

Turpin's Trail Walk 1

Thaxted to Tindon Manor and return via West Wood

7.5 miles (12 kms)

This walk starts at the free car park (with toilets) in Margaret Street, Thaxted CM6 2QN. OS Landranger Map 195 Grid Reference TL611311



On leaving the car park turn right and then left into Bell Lane along to the junction of Watling Street, where you will see Thaxted's magnificent church which is well worth a visit if you have time. Turn right up the hill with the church on the left to the Swan. At the corner cross the road with care (B184) to the junction of Newbiggen Street into Watling

Lane and continue down the lane for half a mile.

After the path crosses the River Chelmer, pass a house on your right and bear left onto a track and then turn right on to the left bank of the stream to the road (B184).

Turn right and cross the road to the track to Goddard's Farm, after 100 yards bear left on to the path that follows the stream and then left over the bridge onto the path crossing the field to the left of a distant pylon (see photograph) and bypasses the farm. At the corner of the field bear left and then right to the right hand side of the hedge. After half a mile take the right turn at a field corner (DO NOT CROSS THE BRIDGE) and pass Bow Croft Wood on your left. Continue until you come to a wide track on your left, *go through a gap in the hedge and turn left along the field edge to a track. (*This is the Right of Way but may be overgrown, if this is the case take the wide track).



Turn left and walk past the farm buildings and Friar's Farm on a metalled track following the waymarks to Market Farm.

Turn right on to the gravel road then tarmac for half a mile past Tindon Manor which has a long yew hedge on your left. Twenty yards past the hedge, just



beyond the waymark turn right onto a green lane.

Stay on the lane for about one mile continuing through West Wood (which can be very wet and uneven for much of the year) until you reach the road (B1051).

Turn right and after 100 yards cross the road to the footpath opposite 'Spriggs'. Follow the path to the right around the field and alongside a solar farm to a bridge.

Cross the bridge and then across the field to a gap in the hedge, turn right to Great Clark's (or Clerkes) Farm. Bear right through the farmyard, right along the road and right at the T-junction.

Follow the road for 200 yards to a signed path on the right hand side. Cross the bridge and go through the gate and walk straight across the field and through another gate. Follow the path ahead around the field to a gap in the hedge. Go through and turn right to the corner of a wood.

Turn left to take the path at the side of the wood and stay on this until coming to a bridge on the left. Cross the bridge and continue along the side of the field with Thaxted church and windmill in the distance. The path crosses into the field to the left, passing a memorial plaque commemorating Thaxted Airfield in WW1, and then finds its way between two hedges until becoming a green lane and then a tarmac road. The road, banked on one side and a ditch on the other, continues until turning sharp left.

