

Walk past the Medieval Village Site

with the remains of a hedge on your left. This takes you to a concrete bridge over a stream (the Whittey Brook).

Continue straight on up the unmade lane until you reach a junction. Turn left into a lane and, after 100 yards, you will come to cross roads. Go straight on downhill. The first house on your right after 300 yards, a rambling black and white house with stone and brick extensions was the old work house. Next along is a pretty row of cottages, with a handsome timber-framed house opposite. You will recognise that you are back at the site of old Stockton village. This part of Kimbolton is still called Stockton and is probably one of the oldest areas of the village.

Continue up the lane until you reach the main road through Kimbolton with a black and white pub, the Stockton Cross Inn, on the opposite corner. The last building in the lane on your right is the old village smithy. Turn right and walk along the main road, from which you get a very good view of Kimbolton church, until you are back at the village hall.

Approx. 4 miles.

This walk can be shortened by the following diversion.

After seeing the site of fishponds, turn left on the road. Walk to the first road junction signposted Grantsfield. Turn left and continue until you reach a crossroads. Turn left again and you will soon come to the old workhouse on your right.

Shortened walk is approx. 2¼ miles.

Park in the village hall car park and take the stile across the road opposite the entrance. Walk down to the brook, crossing by the footbridge. Turn right and follow the brook for 300 yards to a stile leading into a farmyard.

Go over the stile to a track which goes past an old farmhouse on your left. As you reach a bridge over a stream turn left between farm buildings and go through a metal gate. Keeping the stream on your right, cross an old orchard to a lane. Cross the lane and follow the footpath sign to a stone stile.

Go over the stile. Pause here and look up the field to the right to see the humps and bumps of the medieval village of Stockton. Bearing left cut diagonally across the corner of the field to a footbridge which takes you across the brook. Turn right to follow the brook which eventually leads to the road.

About halfway along the path look across the brook to the field beyond. Notice the great bank on the far side of the stream, and the banks all round this large rectangular field. These banks enclosed fishponds stocked by the monks of Leominster Priory. Beyond the orchard you can also see the farm buildings and round dovecote belonging to Stockton Bury.

When you reach the road turn left and walk about a mile with fine views to Wales to your right until you come to a footpath sign on your left. This takes you through a narrow strip of woodland. Go over the stile at the end of the wood and through a small gate on your left onto a bridleway. Follow the track down through a large orchard past the storage buildings. Continue until you reach the bottom of the orchard with farm buildings on your left. The track bears right. After fifty yards turn left through a small gate. The path is straight ahead

