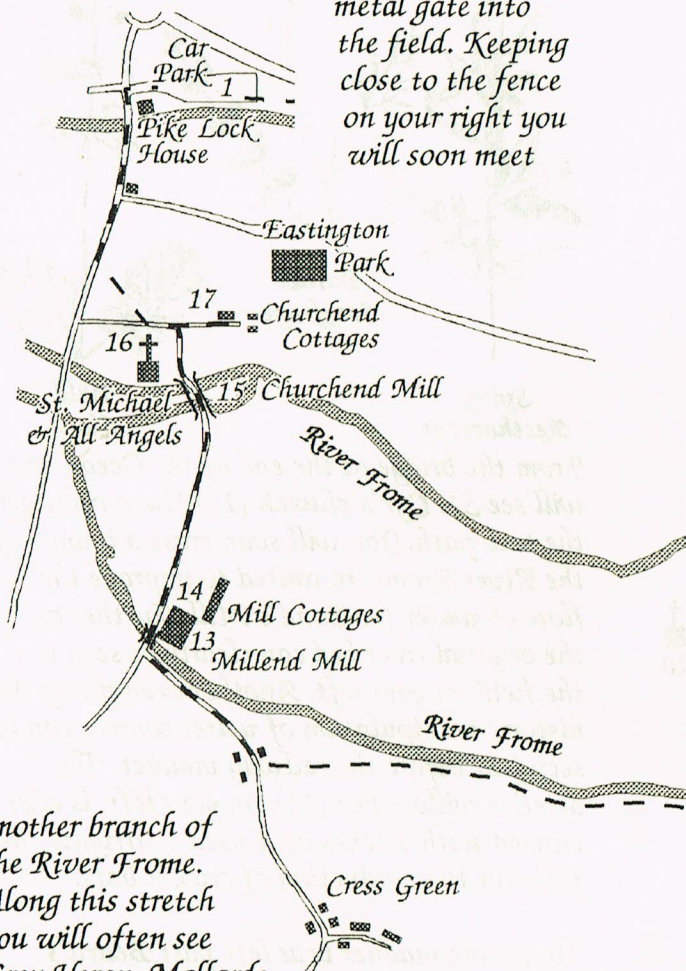


After several hundred yards, at the treatment works, turn right onto a concrete road. Continue along this and straight on over the

metal gate into the field. Keeping close to the fence on your right you will soon meet



another branch of the River Frome. Along this stretch you will often see Grey Heron, Mallards, Mute Swans and occasionally, in winter Green Sandpipers and Lapwings. The willows along the bank have been pollarded for many decades giving them their distinctive appearance and prolonging their life.

After three stiles you will see the houses of Cress Green on the hill to your left. Continue

through this fourth field following the lower path until you see the restored mill cottages across the river. Ascend the slope and, over the stile, turn right along the lane. This will lead you to **Millend Mill** (13), a mill site since before doomsday.

Turn right at the mill. Beyond the bridge used to stand terraces of cottages and a bakery (14). Continue along on the raised path, constructed to guarantee a dry passage between the mills in times of flood. You will eventually cross another bridge, and immediately on the right is Churchend Nursery, which stands on the site of a 14th century corn mill (15). There are no remains of **Churchend Mill**, demolished in 1908, but the water channels and sluices are still an attractive feature of this part of the river.

This is the oldest part of the parish. The church dates from the 12th century. An old engraving of this area shows that a large manor house once stood next to **St. Michael and All Angels** (16).

This was demolished in the late 18th century. Off the route to the right, but worth a detour, are **Churchend cottages**, perhaps the most picturesque part of the village (17).

Opposite the lych gate a path leads diagonally across a field to the main road. Turn right to return to the car park passing the **West lodge** of Eastington Park and **Pike Lock House**.

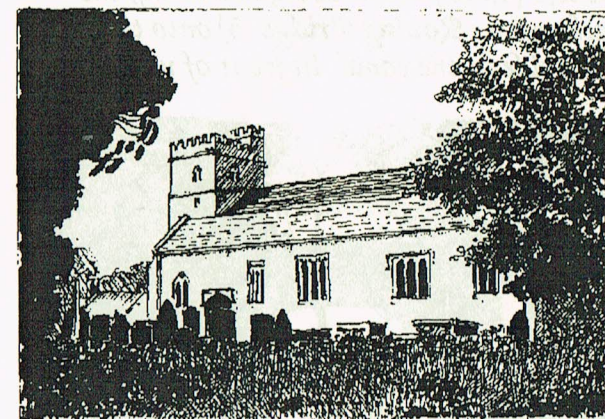


WALKS IN AND AROUND EASTINGTON

Walk 1

A circular walk commencing at Pike Lock

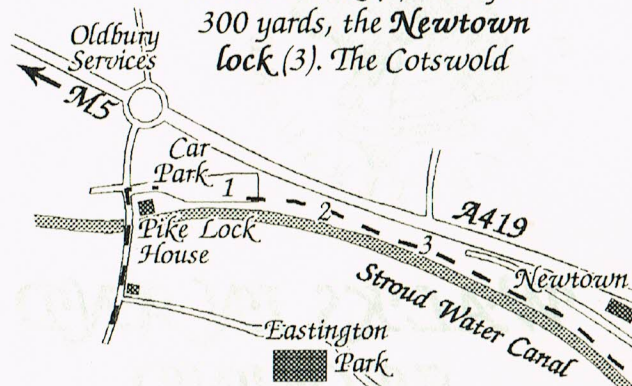
Duration : 1 ½ Hours



Produced by
Eastington Parish Map Group.