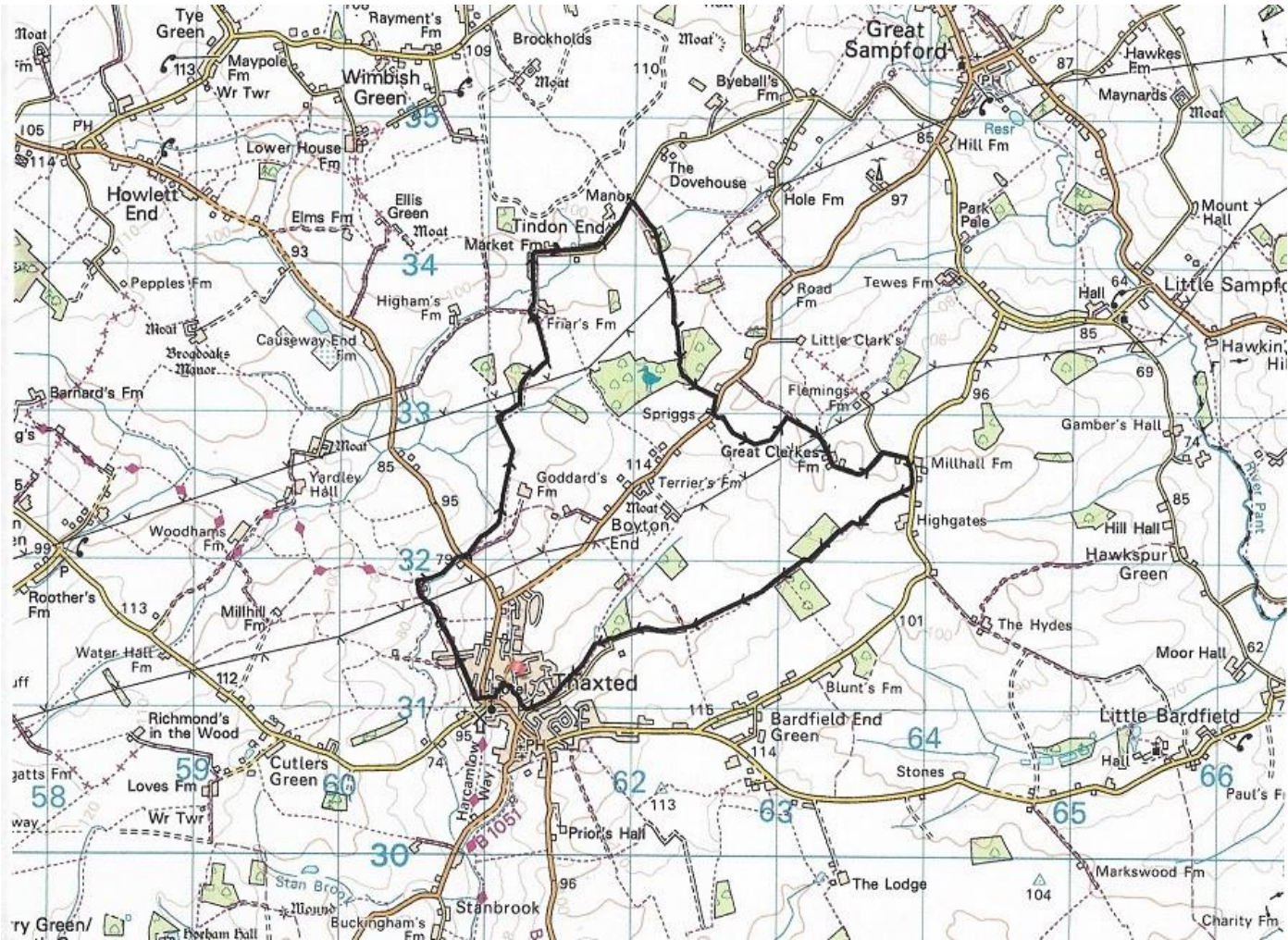


At this point bear right, leave the road and continue in a straight line, then bear left, crossing the **left hand** bridge and up a bank to enter a field.

Turn right to walk along the edge of the field, coming into a mowed area at the end. Cross the field to a gate on the left hand side and walking round this go out on to a road.

Turn right and continue down to turn right into Weavershead Lane. After 150 yards, turn left into Margaret Street back to the car park which is on your right.

Map Walk 1





Turpin's Trail Walk 2

Great Sampford to Tewes Plantation, Tindon Manor and back to Great Sampford 6 miles (9.5 kms)

This walk starts at St. Michael's Church, Great Sampford, CB10 2RS
OS Landranger Map 195 Grid Reference TL642353. Please park responsibly in the street.

From the church cross the road and continue down the road opposite to the Red Lion public house (now closed), cross the road (B1053) and enter Homebridge.

At the cul-de-sac sign Willetts Field, enter way-marked path between the houses, immediately bear left and head for a gap in a distant hedge.

Cross the bridge over the River Pant and turn right, then follow the river for about 650 yards to a stile in a hedge, and go straight on to a concrete bridge. Cross the bridge and continue straight on for about 800 yards.

Cross another bridge into a wood, continue straight on and when emerging into a field, bear left and follow path to Park Pale Farm.



