

Denmead Footpaths Guide



6th Edition

January 2004

Issued by the Parish Council of Denmead

INTRODUCTION

This is the 6th edition of the Footpath Guide for the Denmead Parish. Editions 1, 2 and 3 are now collector's pieces, and edition 4 (dated 1988) was in circulation until the Millennium, when edition 5 was finally produced.

The format is similar, with path descriptions updated where necessary. There are no major changes in this edition, apart from the use of colour pictures and references to the Millennium Walk and the Fitness Trail; both available as separate guides.

The Parish Councillors and their co-opted walkers spend a great deal of time monitoring the state of paths and keeping them open, but the support of the public is essential.

Please use this booklet as your passport to the countryside – and respect the rules. Remember, the 'Right of Way' covers only the width of the path, not the cornfield, not the farmyard, not the front garden.

By walking paths regularly and reporting obstructions, misleading notices or disrepair, you can assist the Council in ensuring that these links with our past can be bestowed upon our future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

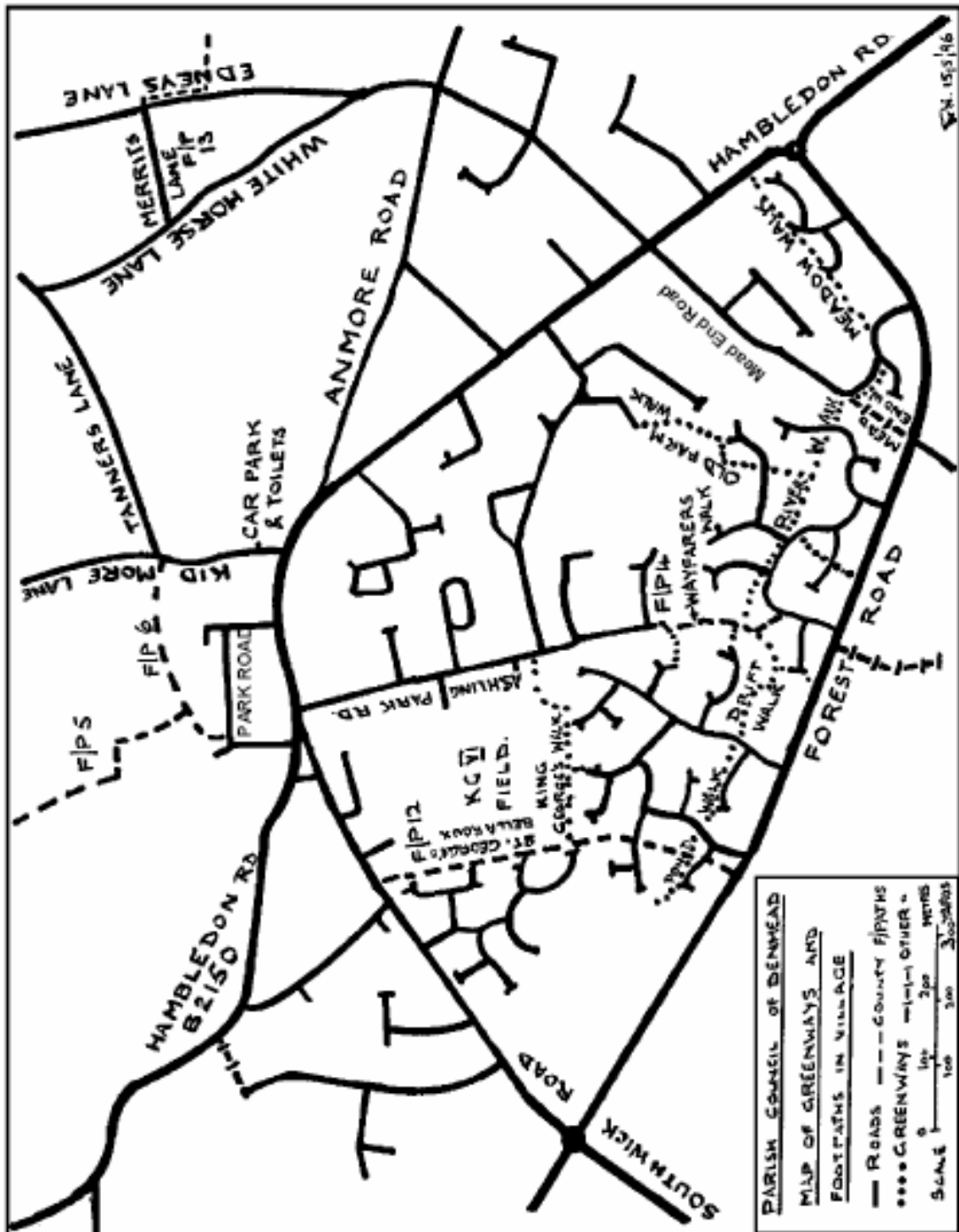
THE COUNTRY CODE

- Guard against all risks of fire.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep dogs under proper control.
- Keep to the paths across farmland.
- Avoid damaging fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave no litter – take it home.
- Safeguard water supplies.
- Protect wild life, wild flowers and tress.
- Go carefully on country roads.
- Respect the life of the countryside.

Notes:

- 1 Most birds are now under Protection Orders. Killing birds or collecting their eggs may result in heavy fines.
- 2 Be careful with interconnecting gates between fields; by closing one of these it could mean that an animal is deprived of water.
- 3 All of the houses mentioned in this booklet are private dwellings and none are open to the public.
- 4 The Denmead Parish Council cannot accept responsibility for any consequences arising from errors made in compiling this booklet.

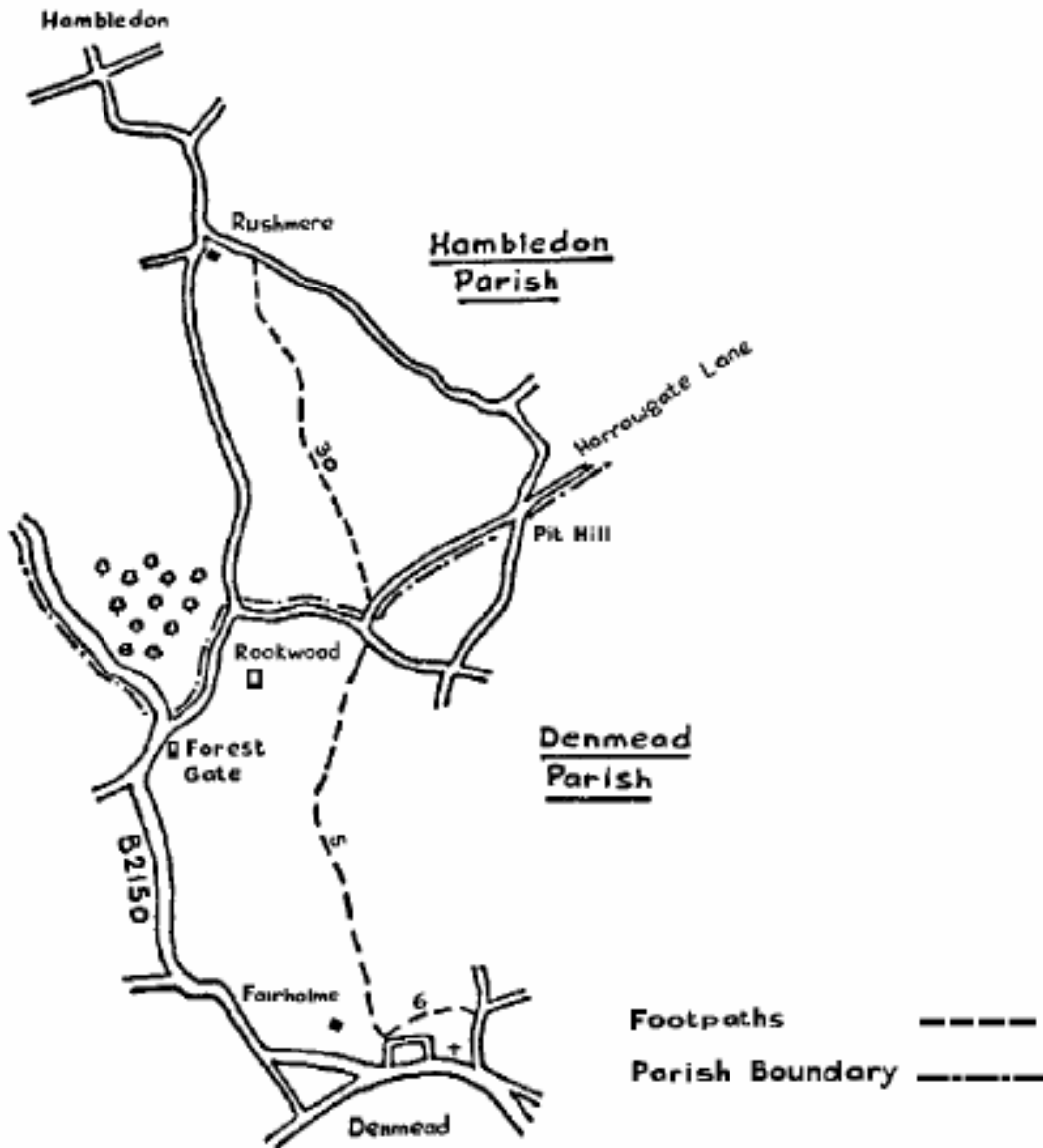
Centre of Village
For Rural Paths – See Centrefold Map



