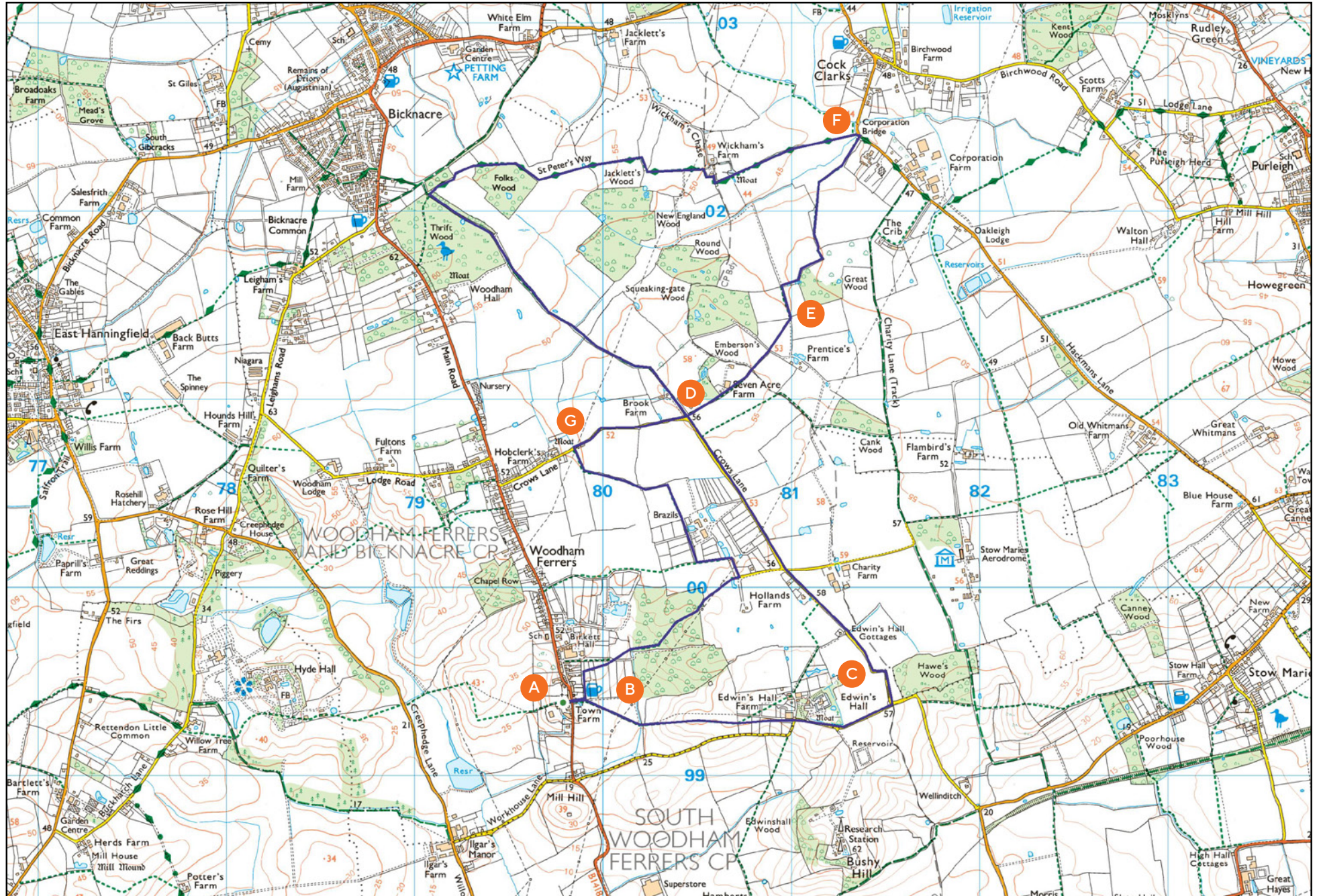


Walk 3 – St Mary's Church



Walk 3 –St Mary’s Church

ROUTE GUIDANCE

This walk is approximately 8 miles and covered by OS Explorer Maps 175 and 183

1. Go past the side entrance of the Bell Pub and go through the gap in the pergola straight ahead of you. Turn left on the path and follow the footpath sign. As you emerge at the next signpost, bear right and go diagonally down across the field towards the gap in the hedge.
2. Follow the footpath sign up the hill and on the post in the next hedge.
3. Go through the gate and head towards the road following the footpath signs when you reach the buildings.
4. After the stile, turn left and follow the road past Edwins Hall.
5. At the T-junction turn left into Crows Lane.
6. After passing Blacklands, go straight on at the crossroads and keep on Crows Lane until the road turns sharply to the left.
7. At this sharp bend turn right heading towards the house and footpath sign. Keep right on the bridleway and go past Emberson Lodge. You will also pass Seven Acre Farm on the left as you keep on the main track ignoring paths to right and left.
<https://w3w.co/dozen.circus.squirted>
8. Eventually you will reach a track, cross over this and follow the footpath sign across the field.
9. Go left following the footpath sign.
10. Follow the footpath sign to the right heading towards the wood. Then follow the path as it skirts round the wood. The next footpath sign directs you to go diagonally across the field to the next sign but you can follow the path round the side of the field to this sign. Stay on the path that goes round the edge of the field and turn right when you meet the stream, keeping on this path until you reach the road.
11. At the road, turn left and look out for a footpath sign with 20m. Turn left following the signs for St. Peter’s Way. Keep on St. Peter’s Way, passing through three gateways.
<https://w3w.co/hatch.tastes.speech>
12. Turn right on St. Peter’s Way, following the path around the farm buildings on your right. Cross the footbridge, turn left and follow the path across the field.
13. Follow St. Peter’s Way to the right and look out for a footpath sign to the left across another field on St. Peter’s Way.
14. Keep on St. Peter’s Way, skirting round the edge of Folks Wood, crossing another field before you enter Thriftwood. www.essexhighways.org/uploads/files/thrift_wood_2.pdf
15. When you reach the Footpath sign, leave St. Peter’s Way and turn left onto the bridleway. Follow this bridleway all the way to Crows Lane passing Brook Farm.
16. On reaching Crows Lane at the bend of Emberson Lodge turn right and continue along Crows Lane and look out for a footpath sign on the left before you reach the buildings.

