

Standon Nr. Ware Walk 1:

To Bromley via Standon Lodge Farm

*Easy hills, open country,
stunning views, woodland and
a lake make this a rewarding
walk.*

*Distance and time needed: 4.5
miles, approx. 2 hours.*

*Refreshments: The Bell (Pizzas &
Pub food) 01920 739838
The Heron/China Garden (Chinese
Food) 01920 821236
The Star (Pub food) 01920 823725*

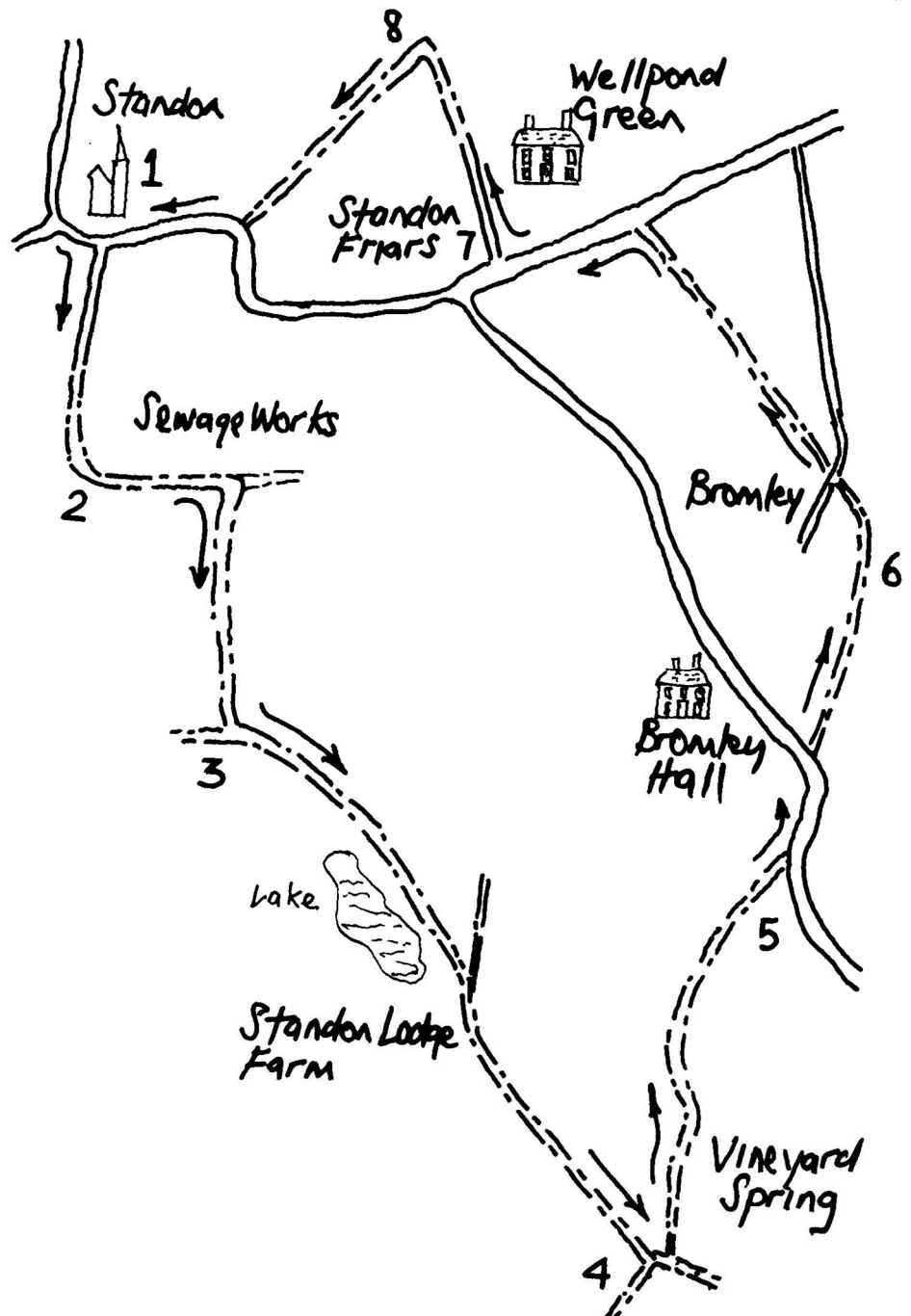
1 Starting at St. Mary's Church in Standon High Street, walk towards Knights Court. Continue past Knight Court and the Alms Houses (the original work sheds of Standon workhouse dating from the 18th century). Turn right, just beyond Rose Cottages, up the concrete track leading to the Thames Water plant.