Pass to the left of large black barn conversion; turn left along the road, then in about 200 yards turn right into Tewes Farm.

Cross farmyard, leaving three large silos to your left and bear left to follow path alongside a stream for 400 yards, cross bridge, and continue alongside Tewes Plantation to Flemings Farm.

Cross a deep and often muddy bridleway near Flemings Farm and go straight on, following the field boundary, heading for a prominent pylon.



At the pylon, turn right to follow field edge, and after 300 yards turn left and follow path to a prominent bridge, then follow the boundary of a solar farm around to the right, emerging on to the road near Spriggs Farm.

Turn right and after 200 yards turn left into West Wood, a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Follow the bridleway for about a mile (***this can be quite muddy and churned up by horses in winter***).

At the road, near Tindon Manor, turn right and follow the road for about half a mile. At a road junction, turn left towards Gifford Farm (signed), and keep to the right of the fence and buildings, taking the grassy path off to the right where the farm track turns sharp left.

Follow this path along the hedge for about 400 yards, emerging on to a road. Cross over the road and head towards Goddard's Farm, passing a dilapidated house and turning right by the penultimate barn.

Turn left past the barn and follow the field boundary downhill as far as the end of the hedge.

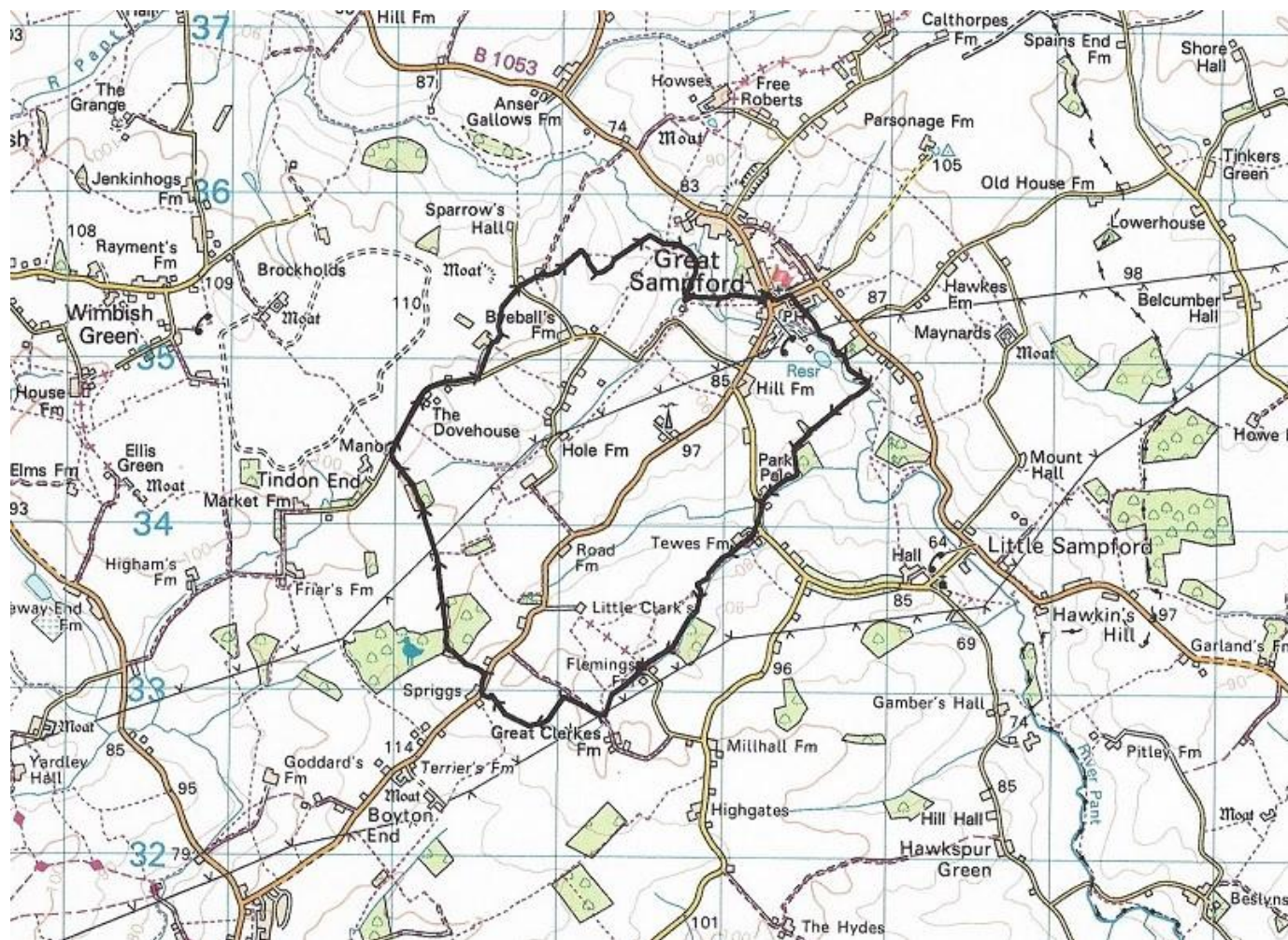
At the field boundary, turn right and follow the edge of the next field. Continue downhill with the stream to your right, with Great Sampford visible ahead, to a bridge over the stream.