17. Turn left following this sign and keep close to the hedge looking out for a footbridge on the left.
18. Cross the bridge and keep to the right of the hedge.
19. Cross the next footbridge and stile and continue keeping the hedge on your left and looking for the footpath sign which will direct you to turn right and cross the field, passing the farm buildings on your left and keeping on this path until you reach a stile.
20. Turn right after the stile and keep on the path looking out for a footbridge on your left.
21. Cross the footbridge and turn right onto this path. Follow this path towards the hedge near the main road and emerge through a gap in the hedge by a footpath sign opposite Whites Farm.
22. Cross the road and turn left and head back towards the church passing St. Mary’s School on your right.

MAP REFERENCES

St. Mary’s Church **A**

Built on the site of a Saxon church in the 13th century extended in the 14th and 15th centuries. The tower that once adorned the West end of the Church fell in 1703, was rebuilt only to fall again in 1774 and was replaced by a wooden belfry to house one of the former five bells.

The Bell **B**

The present Public House was built in 1885, on a site that has had brewing connections as far back at least as 1623.

Edwins Hall **C**

Rebuilt by Edwin Sandys, Archbishop of York, from whom it takes its name. The house today is but a small portion of the double moated Manor House which was built between 1576 and 1580.

Edwards Manor

One of the smaller Manors of Woodham Ferrers, held by William de Woodham in 1271, remained in the family for well over 100 years. Later the Manor was in the possession of the Sandys family, who also held the property for over 100 years.

The footpath used today is the same path that was used by the staff at the Hall, the shortest route to town and Church

The principal Manor House of the Parish, Woodham Hall, it is said that the last of the local branch of the Ferrers family William de Ferrers, died here in 1445.

The High Road, or Main Road, but once named Hall Street.

Part of the last remains of the ancient Manor of Joyces

PARISH OF PURLEIGH

Named after John and James Emberson who farmed here in the late 1700's.

Brook House Farm, or Broke Farm, once part of Lord Rayleigh's Estates.

The site of the old Manor House called Wycomb, or Wickhams, one of the four moated Manor Houses in the Parish.

The "New" Wickhams, built in the late 1800's to replace the old Elizabethan house.

The road used by the packhorses carrying the salt from the saltcotes of South Woodham and Stowe Maries.



D Crows Lane sharp left walk goes right



E Way post at start of PR of W across the field



F Hackmans Lane to St. Peters Way



G View of start of path