The church is thought to be built on the site of an ancient chapel dating back to the 9th century and is very unusual in having a separate tower, built in the 15th century. Knights Court was originally built as a Guildhall in the 16th century and then became a school, only closing in 1974. For more details of these buildings see Walk 12, 'An Historical Amble down Standon High Street'.

2 Follow the track into the wood, beside the sewage works. Passing through the wood, turn left along the field edge boundary. Follow the ditch to the corner of the field and then turn right up the hill. Keeping the hedgerow on your left, go up to the top of the field where you will exit onto a cinder track.

3 Turn left onto the bridleway and continue along it to Standon Lodge Farm. As you approach the farm you pass the lake on your right, and come to the main lane serving the farmyard and the house. Turn right and go up the lane, passing in front of the farm cottages on the left and the barns on your right. Continue on the track – a bridleway – as you leave the farmyard behind you. Follow the bridleway, with a deep ditch on your left (loads of primroses in the Spring), until you reach the point where it passes through the hedgerow with a wood (Vineyard Spring) ahead and to your left.

4 Turn left in front of the wood and follow the field edge, keeping the wood – and a ditch – on your right. You are now heading towards Bromley. Follow the bridleway along the field edge and through the gap in the hedgerow at the field corner. Continue along the same track as you go through into the field beyond, keeping the trees on your



right. Soon you will have a garden with a conifer hedge on your right (Ellingtons), and you will emerge onto the lane linking Standon and Much Hadham. (You are standing on the boundary between the two parishes).

5 Turn left onto the road and walk back around the corner to Bromley (towards Standon). Please take care the road is narrow and there is no footpath!

Bromley Hall was once the site of a busy Romano-British pottery industry in the 3rd and 4th centuries with many kilns producing tiles and domestic pottery known as 'Hadham Ware'. Keep your eyes open for fragments!

Stay on the road, passing Bromley Hall Farm on your left. 50 metres further on, at the entrance of Bromley Hall, turn right along the concrete drive in front of Bromley Hall Cottages. Turn right 30 metres ahead, just beyond the cottages, through the old kissing gate (marked by a footpath sign) into the paddock. Follow the footpath past the tennis court, turning left round the corner, leaving the paddock just past the stable, onto Bromley Lane. Walk along the lane, passing some cottages on your left. 100 metres further on you will see a signpost to the left (Road Used as a Public Path, which leads back onto the Much Hadham/Standon road). Stay on the tarmac lane, passing a garage and cottage ('Rosecot') on your left and 'Hazlewood' on your right.

6 At the bottom of a dip in the road, 150 metres on, there is a partially hidden footpath sign to the left. Follow this, crossing over a small wooden footbridge, turn left, over another footbridge, then turn immediately right, up the field edge path, and continue on, crossing a small, often dry, stream. Keep the hedge on your right and follow the field boundary all the way until you join the road running between Standon and Wellpond Green, almost opposite Wellpond Green cottages.

7 Turn left onto the road towards Standon, until you reach the entrance to Standon Friars on your right.

In the 12th century the Knights Hospitaller established a preceptory, an estate to support their community in Standon, at Standon Friars. The field on your right just before the entrance to Standon Friars is known as Knights Leys, and Knights Spring is also shown in this field on old maps.

Go along the tarmac drive towards Standon Friars, but keep to the left where the drive branches. You will see a pond on the left with a gate into the yard just beyond. Go through the gate and into the yard. Walk to your right and straight towards the gates at the opposite end of the yard. Please remember to fasten all gates behind you and keep dogs on a lead. Pass through the gate and you should be looking down a pasture with a hedgerow on your right and a lovely view away to the left. Continue down the field, keeping the hedge on your right.

8 Pass through gate at the bottom of the field and turn left along the field boundary. Follow this path, with the ditch and trees on your left, along the full length of the field until it exits onto the Hadham Road by Springfields (just beyond the 30 mph sign at the bottom of Dark Hill). Follow the Hadham Road back towards the centre of the village and St. Mary's Church, taking care on the first section as there is no footway.

Paths in Standon Parish are clearly waymarked. If you come across any problem with missing waymarks, please contact the Parish Paths Partnership: john@walkinginengland.co.uk.

This leaflet has been produced by Standon Parish Council working as part of the Parish Paths Partnership, a programme funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Countryside Management Service (CMS). CMS helps communities across Hertfordshire to care for and enjoy the environment. www.hertslink.org/cms

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