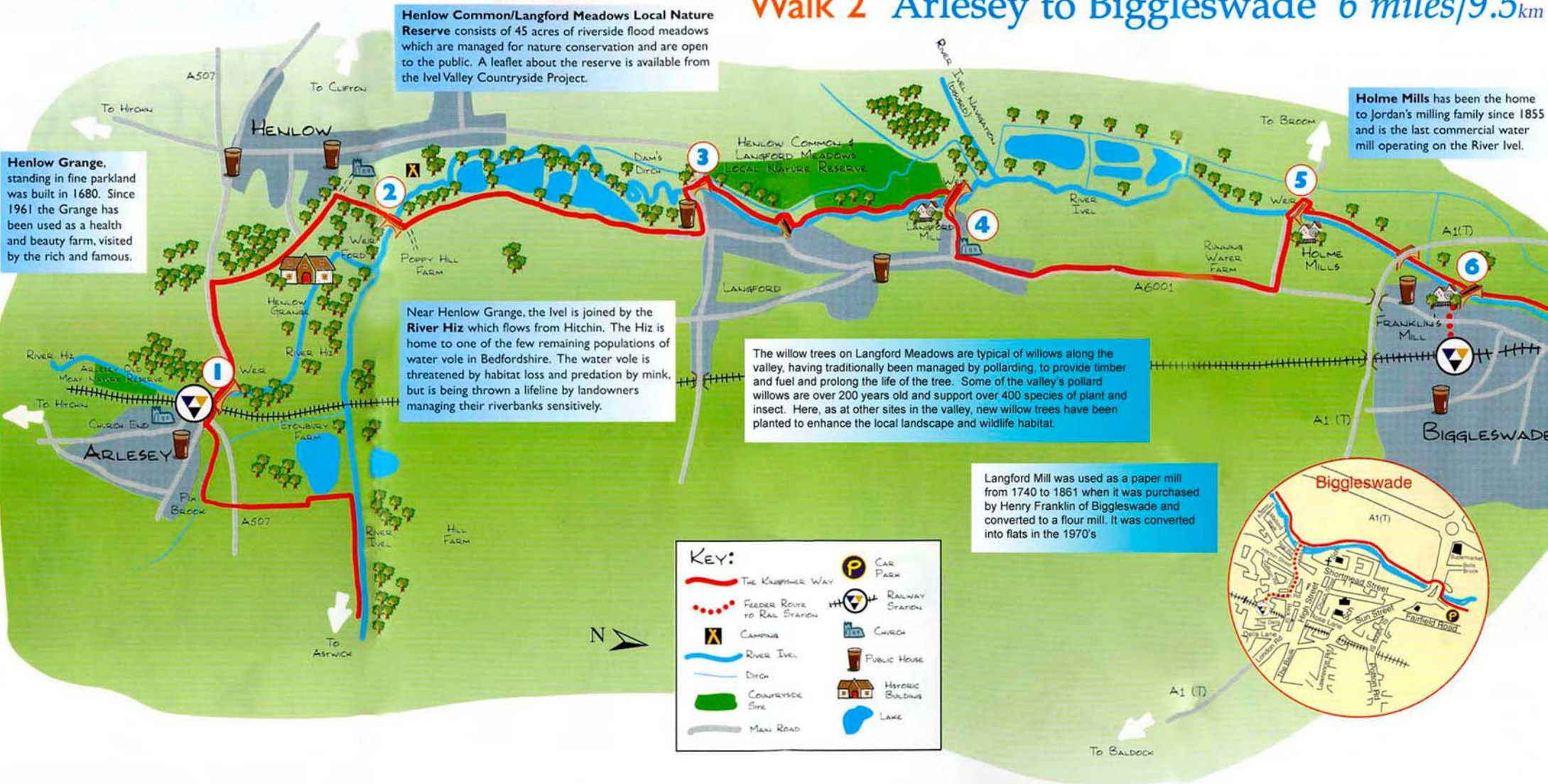


## Walk 2 Arlesey to Biggleswade 6 miles/9.5km



**Henlow Grange**, standing in fine parkland was built in 1680. Since 1961 the Grange has been used as a health and beauty farm, visited by the rich and famous.

**Henlow Common/Langford Meadows Local Nature Reserve** consists of 45 acres of riverside flood meadows which are managed for nature conservation and are open to the public. A leaflet about the reserve is available from the Ivel Valley Countryside Project.

Near Henlow Grange, the Ivel is joined by the **River Hiz** which flows from Hitchin. The Hiz is home to one of the few remaining populations of water vole in Bedfordshire. The water vole is threatened by habitat loss and predation by mink, but is being thrown a lifeline by landowners managing their riverbanks sensitively.

The willow trees on Langford Meadows are typical of willows along the valley, having traditionally been managed by pollarding, to provide timber and fuel and prolong the life of the tree. Some of the valley's pollard willows are over 200 years old and support over 400 species of plant and insect. Here, as at other sites in the valley, new willow trees have been planted to enhance the local landscape and wildlife habitat.

Langford Mill was used as a paper mill from 1740 to 1861 when it was purchased by Henry Franklin of Biggleswade and converted to a flour mill. It was converted into flats in the 1970's

**Holme Mills** has been the home to Jordan's milling family since 1855 and is the last commercial water mill operating on the River Ivel.

**KEY:**

	The Knappier Way		CAR PARK
	FEEDER ROUTE TO RAIL STATION		RAILWAY STATION
	CAMPING		CHURCH
	RIVER IVEL		PUBLIC HOUSE
	DITCH		HISTORIC BUILDING
	COUNTRYSIDE SITE		LAKE
	MAIN ROAD		

