

Walk 6: Oakington to Gun's Lane avoiding the road.

This walk starts at St Andrew's Church in the High Street. It takes the walker out to Gun's Lane in the direction of Cottenham without the need to walk on Oakington Road (see Walks 7 and 8).



From the front of the Church, follow the path either side of the church to a gate onto a short track. (To your left you will see the path to the Martyr's Graves, and a sign with information about the Graves – well worth a visit.)

Pass through the gate and continue down the track to Water Lane. Turn left, and follow the footpath alongside Water Lane and Station Road to the north-east, crossing the Guided Busway (300m) and continue until you reach Westwick Bridge (another 50m).



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. Please also keep dogs on leads as you cross this field especially if there are sheep about.



Follow one of the tracks across Westwick Hall field (500m). 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 after heavy rains.

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 Oakington Road. The track ahead goes on towards Histon (see Walk 5).



Follow the bridleway track to the left up a slight hill along the boundary of Westwick Hall Estate. The track turns left, then right, then left again along the boundary of the estate and then the rear boundaries of the houses in Westwick Terrace, with open fields to your right.

After about 500m you will see Oakington Road in front of you, at the top of a bank. Do not go up on to the road but stay along the track along the edge of the field (this track can get a little overgrown).



In another 150m you will come to a metal barrier leading into a small open space that is the entry to Gun's Lane. There is an information board here describing the history of the Highways and Byways in this area of Cambridgeshire.



(A byway is a track that is open to motor vehicles, though possibly in this area only at certain times of year.)



Where next? The information board is at the entry to Gun's Lane through a further metal barrier, this bridleway will take you to Histon (see Walk 7). Across the road is the entrance to a byway, variously called Cuckoo Lane or Rampton Drift on the maps, which will take you towards Rampton (see Walk 8).