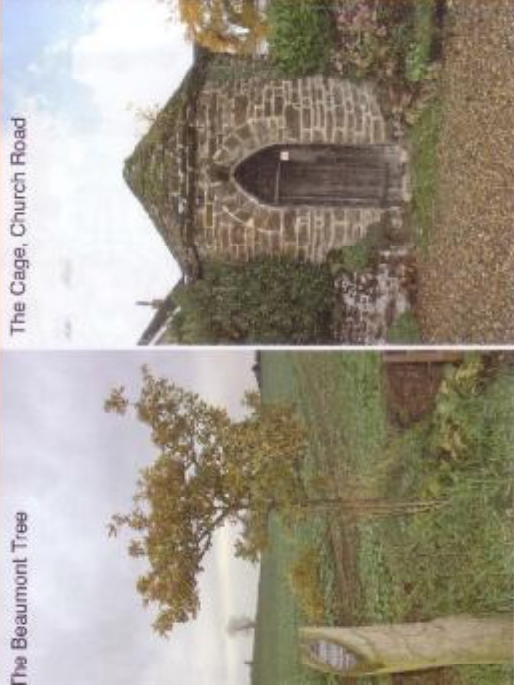


### Refreshments and Facilities

There are no public facilities at the start point. Refreshments can be found at The Star and Garter and The George pubs nearby, and at Public Houses that the walks go past in Wardhedges, Flitton, Pulloxhill and Clophill.

The Beaumont Tree



The Cage, Church Road



Rushymeade



Uppbury Moats



### Other walks in the series:

- Walk 1 - Silsoe - Beaumont Farm - Wardhedges  
3 Miles
- Walk 3 - Silsoe - Flitton Moor  
4.4 Miles
- Walk 4 - Silsoe - Pulloxhill Church  
4.7 Miles
- Walk 5 - Silsoe - Higham Gobion  
5.3 Miles
- Walk 6 - Silsoe - Upper Gravenhurst - Clophill  
6.7 Miles

### Points of Interest

**The Beaumont Tree** - was an ancient elm on the Parish Boundary between Silsoe and Flitton. The legend arose that the tree grew from an elm stake that had been thrust through the body of a highwayman that had been shot on the road nearby in 1751. It became the custom of locals to nail locks of hair and toenails to it as the Flitton Church clock struck midnight. This was to ward off the ague, a type of malaria once prevalent in this marshy district. Be sure to look for the carved figure of the highwayman on his horse.

**Rushymeade** - Pulloxhill's ancient meadow is an Open Access Area where there are seats and picnic tables available to enjoy the views and wildlife in a rare example of undisturbed Bedfordshire grassland. The site has interest for its vestiges of Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation using oxen.

**Uppbury Moats** - Medieval earthworks, moats and fish pond remain from the former Uppbury Manor, a possession of Dunstable Priory until the Dissolution when Henry VIII seized it. In 1711 the de Grey family purchased the Manor, but in 1841 the old timber framed house was demolished by the second Earl de Grey. He was the first President of the Institute of British Architects, and had the new Wrest Park House built on French lines, and in front of the old rambling Wrest House which he then demolished in 1839. He may have had grand plans for Uppbury, but died in 1851. The Uppbury estate was sold to local farmers in the 1920s.

**The Cage, Church Road** - was built in 1795 and used as a lock-up for drunks and stray animals. The advent of the professional police force in 1839 to replace the Parish Constable marked the end of such lock-ups. Many were demolished or fell into disrepair. Before the days of electricity it is believed the local lamplighter kept his oil and equipment there.