Park at **Pike Lock Car Park** (1). Walk Eastward, (towards Stonehouse) along the canal towpath. Pass the recently restored **Blunder lock** (2) and after 300 yards, the **Newtown lock** (3). The Cotswold

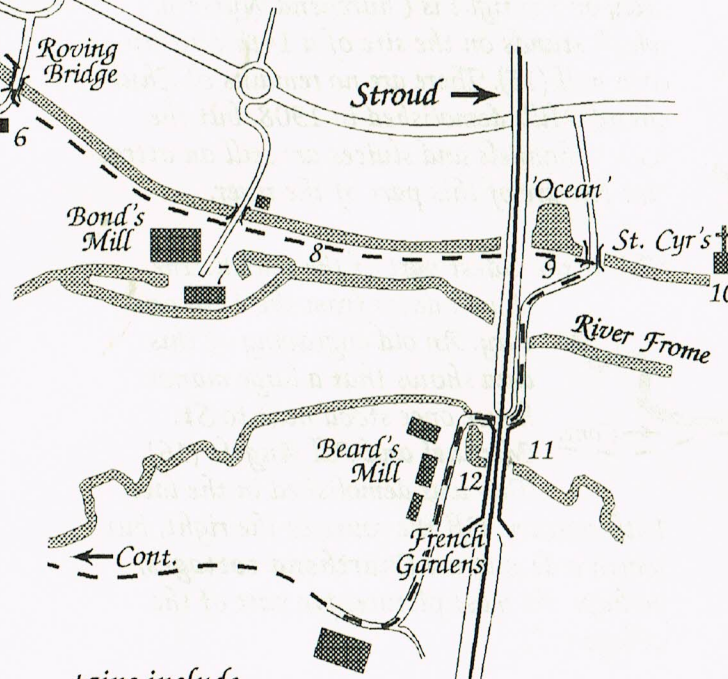
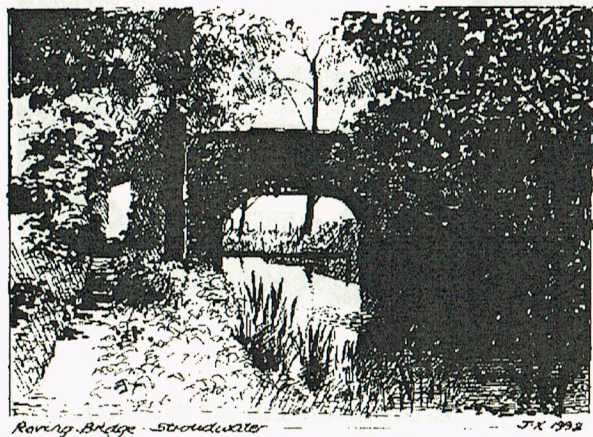
North Lodge (6) guards the now disused entrance to Eastington Park. Keep to the tow path which leads past **Bond's Mill** (7), now a small industrial complex. Immediately over the road bridge, a gun emplacement is a relic from when the mill manufactured Gyroscopes during the Second World War.



Through the kissing gate, your path crosses the top of a small meadow (8) which has escaped intensive agricultural improvement due to its isolation and steepness. Some of the scarce wild flowers it con-

Canals Trust, which aims to restore the canal, has erected an information board here. It describes the history and wildlife of the canal.

As you continue along the canal path the small canal workers hamlet of Newtown, which once boasted three Ale Houses, is on the left (4). A further 100 yards along, the path crosses **Roving Bridge** (5) onto the other side of the canal. In front of you, the



tains include Wild Clary, Spiny Restharrow and Burnet Saxifrage. The tunnel under the Birmingham to Bristol railway line emerges at the 'Ocean' (9), an old turning pond for narrow boats, now used by Mute Swans each spring to nest and raise their young.



Spiny Restharrow

Burnet Saxifrage

Wild Clary

From the bridge at the end of the Ocean you will see **St. Cyr's church** (10). Turn right off the tow path. You will soon cross a branch of the River Frome, re-routed to improve the flow of water for Bond's Mill. Further on, the original river bed can clearly be seen in the field on your left. Another example of the historic manipulation of water courses can be seen just before the railway viaduct. The derelict willow bed (11), on your left, is criss-crossed with ditches once used to irrigate the trees for the production of cricket bats.

Under the viaduct bear left past **Beard's Mill** (12). The narrow three storey building, now converted into a house, was once a dyers mill connected to the cloth making mills in the area by raised causeways across the water meadows. The area is known as '**French Gardens**', and was once the fruit garden for Stonehouse Court, now a hotel. It's name originates from the French fruits once grown here and the French girls who tended it.