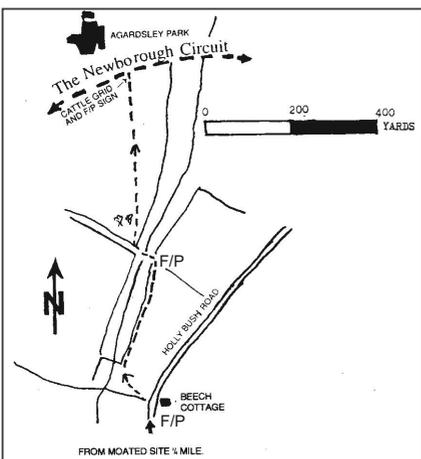


Over the stile, the path leading down for a few yards to cross a stream and the moat at its narrowest neck then up and over a stile through sheep netting into a grassy field where once stood a mediaeval building. Keep strictly to the right of way. The farm house away to the right is late Victorian and unrelated to the moated site. Follow wire fence on left to stile through sheep netting in corner. *Head left* to cross farm track, stile in hedgerow, forward into field with faint remains of the fishpond, which marks the end of the ancient monument. A new footbridge over the river Swarbourn leads to the final stile at Hollybush Road. Turn right here for less than ½ mile to complete the 2 mile walk back into the village but if required there is the opportunity of extending the walk by another 3½ miles. Turn left here to extend the walk. Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.

WALK EXTENSION (see small map below)



Turn left up Hollybush Road for ¼ mile. Opposite Beech Cottage go left over stile at finger post and turn half right over the short rise and follow the hedge coming in on the left to a finger post near field corner. Go left through the gate over the bridge then over the stile right of the gate

then right over rails at 2nd finger post and cross a sleeper bridge over another brook, all in a matter of 50 yds. Go forward right of the circle of trees and head for the finger post and gate at Agardsley Park which is on the line of the 'Newborough Circuit' - Walk Leaflet No. 1

Option 1. Turn left here on the tractor track and follow the leaflet back to Newborough, a matter of 2½ miles or:-

Option 2. Turn right over the cattle grid and up the road, also 2½ miles back to the village.

In both cases the route is described in Walk Leaflet No. 1, The Newborough Circuit.



- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.
- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep your dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.

**TAKE NOTHING BUT PHOTOGRAPHS,
LEAVE NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS.**

You may find the following maps useful:-
O.S. Pathfinder Sheet: SK02/12
O.S. Landranger Sheet: 128