Denmead to Hambledon

Using Denmead FP5

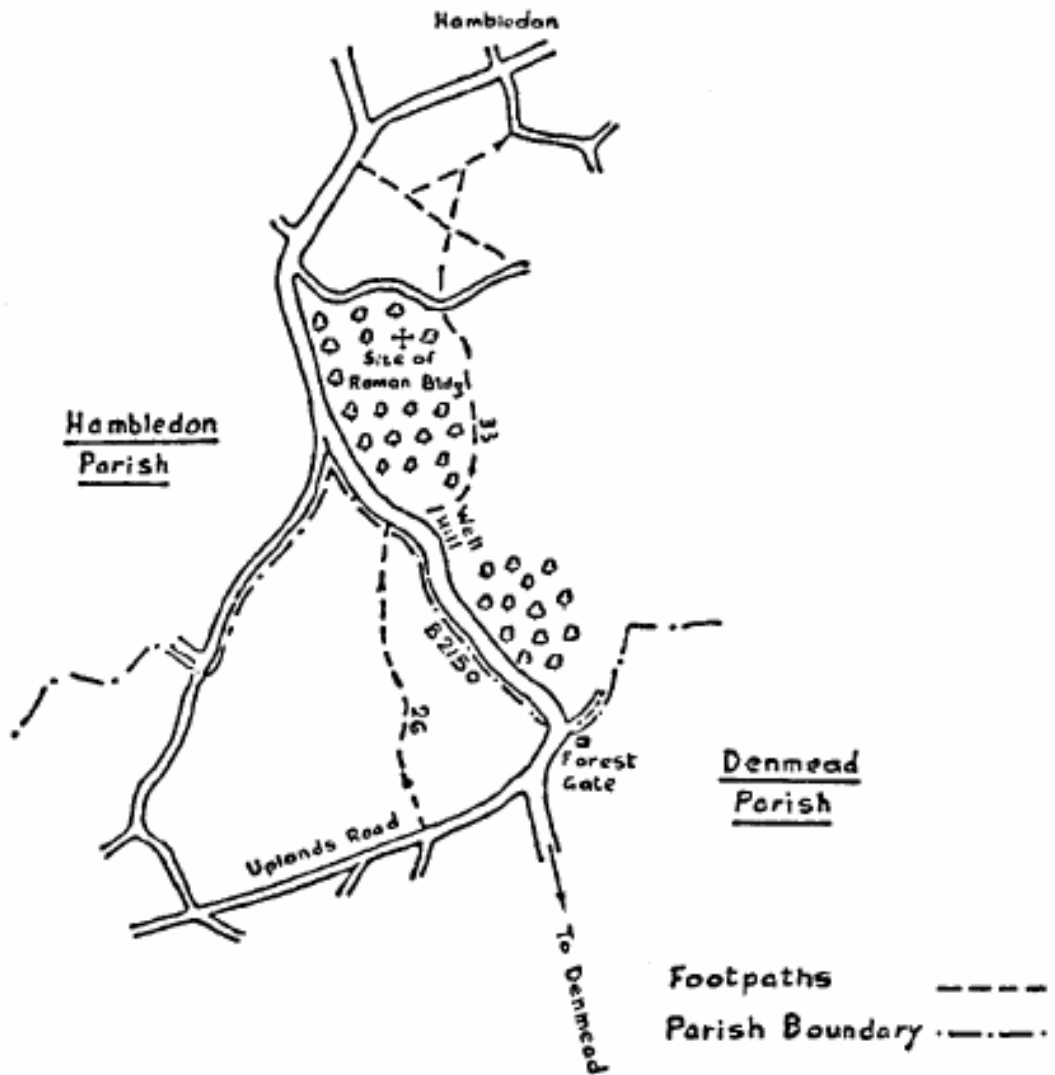
Hambledon FP 30



Uplands Road to Hambledon

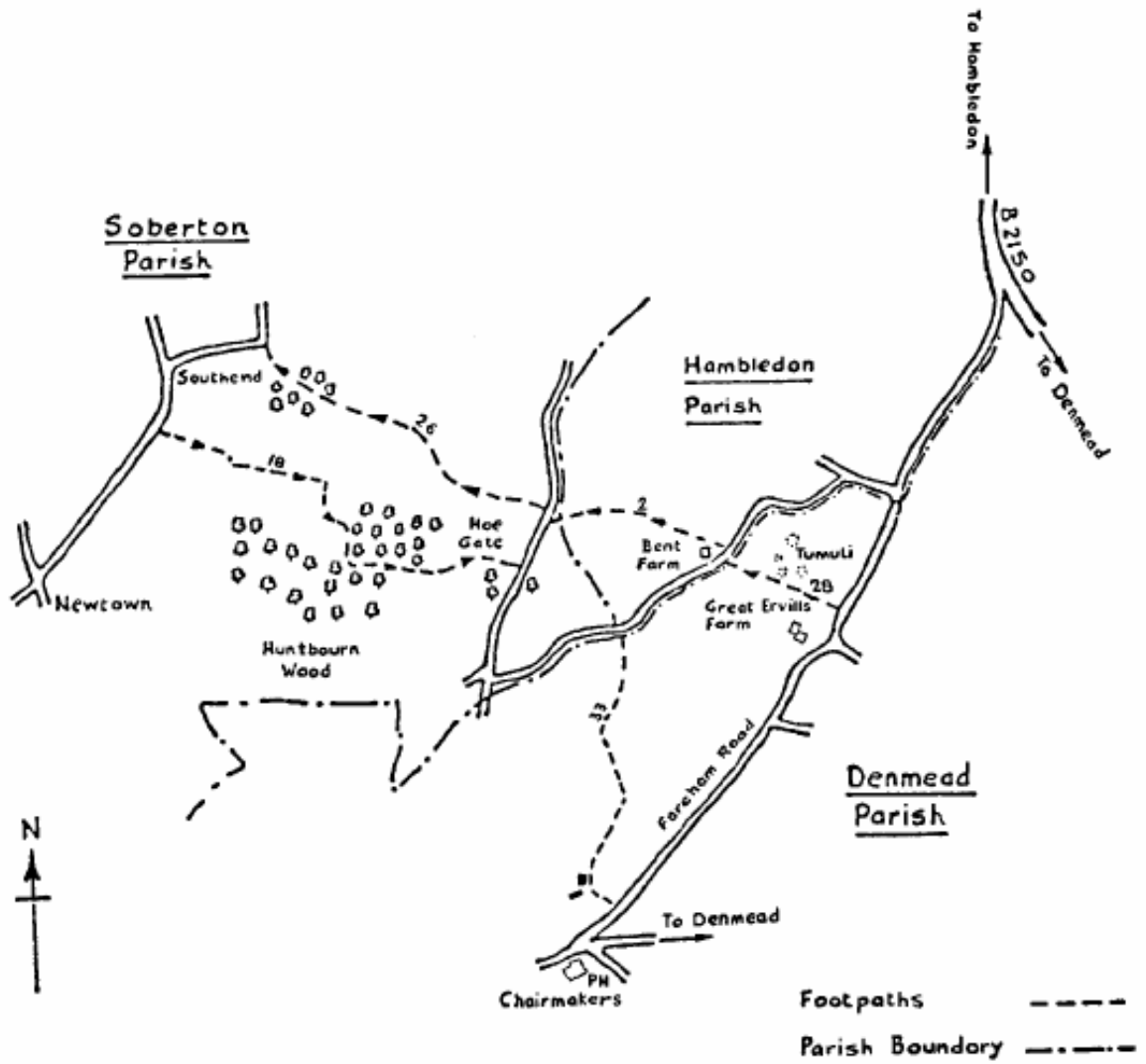
Using Denmead FP26

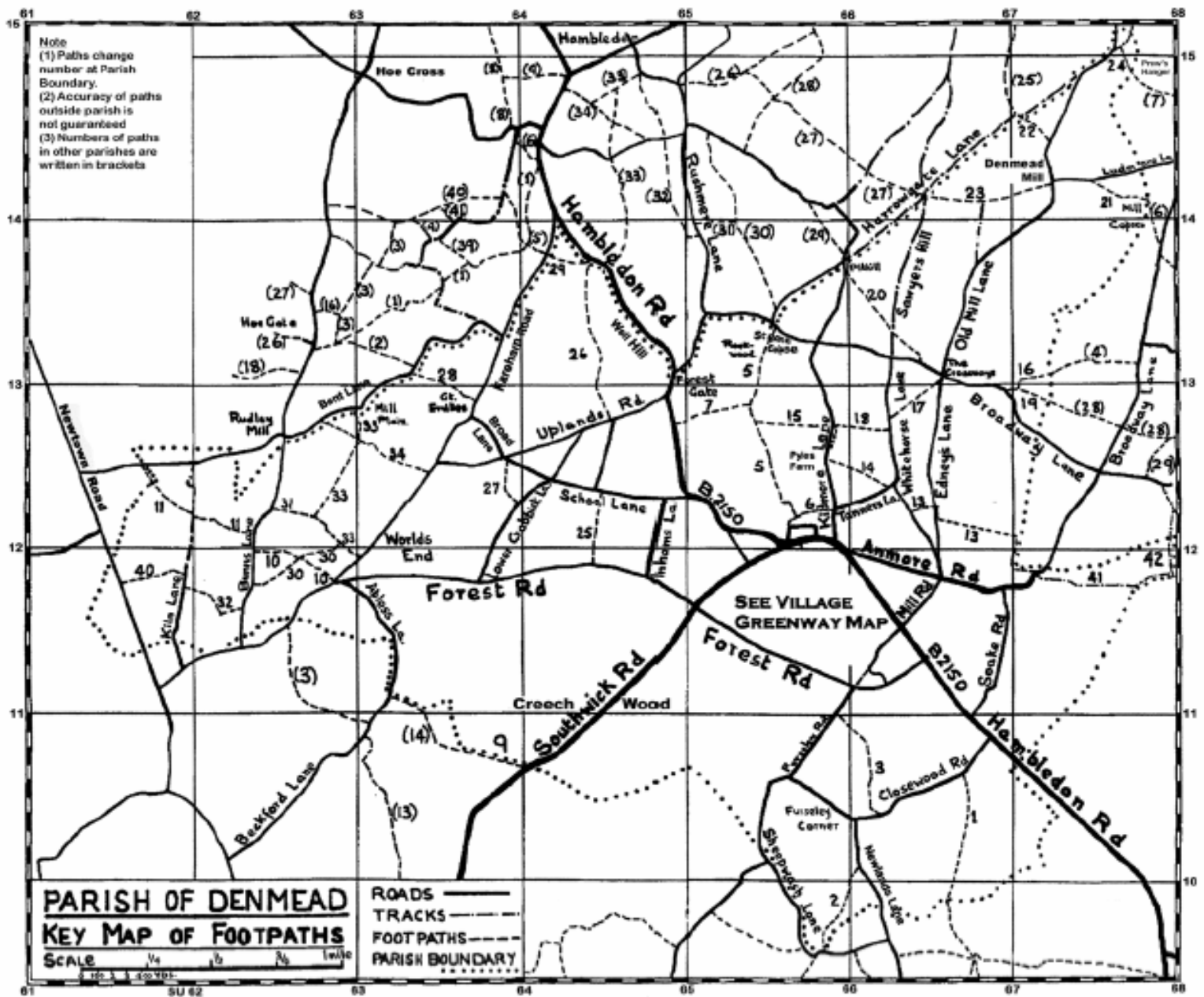
Hambledon FP 33



Great Ervills to Southend

Using Denmead FPs 28 & 33
Hambleton FPs 2, 18 & 26



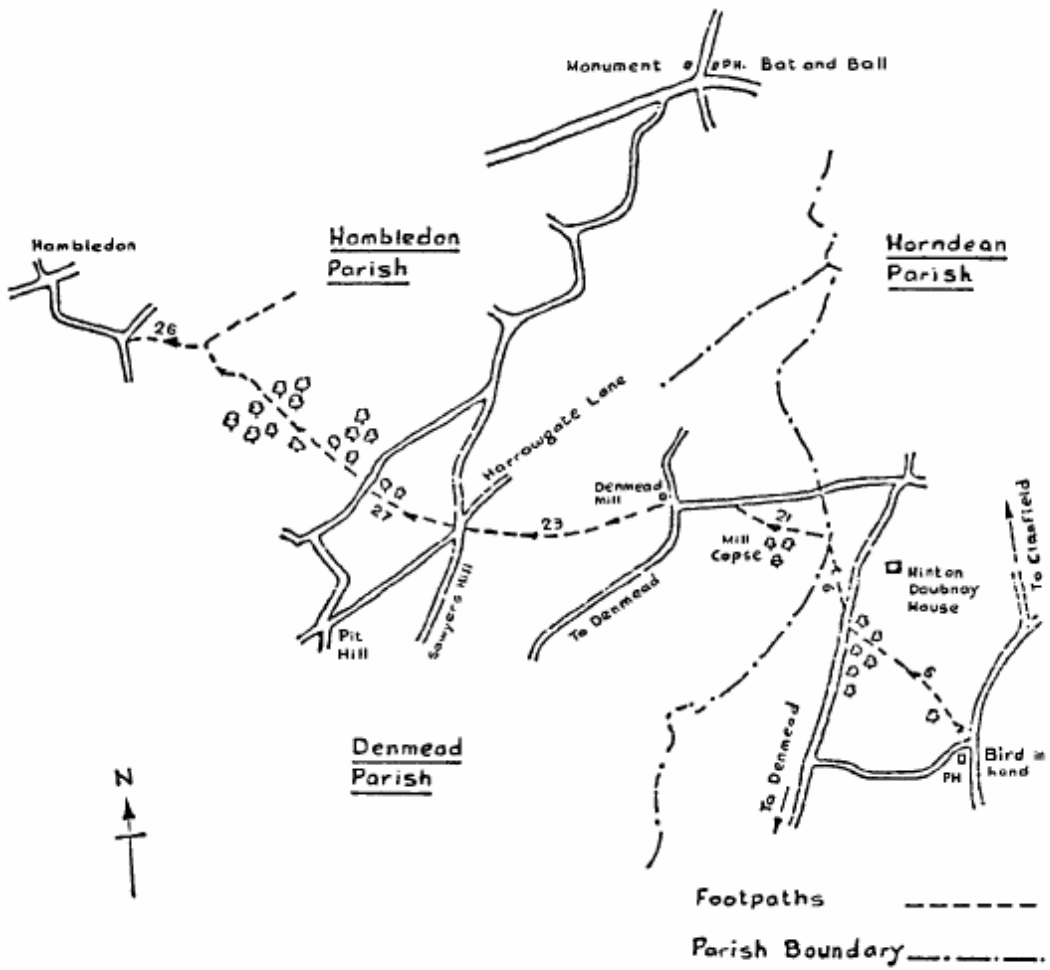


Lovedean to Hambledon

Using Horndean FP6

Denmead FP 21 & 23

Hambledon FP 27 & 26



A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

No. 1 From Closewood Road U195 to Parish Boundary

This path leaves the road in a southerly direction, passing along a woodland path and after negotiating a series of gates and grass paths arrives at a footbridge which marks the Parish boundary. One can continue on Southwick and Widley FP29 until the junction with FP30. A left-hand turn here will take you to Waterlooville.

No. 2 From Newlands Lane C130 Closewood House to Parish Boundary

This path passes over land cleared from the forest in the 16th and 17th century and it is interesting to note that between the path and Furzeley Common six of the original eight dwellings (4 timber framed) are still standing. **Closewood House** is of the William and Mary period. The Regency Façade is an addition. The footbridge marks the Parish boundary, but one can continue on Southwick and Widley FP21, which leads eventually to Portsdown Hill. It is also part of the Wayfarers Walk.



No 3 From Furzeley Road C130 to Closewood Road

This path was established in 1814 and passes along a private driveway, and then over stiles, grass paths, footbridges, golf course and woodland path before reaching Closewood Road. Part of the Wayfarers Walk.

No 4 From Ashling Park Road to Forest Road C130

A tarmac path and part of Wayfarers Walk. Follow Ashling Park Road, then on to Greenway alongside White Wings House to Forest Mead and Forest Road.

