

Walk 5: Oakington to Gatehouse Road via Westwick Hall.

This walk starts at the Citi 6 Bus Stop at the junction of Station Road and Mill Road.

Follow the footpath alongside Station Road to the East, crossing the Guided Busway (300m) until you reach Westwick Bridge (another 100m).

Cross the road carefully here to where you will see the Public Bridleway sign, and walk down a short incline to a field gate leading into the grounds of Westwick Hall.



Pass through the gate, closing it carefully behind you – there are often sheep loose in this field. If you look back to your right you will see through Westwick Bridge, which was expanded from a smaller bridge by the County Council about 10 years ago as the steadily increasing river flows were regularly getting blocked here.



Follow one of the tracks across Westwick Hall field. To your left you will get good views of Westwick Hall itself through the trees. There are a couple of obvious channels in the grass, these are related to the old courses of the Histon Brook over time, which has since been rerouted to run nearer to what is now the Guided Busway. It can still flood into these channels.



At the end of the field is a further field gate. Pass through this and again please make sure it is securely fastened. Just beyond the gate a bridleway leaves to the left, this heads towards Cottenham Road. For this walk keep straight along on the track alongside Histon Brook.



After about 500m you come to a bridge over the brook, and should cross this (it is possible to go straight on towards the grounds of St Andrew's Park in Histon).

A short distance over the bridge, bear left following the track which then heads fairly straight for the remaining 500m to Gatehouse Road.



Along this path you can see an old barn to the left, and then an avenue of horse chestnut trees, sadly fairly badly afflicted by *Guignardia aesculi* or one of the other similar problems so many of these trees have suffered from recently.



At the end of the path is a pedestrian exit onto Gatehouse Road. This section of the path is very popular with Histon's dog walkers and care is needed when approaching and passing through the gate due to the dog and car movements.



Where next? You can turn right down Gatehouse Road to either Centenary Wood (Walk 3), Mansells Wood (Walk 4), the Guided Busway, or to Cambridge Road and the adjacent footpaths to Girton or Oakington. Or you can follow Gatehouse Road into Histon which sports a number of excellent pubs and cafés as well as a good selection of shops.