### THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF THE COLNE VALLEY





## Points of interest/history

1) The slightly raised path across the field is the old road from Iver to Uxbridge, not used by wheeled traffic for 200 years, but the stones of generations of parish road menders remain under the turf as a memorial.

2) Huntsmoor Park house was an 18th century mansion, sadly demolished in 1946. The woodlands around it are filled with snowdrops in February. Little Britain lake, an early 20th century gravel pit, is so called because of it shape. It is a haven for water birdlife.

3) The Slough Arm was built in 1882 to carry bricks from the local brick fields into London and was one of the last canals to be built in Britain. Notice the granite Coal Tax post. These were erected in Victorian times to mark the boundary of the area around London within which taxes on coal and other products were due. Over 200 posts survive, most of which are protected Grade II structures.

4) William Mead is listed as a brickmaker and farmer in Iver from 1895 to 1911.

5) Iver is an ancient settlement with evidence of Neolithic occupation. It is recorded in the Domesday Book as Evreham, and the name probably derives from the Anglo-Saxon 'yfre' meaning slope, referring to the incline on which Iver is built that runs down from the Chiltern plateau to the Thames Valley. St Peter's church is around 1,000 years old, incorporating Saxon, Norman and Gothic architecture.

#### HELP US CAPTURE THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Take your photo of a place in the Colne Valley Park and upload it to our collection at: www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/landscapecamera







Countryside on your doorstep

# **CIRCULAR WALK 16: IVER**

Valley Region

4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> MILES (SHORT ROUTE 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> MILES)

A lovely walk along countryside footpaths, the bank of the River Colne and the Slough Arm of the Grand Union Canal.

Access: Some stiles and slight inclines.

**Refreshments:** One pub, The Swan (A), and several cafes in Iver High Street

**Public transport:** Buses 58 or 7 from Uxbridge to Slough stop in Iver High Street.

**By road:** Leave the M40 at junction 1 or the M4 at junction 5 and follow signs towards Iver.

Postcode: SL0 9JZ

**OS Grid Ref**: TQ 039 812

Latitude: +51.520066, Longitude: -0.503587



### For points of interest/history, turn over when you see this



**1)** Starting from the roundabout by St Peter's Church, walk up Swan Road. After nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, as the track bends to the left, continue ahead on a narrow path and then across a field until a T-junction is reached at Coppins Lane. (1)

**2)** Turn right, following the track downhill beneath horse chestnut trees, passing houses at Delaford Manor and crossing the Colne Brook via a bridge. Turn right, then left over the M25 bridge and continue down Palmers Moor Lane past a farm and houses to Iver Lane.

**3)** Cross this busy road with care to the path opposite, then cross the field to a gate. Turn right and walk along this attractive stretch of the River Colne through Huntsmoor Park until a footbridge over the river at Little Britain lake is reached. (2)

**4)** Cross the river, turn right, pass the end of Packet Boat Lane, and continue along a wide path first along the river then gradually climbing to cross the Slough Arm of the Grand Union Canal on an old iron bridge. Turn right and head down to the towpath. (3) Turn left (west) along the canal towpath. The canal crosses the River Colne and the Colne Brook by means of aqueducts. The towpath then passes under the M25 and Thorney Lane North.

#### Shortcut: Turn left up the steps immediately after Thorney Lane North and then turn left over the bridge. Follow the road north back to St Peter's Church.

**5)** Continue along the canal until the next bridge, Meads Bridge. (4) Here leave the canal via the steps and turn left in order to cross the bridge, turning right at the junction towards the industrial units. Follow the path as it turns left, right, left and right around the edge of the industrial estate until a footpath on the left is seen.

**6)** Turn left onto this footpath and head north across the field towards the houses. Turn right when the gravel track is reached, heading into Grange Way. Follow the road straight ahead until you reach the High Street with the Village Hall on your right. Turn right and follow the High Street through Iver Village centre back to St Peter's Church.

