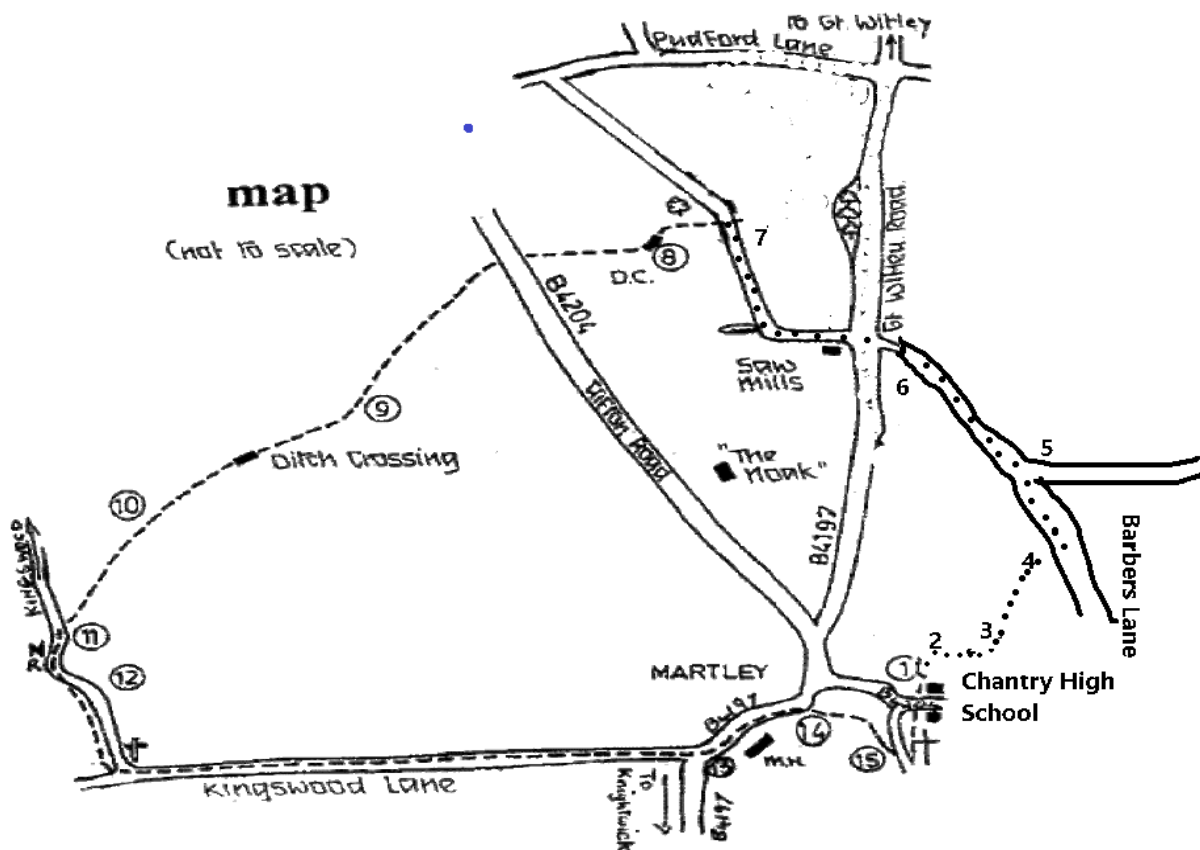


START: From the car park at St. Peter's Church, walk up the churchyard, cross the B4204 and go up the signed track opposite, through the avenue of damson trees, and through gap (1). Turn right and follow the waymarks (2) along the perimeter of the Chantry High School grounds and continue until you see a gate, over a ditch crossing, in the hedge on the left (3). Go through the gate and cross the field diagonally to another gate and signpost leading into Barbers Lane (4). Turn left and follow Barbers Lane to a junction (5) where you take the left fork. Follow this small lane to the junction with the main road B4197 (6). Take care with traffic and go nearly straight across to Pudford Lane opposite, passing the woodyard. Walk along, around the corner, until steps, gate and signpost are seen in the left-hand hedge (7).

[Further down the lane is what remains of the mediaeval fishpond of "The Noake", sadly now much overgrown and partially filled in. The remnants of the sluice gate lie beside it in the grass. Presumably the sluice was used to drain water from the pool to make netting the fish easier, when eating fish was compulsory on Fridays, a "fast" day in our Catholic past].

Through the gate, cross the field to its far-left corner, keeping to the left of a venerable oak tree with its hollow trunk, a hiding place for rabbits. The small copse on the left has been fenced to allow primroses and a few violets to flourish, and later bluebells may appear. Over the stile and ditch crossing (8) in the corner, look for the gate far away to the right across the field, leading onto the Clifton road B4204. Keep to the right-side field edge (permissive route) then diagonally left from the waymark at the field corner to the roadside gate. Cross the road to the signpost and gate/stile opposite. With the hedge on your immediate left, traverse a rough track, through a gate, under the overhead power lines to a waymarking post (9). There are good views across the valley of the River Teme to the right. Keep at high level till you reach four oak trees, and from here bear slightly right, quite steeply downhill, following an ancient lane with a bank to the left, to reach a waymarked footbridge on the left over a small stream.



After the bridge go left up to an old track then right to the top of the rise, following 'Chimney Lane'--there used to be many small houses and plots hereabouts and apparently a lone chimney stack remained for some time. Continue along this track to an old stile/gap in very rough ground. Make your way through open ground then back into woodland to a fine oak tree at a path junction on the left (10), straight on, passing an ancient bulldozer almost buried in bracken and greenery on your left. Reach a stile onto the road (11), and turn left up the steep lane, on the route of the Worcestershire Way. At the top of the hill in the right hand bank a gap leads into the field. Keep beside the field hedge downhill to a large signpost indicating the Worcestershire Way, the Martley Loop and see Martley Rock geology site (worth a visit to the right).

Turn left into the lane and follow it to the junction with B4197 (13). Cross carefully, go left along the footpath, past the Memorial Hall, Jury Lane and Mortlake Drive to a signpost and gate on the right leading into a field (14). Cross the stile and head straight on to cross a further gate/stile. Follow the left hand edge of the field then bear right in front of farm buildings through a gate, then another gate into Church Lane (15). Turn right down to the car park and your start point.

Martley Walks

No. 7: A Circular Walk with Teme Valley Views

Grade: Moderate, 2.6m (4.1km)

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

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 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 and all service outlets, supports the Walkers are Welcome initiative www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk

Come to see Martley's unique geology! www.geo-village.eu

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

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