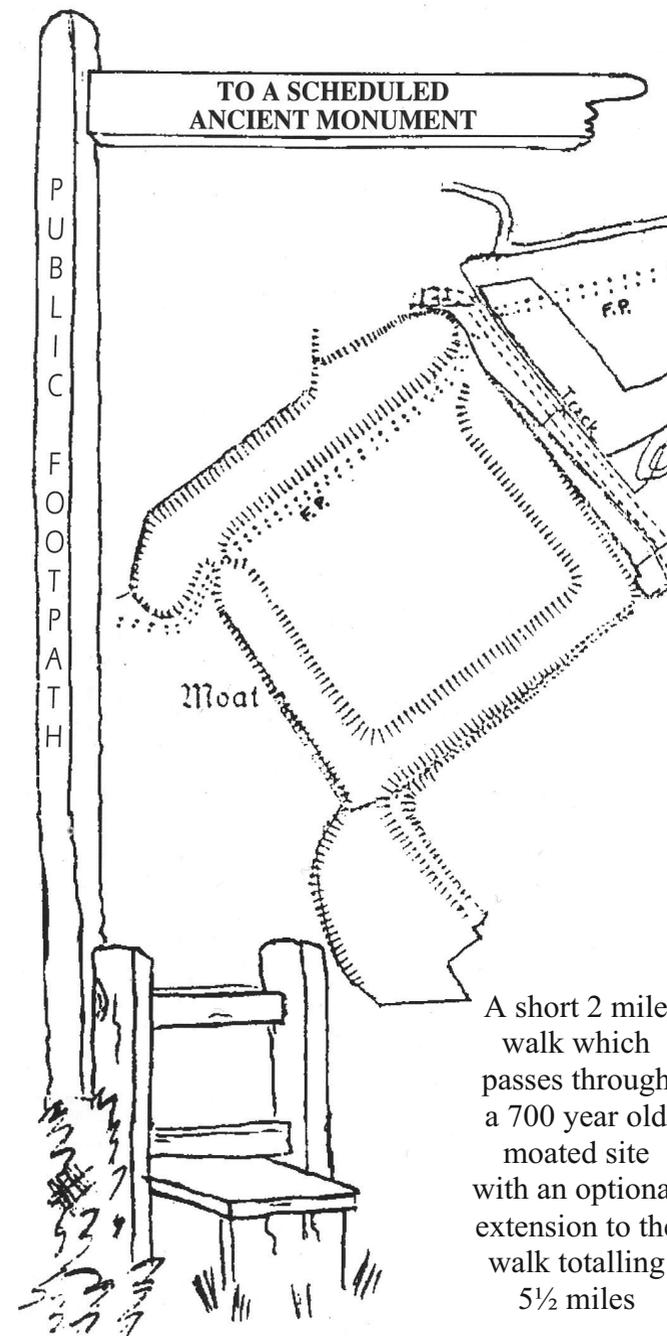
Acknowledgements

The landowners and farmers whose land is crossed by these paths.

