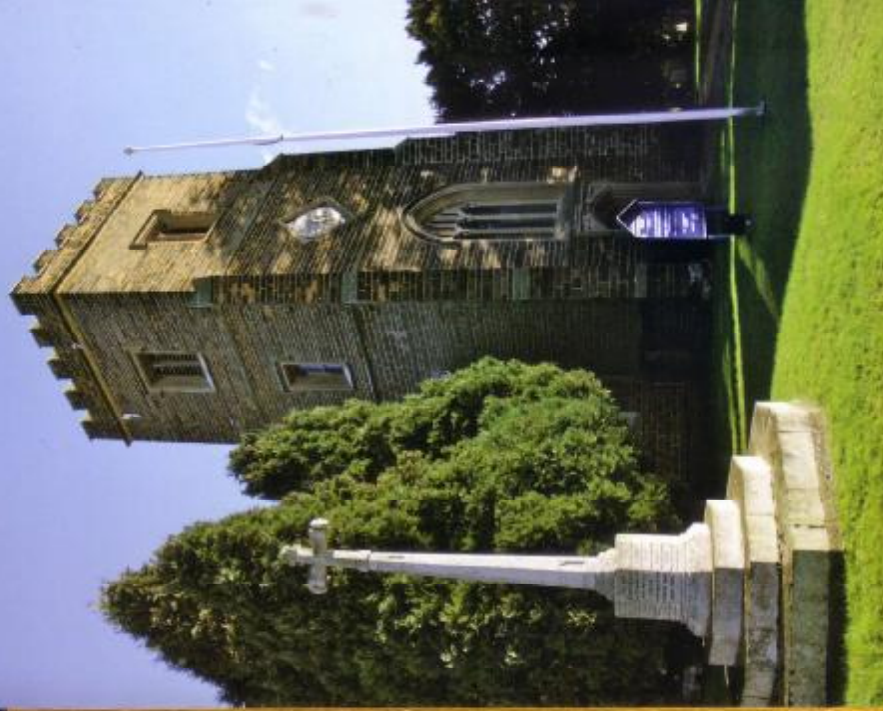
Upbury Moats - Medieval earthworks, moats and fish pond remain from the former Upbury Manor, a possession of Dunstable Priory until the Dissolution when Henry VIII seized it. In 1711 the de Grey family purchased the Manor, but in 1841 the old timber framed house was demolished by the second Earl de Grey. He was the first President of the Institute of British Architects, and had the new Wrest Park House built on French lines, and in front of the old rambling Wrest House which he then demolished in 1839. He may have had grand plans for Upbury, but died in 1851. The Upbury estate was sold to local farmers in the 1920s.

The Cage, Church Road - was built in 1795 and used as a lock-up for drunks and stray animals. The advent of the professional police force in 1839 to replace the Parish Constable marked the end of such lock-ups. Many were demolished or fell into disrepair. Before the days of electricity it is believed the local lamplighter kept his oil and equipment there.

Circular Walks Around Silsoe

WALK 3
4.4 Miles

Silsoe - Flitton Moor - Silsoe



If using a car, please park considerately by the side of Silsoe Church in Park Avenue, Grid Reference TL083356 (Explorer Map 193, Landranger 153). Silsoe is off the A6 Bedford to Luton road. The Stagecoach Satum S1 Bus Service from Bedford to Luton stops outside the Church.

