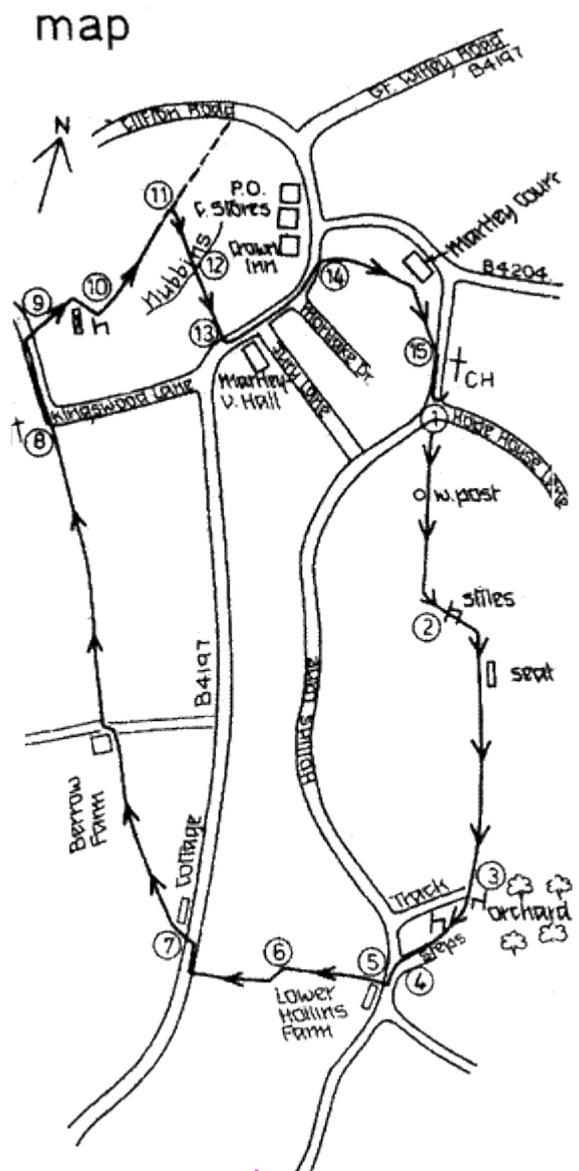


START: From St Peter's church car park, walk south along the road to the three way junction and enter the field opposite the signpost (1). To the right is The Berrow topped by the beacon basket erected for the Armada celebrations in 1988, and ringed by an Iron Age Fort. (This hill has a strange legend attached to it, from the mists of time, which supposes that when the Ancient Britons occupied the Iron Age fort, two chieftains encamped with their followers, Odo on The Berrow and Dodo on Woodbury Hill. In battle Odo was defeated and driven back to Knightwick).

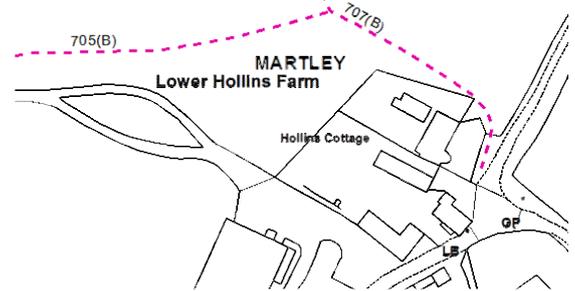
Keep straight on and at the path junction and waymarking post proceed south, diagonally across the field to a stile in the hedge line (2). Over the stile, bear left up the field edge path to the commemorative seat, erected in 1995 to celebrate 50 years since victory in Europe. Looking back, a panoramic view of Martley is revealed, the church in the centre, with the large mansion of Laugherne House (now Laugherne Park) on the right and the equally imposing "Noak" on rising ground to the left. Both these houses once belonged to the wealthy and influential family of Nash, one of whom wrote a comprehensive description of Worcestershire in the 18th century. Continuing up the field, go over the stile at the top into a former orchard (3), turn right to another stile and descend steps onto the lane (4). Turn left up the lane towards Lower-Hollins Farm and back on yourself into the field before the farmhouse (5). Veer left towards the centre of the field finding then following a rough track to a hedge. Turn left in front of the hedge, then right at a waymark post in a few metres, and pick up the right side of another hedge line, following this to the B4197 road, directly towards the hill known as the Berrow.