Sponsored by

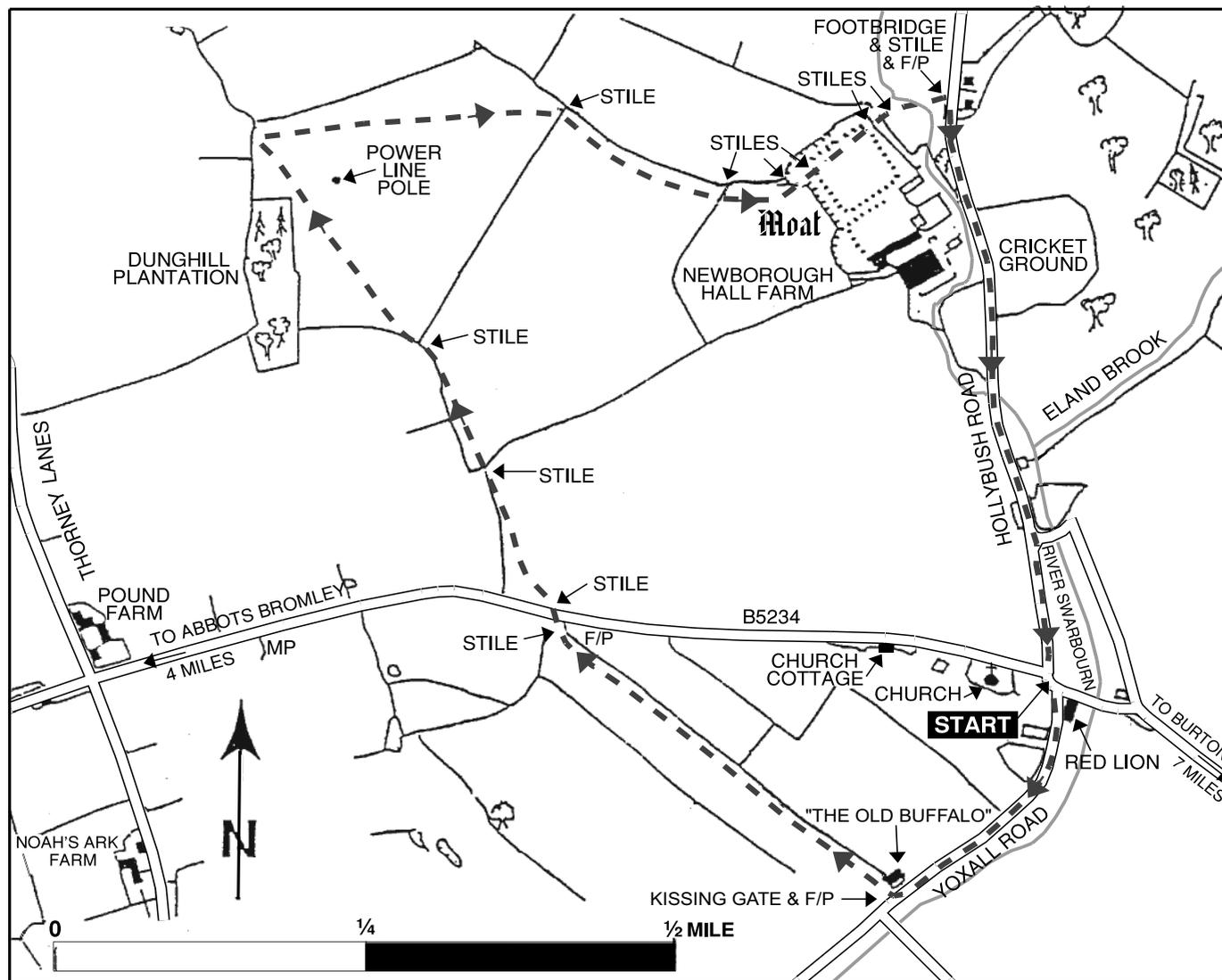


Walk created by Lawrence Shaw - February 1994
Reprinted - January 2010



A short 2 mile walk which passes through a 700 year old moated site with an optional extension to the walk totalling 5½ miles

**NEWBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
WALK LEAFLET NO. 3**



WALK DESCRIPTION

It is not generally known that less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Newborough village square there is an ancient monument. Even more notable, the fact that the monument has been scheduled in the records of National Heritage means that it is recognised as being of national importance and scheduling is to protect it from damage or destruction. It should be stressed to walkers who may be hoping to see 700 year old ruins that there are no such remains and the site is a grassy island surrounded by a waterlogged moat without trace of any building.

The monument is Newborough Hall moated site, a millpond, two

fishponds and connecting channels. The moated site has a grassy island some 63m square which is surrounded by a moat 10-20m wide by 1.8m deep that is waterlogged on all sides except the northeast and a short length of the north-west arm close to the northern corner. An outer bank about 8m wide by 1.3m high flanks much of the south-east arm. Adjacent to the southern corner of the moat is a sub-rectangular waterlogged millpond measuring some 42m by 32m that is flanked on its north-east side by an outer bank about 4m wide and 0.3m high. A dry fishpond measuring up to 25m by 10m and 0.5m deep lies parallel to the moat's north-east arm some 20m to the east. It is flanked on its northern side by an outer bank 4.5m wide and 0.2m high. The pond was fed by an inlet

channel 4m wide by 20m long that enters the northern side, while an outlet channel 4m wide by 10m long carried water into a second pond measuring up to 15m by 7m and 0.5m deep that is now mutilated on its south side by a stream.

Around 6,000 moated sites are known in England. They consist of wide ditches, often or seasonally water-filled, partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground on which stood domestic or religious buildings. In some cases the islands were used for horticulture. The majority of moated sites served as prestigious aristocratic and seignorial residences with the provision of a moat intended as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between about 1250 and 1350 and by far the greatest concentration lies in central and eastern parts of England. They form a significant class of mediaeval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. Many examples provide conditions favourable to the survival of organic remains.

The Newborough monument is a well preserved moated site associated with a range of features that includes a millpond and two fishponds. The complexity of these remains demonstrates well the diversity which may be exhibited by this class of monument.

Please keep to the public footpaths and away from Newborough Hall Farm which is a late Victorian house.

There is sheep netting to the base of some stiles which will present difficulty to walkers with dogs. The walk follows public rights of way throughout and the paths are well waymarked, however, you may find the Ordnance Survey Pathfinder map (Sheet No. SK02/12) useful. Be prepared for muddy conditions especially on the approach to the monument site. Strong footwear is recommended. Cars may be parked at the Red Lion, where walkers are welcome.

Please keep dogs under close control and follow the Country Code.

ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS

From the village square, go past the school and down Yoxall Road. In $\frac{1}{4}$ mile *turn right* behind the former Buffalo pub in Swarbourne Close and go through a kissing gate into what is known locally as the 'Long Field'. Keep the hedge on your right and up to the stile at the busy B5234. Cross *straight over* to another stile and maintain direction with the hedge on your left to a stile in the field corner. *Straight ahead* again with hedge on left and over another stile leading into a field where the footpath goes between Dunghill Plantation on the left and a power line pole on the right.

At the field corner where there is a gate and a stile, do *not* cross over but *turn half right* and head across the field in the direction of a house with 4 dormer windows in the middle distance. Climb the stile in the field corner, follow the hedge curving left; one more stile ahead and then the stile against the iron fence which marks the boundary of the moated site.