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The Greensand Trust



SILSOE CHURCH FLITTON MOOR

Distance: 4.4 Miles

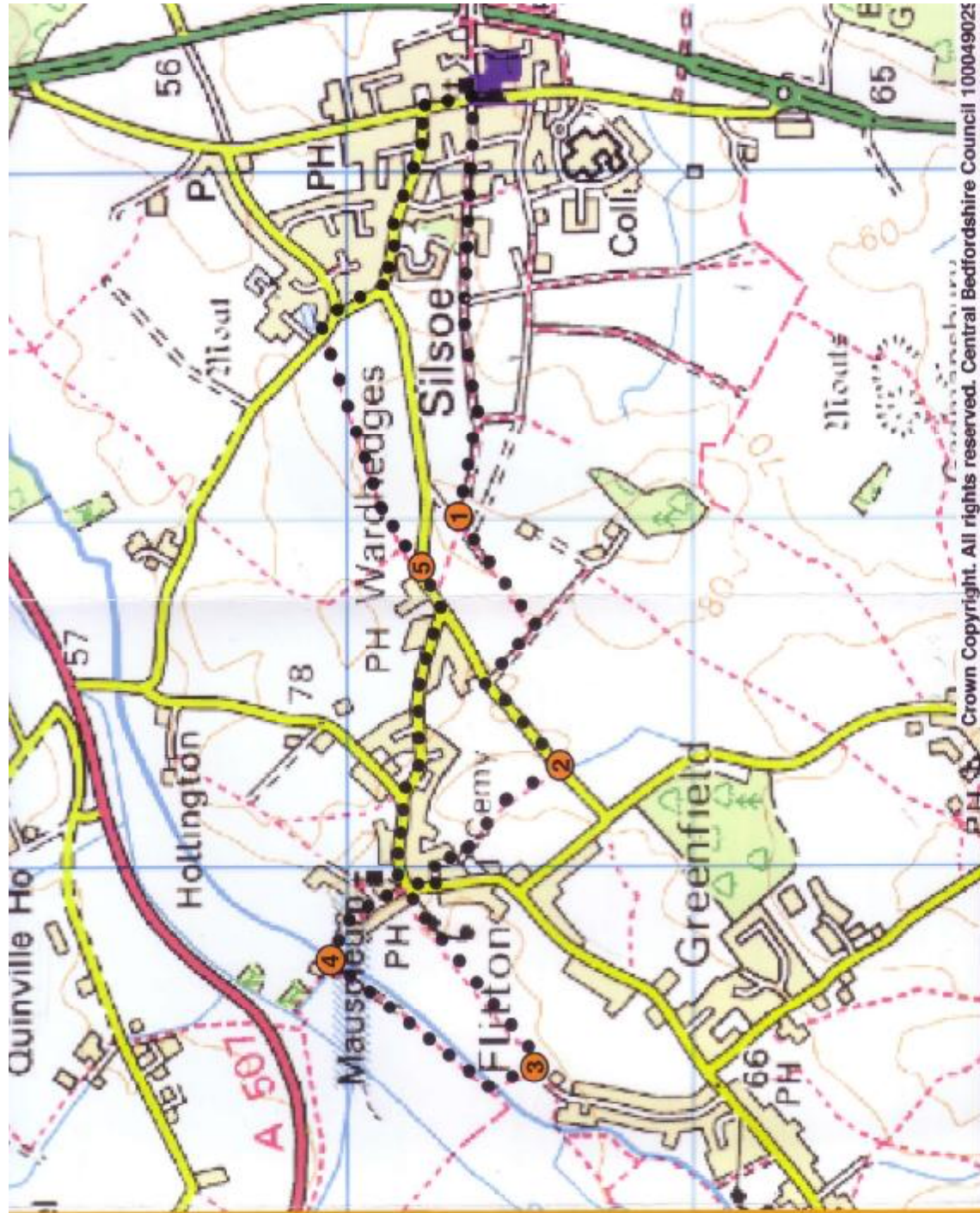
From Park Avenue cross into Church Road, noting The Cage on the left. Continue past The Horticultural Centre into the fields. Go along the gravel track, passing two turnings on the left. Go up the rise to the junction with another gravel track **1**.

Turn left and follow the tree lined track to the paddock. Continue straight on and cross the plank bridge onto the small road. Turn right along this road, and go to the main road and turn left. Cross the road and walk on for 350 yds and turn right over the stile **2**, into the field.

Follow the footpath across the field to the waymarker near the stile. Go over the stile, through the gate, and down the lane. At the end of Cobbett Lane turn right. Cross the road when it is safe, and before the bend into Brooke Lane. Immediately after The White Hart turn left, through the gate with the Two Moors Heritage Trail sign. Go through the kissing gate at the end and continue straight on towards the waymarker ahead by the gate. Cross over the bridge and follow the path to the left.

When the path comes to an open field go through the kissing gate and over the stream, and onto the bridleway. Turn right along the bridleway **3** and cross the concrete bridge over the River Flit. Turn right along the path by the river, for a good way, and then turn right back over the river **4**. Go through the gate and up the road to the Church.

KEY: ● ● ● ● ● Trail



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Turn left past Flitton Church and walk through the village, up the High Street which becomes Wardhedges Road. Where the road forks, stay on the right into Wardhedges and past the pub. Turn left at Silsoe Road, and walk along for 140 yds and take the bridleway on the left **5**.

At the end of the bridleway turn right, cross the road and follow the road round to the right. Stay on Amphill Road, and on into the village. At the T-junction turn right into the High Street and return to the Church.