Turn right down the road, taking great care with rushing traffic, and after approx. 100 metres cross over to a sign pointing down a track (7) on the left. At this point we join the Worcestershire Way. A few steps take you to a metal gate in trees on the right beside the garden of an attractive cottage. Through the gate, continue across the pasture to another gate, noting to the left a pretty timber framed cottage standing alone amid fields. Until restored, this was known locally as the "listed henhouse", being a little architectural gem but sadly neglected and given over to poultry and now fortunately rescued. Continue straight to the third gate that leads onto a tarmac driveway. Keep straight on along the tarmac until a way marking post shows that the path briefly traverses the edge of the field but most will continue along the private driveway. Regain the track.

At the main drive to Berrow Farm, turn left, then just a few yards turn right along the hedge line downhill on the Worcestershire way with superb views of Penny Hill and beyond. Berrow Farm is late 17th century, but it is believed that the site has been occupied since the time of Domesday. Pass a path junction that leads to a most attractive 'holloway' to the right, until you come to the imposing signpost on the lane corner (8) and signs to Martley Rock geology site (worth a visit). At the signpost continue straight on up the left side of the hedge line to a gap on the right leading down to Kingswood Lane. Opposite, a signpost points the way through a pedestrian gate (9) along a rough track above old apple trees with enchanting views of the Teme Valley. Down below to the left is the hamlet of Kingswood, once an important resting place for travellers crossing the Teme at the ford. Some of the stepping stones can still be seen at low water, and also Millstones,



Expanded map round Lower Hollins



a reminder of the corn mill, that stood until around 1900, on the far bank by the ford. At the top of a rise, on the right, go through the gate and continue with hedge on the left to a gap by a marvellous old 'warden' (keeping) pear tree (10). Walk up rising ground with increasingly wide and wonderful views of the countryside as far as the Malverns, Cotswolds, Clent Hills, Clee Hills, Bromyard Plateau and Forest of Dean, 470 million years of the Earth's history at a glance.

After approx. 400 metres (and 100 metres before the Clifton Road) turn right (11) and head for the gate which will become visible some way along, at the top of a bank. You are then standing on top of "The Nubbins", the local name for an outcrop of red sandstone which was quarried for centuries, providing stone for the 12th century church and many other buildings. Negotiate the steep downhill bank with care to a rough track, right approx. 15 metres to steps to a gate into a copse on the left. Through the copse proceed along the left side of the hedge to path junctions and an old shed (Alf's), and straight on to the B4197 road, emerging nearly opposite the Memorial Hall (13).

Cross with care, turn left along the pavement, past Jury Lane and Mortlake Drive to a signpost and stile on the right leading to a field (14). Follow the way marking posts across the field to a gate into Church Lane (15). Turn right down to the car park and your start point.

The **Path-or-Nones** meet each third Sunday of the month for 2-3 hours from 9am, and has done since around 1985. The group tackles everything and anything on Martley's 41 miles of Rights of Way—clearance, installing gates, stiles, bridges, signposts and signage. We act on behalf of Worcestershire County Council and liaise between RoW users and landowners.

Volunteers are always welcome; we find it fun and worthwhile. Please contact Jon Pearsall 01886 888793 or John Nicklin 01886 888318
www.thepathornones.co.uk

Martley Parish supports the **Walkers are Welcome** initiative
www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk

All service outlets in Martley—pubs, shop, B&Bs, welcome path users.

Come to see our unique geology!
www.geo-village.eu

These walks were first written by Keith and Audrey Trumper in the early 90s

(updated Nov 13)

The Path-or-Nones

WALK 8

Fine Views and Historic Places
Grade: easy, distance: 3 miles

Remember the Countryside Code:

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs