

BICKTON and STUCKTON

A walk through fields of 6½ km
(4 miles) taking less than 2 hours.

Start at St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge
(Grid Ref. 145138). Various car parks
are available in Fordingbridge.

Maps:

Landranger 195

Explorer OL 22

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Enter the churchyard through the lychgate and take the path to the left passing to the rear of the church, where you join a path signposted *Avon Valley Path*. Continue along this path to pass the water treatment works and come to a footbridge and gate (waymarked). Turn left and then right to the left-hand corner of the field. Cross the small concrete bridge and in 40m note that the Avon Valley Path goes to the right. Continue straight on and in about 80m cross the River Avon by the bridge. Ahead and to the right you will see a four storey building – Bickton Mill.

Follow the path through the fish farm turning right at the next river and head for the mill. At the building turn left, either over the small concrete bridge or the road in front of the building, on to the village road and go immediately right. In 50m the road bends left. Follow the road and take the footpath to the right in about 200m. After about 50m follow the path left and continue on to the A338 Fordingbridge/Ringwood road crossing several stiles. Take great care in crossing this road to a stile opposite (A).

Follow the line of the path (as indicated by the fingerpost) to exit at a gap in a hedge by a signpost with yellow marker disc on to a side road. Turn left along the road and in 100m, at a bend, cross the stile (signposted) on the right (B).

Head diagonally left across the field to a stile in the corner and repeat in the second field, leaving by a stile and a wider track which leads to a road at Stuckton Bridge. Turn left over the bridge and at the last house on the left take the wide grass track (signposted) across the field to emerge again at the A338.

At this point there is a choice of routes back to Fordingbridge.

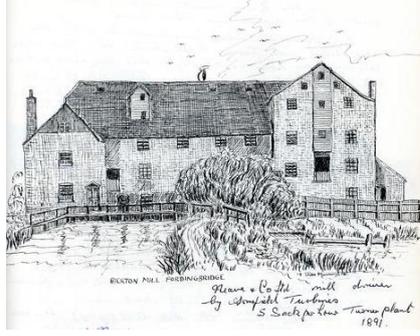
For main car parks cross the A338, turn right and follow the signposted slip road back to the town crossing the river bridge.

For the church and for a traffic free route, cross the A338, turn left and take the first turning right for Bickton. At the mill bear right to pick up the path through the fish farm and water meadows back to the church.

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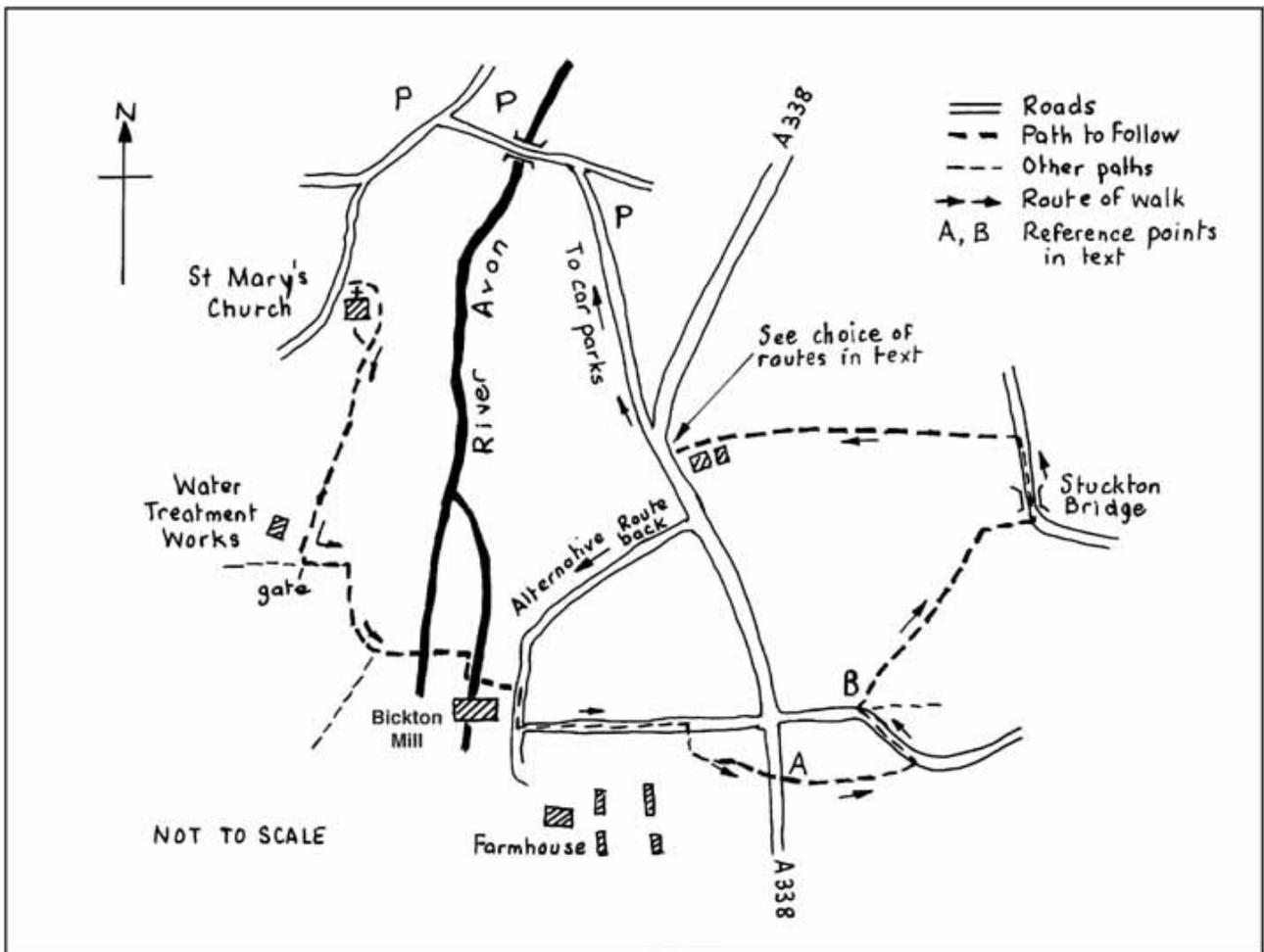
The lychgate at St Mary's - visit the lovely 13th century church.



A mill at Bickton goes back to the Domesday Book. Neave & Co's building (above in 1891) is now converted to flats. millsarchive.org.



The Congregational chapel by Stuckton Bridge, built in 1886



The Foundry House is opposite the wide grass track. It is the last remnant of Stuckton Iron Works which was established in 1770, later taken over by Armfield Engineering of Ringwood
Oak trees in autumn on the way to the A338