No 5 From Park Road to Steane Copse

This path started originally from the Village Green, in the days when the Health Centre site was the Village Pond! The path passes over farmland and links with FP6 and FP7. From Park Road past '**Rookwood View**' on left and burial ground on right, path then passes along eastern side of field. After passing the junction with FP7 one can see to the left, '**Rookwood**', a fine old building dating from circa 1200. There have been 17th and 19th century additions, but the original stone building comprised a first floor hall dwelling with an undercroft. This building is unique in the area between Southampton and Chichester. This path also is marked as part of the 'Wayfarers Walk'.

No 6 From FP5 to Tanners Lane / Kidmore Lane

A short path on a grass/tarmac track, giving access to the burial ground from Kidmore Lane. At the end, in Kidmore Lane, is a Large thatched cottage, recently erected in the place of two brick houses.

No 7 From Hambledon Road B2150 to FP5

Starts opposite Alexander House and provides a pleasant downhill walk across fields to FP5, crossing several stiles.

No 8 Not assigned

No 9 From Southwick Road C40 to Beckford Lane

This path passes along the southern edge of Creech Wood and crosses the parish boundary into Southwick and Widley on its way to Beckford Lane. Beckford Farm House, at the end of the path, is a mid-Victorian building of red and blue brick, typical of contemporary houses on the Southwick Estate. The initials TT on the date mark refer to Thomas Thistlewaite, the then owner of the estate.

No 10 From C50 at the Chairmakers' Arms to Bunns Lane U192

In the days of yore, this path was part of the link between Barn Green and Newtown. This link followed the Southwick Road to the Harvest Home crossroads and then along what is now Forest Road, across the fields via FP10 and FP11 and on to Newtown via Martin's Corner. This path crosses an area earlier known as Collier's Water. This once extensive watermeadow has been dried out by Water Board pumps adjacent to the Chairmakers' Arms, but it is still liable to flooding during heavy winter rains!

No 11 From Bunns Lane across Parish Boundary to Martin's Corner

All the area known as World's End was once within the Forest of Bere and at the end of this path are several dwellings which date from the 18th and mid 19th century. The Old Forge, a timber framed cottage is probably the oldest, predating the slate roofed '**Forest Side**' and '**Woodland Cottage**' with the tiled roof.

No 12 From Southwick Road C40 to Forest Road

This track was originally a route from 'Cherry Tree' in Forest Road to Barn Green. It is now a Greenway along the edge of a new estate bordering King George's Fields. It is also a tarmac path for its entire length.

No 13 From Merretts Farm to Anmore Dell

This starts as a trackway from Whitehorse Lane to Edneys Lane, thence across fields to Anmore Dell.

No 14 From Pyles Farm to Tanners Lane

A straight-forward path across pasture. On arriving in Tanners Lane turn left and around the corner one can see '**Stone Acre**'. Evidence shows this cottage to be an open hall dwelling dating from around 1500. Later additions include the chimney and 17th century right hand bay, followed by the flint cladding and modern windows.

No 15 From Pyles Farm to FP5

In the 19th century, **Pyles Farm** was known as Denmead Farm, as were most other farms in the area. The farmhouse is an imposing red-brick building with a steeply pitched roof and a typical 18th century front.

No 16 From Denmead Farm to Broadway Farm

Now a trackway linking the two farms, ending at the Parish boundary where it joins Horndean FP4. Denmead Farm stands on an earlier site and comprises two distinct halves dating from the 19th and 20th century.

No 17 From Little Denmead Farm to The Crossways

The farmhouse originated as a 16th-17th century timber framed building of two bays with a central chimney. The three storey third bay and the cross bay were added separately. The path traverses straight across pasture.

No 18 From Little Denmead farm to Kidmore Lane

An undefined path across pasture, often very wet. **'Bleak Cottage'** on the right at the beginning, is another fine example of a 16th-17th century timber framed cottage. Its 3 storey bay, with the oriel window, is similar to that of Little Denmead Farm next door.

No 19 From Denmead Farm to Parish Boundary

Passes eastward from the farm and over arable land to the parish boundary where it joins with Horndean FP23. See FP16.

No 20 From west of The Crossways to Pithill

Traverses mainly arable land crossing the top of Sawyer's Hill on the way. Beautiful views across the valley towards Hambledon parish.

No 21 From east of Denmead Mill to Parish Boundary

South East across arable land and along path the northern perimeter of Mill Copse to parish boundary where it joins Horndean FP6 (now in the middle of a field and undefined).