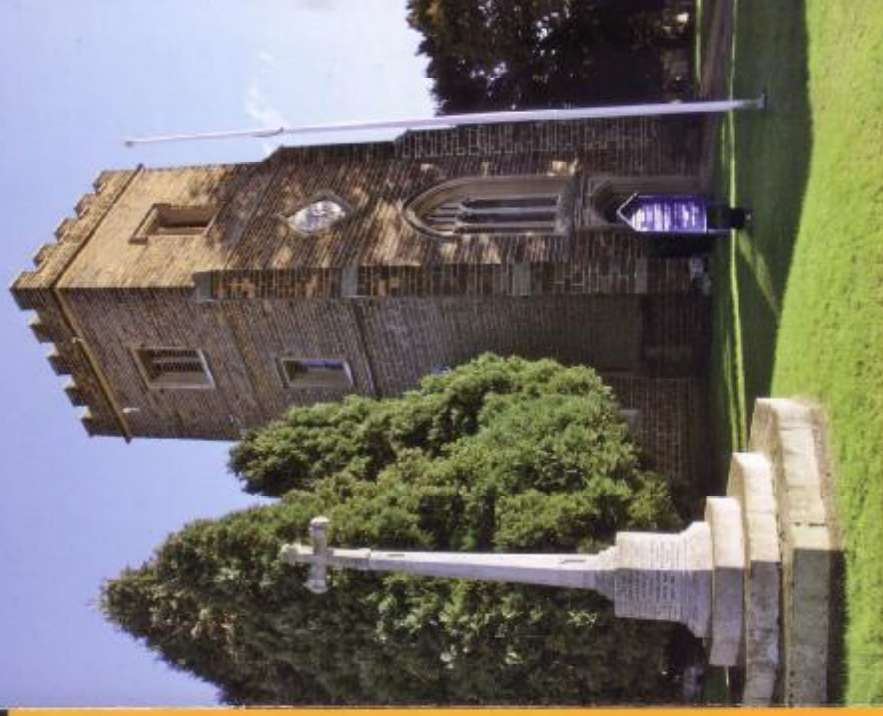
# Circular Walks Around Silsoe

## WALK

# 2

## 3.8 Miles

## Silsoe - Pulloxhill - Uppbury Moats - Silsoe



If using a car, please park considerably by the side of Silsoe Church in Park Avenue, Grid Reference TL083356 (Explorer Map 193, Landranger 153). Silsoe is off the A6 Bedford to Luton road. The Stagecoach Saturn S1 Bus Service from Bedford to Luton stops outside the Church.

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The Greensand Trust





**SILSOE CHURCH  
THRIFT WOOD  
PULLOXHILL  
UPBURY MOATS**  
Distance: 3.8 Miles

**NOTE:** This walk uses a Permissive Path 0.8 miles from the start at point ②. These paths can be legally closed for a short period. If you find the path is identified as being closed, please refer to the diversion section in (brackets).