Cross the bridge and follow a clear contour path as it curves almost 180 degrees to the right, then after about 400 yards turn left over the River Pant, and head towards the church, crossing streams and field boundaries en route to emerge in the centre of the village via the churchyard.

Map below.

Map Walk 2





Turpin's Trail Walk 3

Great Sampford to Howses & Hempstead and back to Great Sampford via Free Roberts 5.5 miles (9 kms)

This walk starts at St. Michael's Church, Great Sampford, CB10 2RS
OS Landranger Map 195 Grid Reference TL642353. Please park responsibly in the street.

From the church cross the road and continue down the road opposite towards the Red Lion public house (now closed).

Take the path to the left of the pub into the playing fields. Turn left past the tennis courts and then cross the road (B1053).

Take the path between the houses and bear right when you enter the open field.

Cross the bridge over the River Pant, then turn right and cross back over the river at the next bridge.

Bear right and cross three horse paddocks by stiles and then cross a field to the road (B1053).

Cross the road and climb the steps and 400 yards ahead turn left through a gate.

Pass through two more gates to reach a track with a cattle grid, on the right is Howses, a moated farmstead.

Bear part left over a stile and continue with the hedge on your right, down a field with views of Hempstead church in the distance.

Take a bridge over the stream and steps up a bank.

Turn left at the top and then soon right up a field with a hedge on your left. Follow to the top of the field and round to take a left turn through a hedge. Cross the field to the corner by a hedge and follow path around the edge of the field.



Then bear right and enter a paddock.

Cross a stile and head down the field to the road.

Turn right on the road and after 50 yards bear right onto a byway past Wellyards.

On reaching the road turn left to the Bluebell Inn, the birthplace of Dick Turpin.

Turn right up the road then right again by the village hall and go through the churchyard.





Turn right after the second stile, past the pond and willow trees onto the road. Turn left on the road and right after 100 yards onto a path on the right, then left after 200 yards and walk alongside the hedge to the bottom of the field. Continue round to the right for 600 yards and then drop down to follow the River Pant on your left.

Crossing a footbridge continue to keep to the field edge and then take the bridge over the river. Follow the path upwards. ***(If very wet divert further to the left, but continuing up to meet a track.)*** Turn right on to a green lane and follow to the road.

Turn left, walk past Free Roberts and left again at the T-junction.

Follow the road to Bean Pod Farm, turning right past farm buildings and on past fenced paddocks on the left and a hedge on the right, continue to a ditch on the right.

Keeping the ditch on your left, turn right and continue for half a mile back towards Great Sampford. Turn left on to the road back to the church.

See map below.

Map Walk 3