No 22 From north of Denmead Mill to Harrowgate Lane

A short, steep grassy path leading from the north of the site of Denmead Mill to Harrowgate Lane, the Parish boundary. From the slopes in Hambledon parish, one can imagine the giant sails commanding a view of the valley. 'Ridge and Furrow' field contours on the Hambledon Slopes are evidence of Celtic open field cultivation.

No 23 From Denmead Mill to Harrowgate Lane

Across several stiles, pastures and some arable land to the Parish boundary at the bottom of Sawyers Hill. Evidence claims that Denmead Mill was in operation

from as early as 1604 on the site of an earlier windmill. Harrowgate Lane, the present Parish boundary, is thought, by its very nature, to be an Ancient Boundary of some kind. There is a memorial bench seat almost 2/3 way along, giving good views to the south and west.

No 24 From Harrowgate Lane to Parish Boundary

A short, uphill, path starting from the corner of Harrowgate Lane and heads SE across arable land in the north eastern corner of the parish. At the boundary it joins Horndean FP7, which continues through Prew's Hanger.

No 25 From School Lane to Forest Road C130

Through a gap, along a narrow path, across the edge of a meadow to a metalled track by Inhams Cottage dating from the 16th century: another squatters hovel!. This path dates from 1814 and runs down Anthill Common which was enclosed as late as 1870.

No 26 From Uplands Road to Hambledon Road B2150

Begins at a gap between houses opposite the end of Thompson's Lane, then diverts round paddock to rejoin original route. Crosses extensive pasture land and provides a splendid walk with grand views of the countryside. When linked with paths in Hambledon Parish, one can enjoy a rewarding afternoon (see page 6).

No 27 From Lower Crabbick Lane to Broad Lane

A short path across pasture. Possibly part of the path between Crabbick Farm and Bent Farm using FP28.

No 28 From Fareham road C50 to Bent Farm

A link from Bent Farm across pasture and a footbridge. Great Ervills Farm to the left, is a typical 16th century building of flint and brick with a red and blue brick front. It has a tiled roof and dentil coursing. The stones bordering the drive are believed to be Roman house pillars. To the right of this path is a group of English round Barrows. This was a burial ground used by Brachycephalic (short headed) people of the Bronze age – 1900BC to 1700BC. The site is an Ancient Monument.

No 29 From Fareham Road C50 to Hambledon Road B2150

A short path across pasture linking Hambledon FP5 with the end of FP26 at Well Hill. Bittles Farm at the beginning of the path shows signs of many building phases and is recorded as early as 14th century.

No 30 From Bunns Lane to FP33 at Meadows Farm.

Commences at driveway of modernised cottage and continues across pasture to farmyard, crossing FP10 on the way and finishes close to Chairmakers Arms.

No 31 From Bunns Lane to FP33

A short footpath along a hedgerow to the junction with FP33.

No 32 From Bunns Lane to Kiln Farm

A singularly unattractive path waterlogged in wet weather, but worth using to reach FP40. Hoemoor Farm at the end of the path is probably late 19th century.

No 33 From Fareham Road C50 to Bent Lane

Begins at Meadows Farm, turns right and proceeds along field edge towards Mill Plain and on to Bent Lane, which is the Parish Boundary.

No 34 From Fareham Road to Rudley Mill

Along hedgerow and pasture, eventually crossing FP33 in Mill Plain. Borders Mill Copse on right and exits through field.

Nos 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39 Not assigned

No 40 From Kiln Lane to Newtown Road C88

A pleasant walk across pasture which was forest until 1814. Opposite the beginning of this path is an early 19th century Smallholders cottage, a good example of many to be seen in this area.

No 41 From Anmore Road to Parish Boundary (Bridleway)

Along a farm track passing north of Clarendon Farm buildings and south of Woodcroft Farm. At the Parish boundary, it links with Havant Borough FP1. Now also a bridleway.

No 42 From junction of FP41 and Havant FP1 to Parish Boundary (Bridleway)

Proceeds northwards along boundary to the point where it links with Horndean FP30. Also a bridleway.

Other walks within the Parish

(1) Millennium Trail



This is a 5.5 mile trail, graded 'Easy' and is marked with Millennium Trail markers. It starts from Kidmore Lane car park, is partly on roads and partly on footpaths (FPs 14, 15, 7). It also goes through Creech Wood and Goodman Fields.

(1) Fitness Trail



A pleasant way-marked walk, of just over one mile, starting from Ashling Park Road opposite Bere Road, skirting King George Field and follows Greenway footpaths back to the start.

Footpaths are Your Heritage



Version 6.0