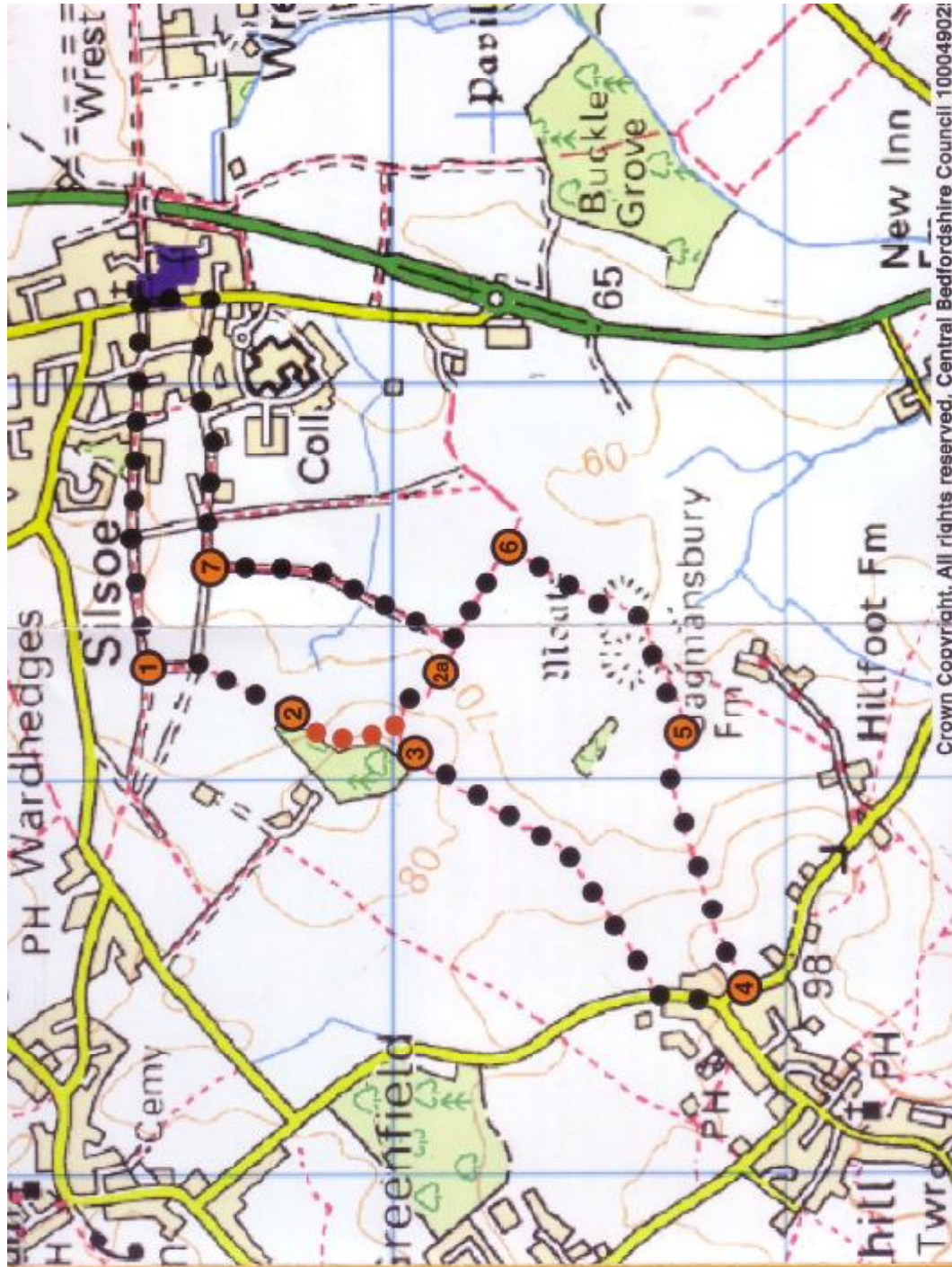
From Park Avenue cross into Church Road, noting The Cage on the left. Continue past The Horticultural Centre into the fields. Go past the first turning and go left at the next ①.

Go along this short section, cross over the track to go along the field edge with a hedge on your right. Thrift Wood is in front. As you approach the wood the footpath becomes a permissive path, signposted on the right ② and again just before the wood bridge. Bear right after the bridge and go up the hill with a wood on your right. Continue along the edge of the wood.

(Closed Permissive Path Diversion - Go back to where you crossed over the track and turn right. At the next junction with the bridleway, ⑦, turn right. At the field boundary ②a turn right and head up the hill towards Thrift Wood. At the top, you'll be at point ③, only now will you turn left to continue down the field edge.)

At the top of the hill go through the hedgeline ③ and continue down the field edge with the hedge on your right. At the field boundary cross the bridge and bear left to go round the field edge. Continue to the gate and pass the pond, out onto the road in Pulloxhill. Turn left and go to the T-junction. Bear left along Barton Road, and after 100 yds up this road take the footpath on the left ④.

**KEY:** ● ● ● ● ● Trail  
● ● ● ● ● Permissive Path



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Go along the field edge. Where the hedge stops, bear slightly right and go down past and just to the right of the power cable pole, heading for a waymarker by a step down to a plank bridge. Continue across the next section of the field, going close to where the hedge on the right turns away, and after that point, bear slightly right and aim for the waymarker post in the hedgeline at the bottom of the field ⑤.

Go through the hedge and bear slightly left across the next field to the kissing gate amongst the trees. Follow the curved route around Upbury Moats and out across the next field. At the kissing gate turn left and then right along the edge of the field with a hedge to your left. At the next junction ⑥, go across the bridge and turn left and head up the field.

At the next waymarker on the track at ②a, turn right. Follow this to meet another track ⑦. Turn right along the track that leads into West End Road. Turn left at the High Street and return to the Church.