

Walk 12: Stapleford and Babraham

Type: Linear.
Distance: 4 miles (both routes).
Extra Care: Continuation B: no pavement to river bridge at Babraham.
Start: Bury Farm, Stapleford (476516), junction Haverhill Road and Bury Road.

Follow the public footpath sign to “Babraham 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” and “Sawston 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ” through Bury Farm. Follow the unmade road ahead. After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile you will pass a barn on your left. Carry on past the barn.

The unmade road will become a single path. You will be walking with a fence on your right. Walk until you reach a stile in the fence.

Climb the stile and follow the public footpath sign towards the bridge over the river.

Cross the bridge and follow the unmade road ahead of you. 250 yards after the bridge you will find a stile in the fence on your left (496513). *At this point you can choose to follow route A or B; to follow route B, skip the next section.*

Continuation—Route A

Ignore the stile and keep following the unmade road. After a further $\frac{3}{4}$ from the stile the road will take you to the road leading into Babraham. 200 yards before you reach the road, look to your left to see Babraham Hall between a broad avenue of trees.

At the road, turn left and walk towards Babraham. You will cross the river—be careful as this road is quite busy and there is no pavement to the bridge. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile after the bridge you will find a footpath signposted “Abington 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles”. This footpath will take you through Home Farm. *[Skip the next section of instructions and continue from Home Farm.]*

Continuation—Route B

Leave the road and climb the stile. Continue to follow the footpath, through a plantation of trees, straight ahead to the next stile (498512). Pass this stile. Keep walking ahead with the fence on your left. You will pass a wood on your left. When the wood leaves the footpath, you will find a signpost to Stapleford along the path which you have been following.

Follow the signposts (in the opposite direction to Stapleford) and walk until a private road crosses the path. Cross the road and continue to follow the footpath. You will shortly have the river on your left. On the other side of the river are the buildings of the Babraham Institute.

Continue to follow the footpath by the river. At Babraham Church the footpath will lead into a road. Follow the road. To your left you will see the splendid façade of Babraham Hall. At this point, also look to your right to see the avenue of trees leading away from the Hall.

The road will bear to the right. Do not follow it round, but walk straight ahead through the gap between the fences to join the road which runs through Babraham. Turn left and follow the road. After 50 yards you will find a footpath signposted “Abington 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. This footpath will take you through Home Farm.

Continuation from Home Farm—Routes A and B

Follow the footpath for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. You will reach a footbridge crossing the A11.

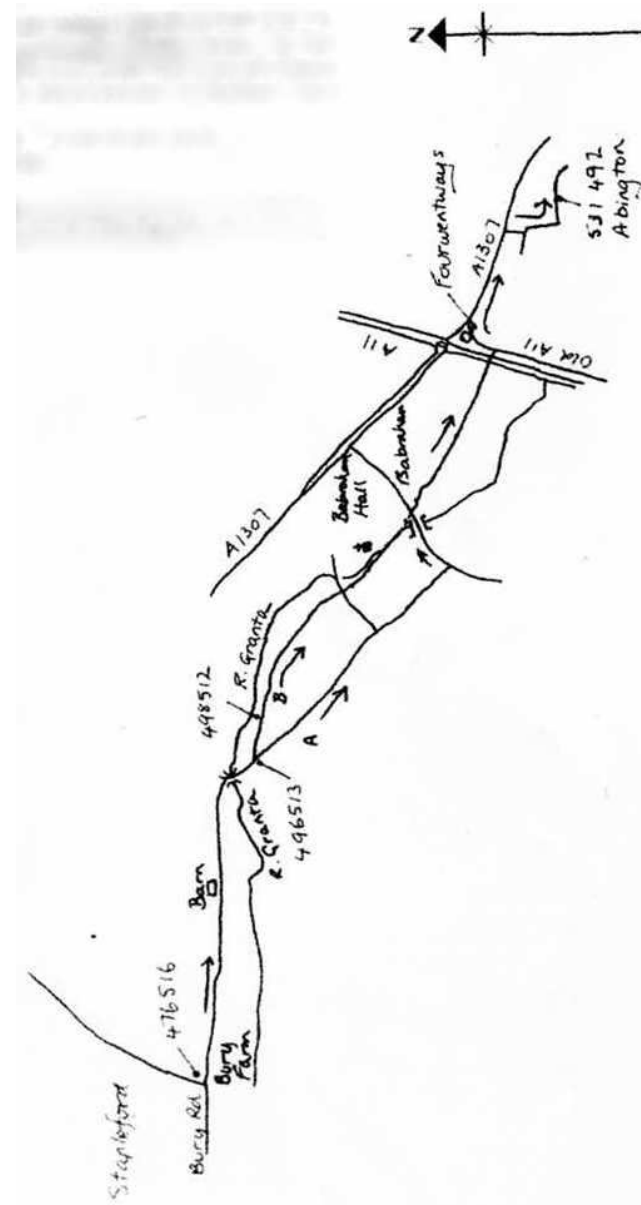
Cross the footbridge and follow the footpath across the field on the other side to the old A11. Cross the old A11, turn left, and walk towards the Fourwentways and follow the road to the A1307. Turn right at the A1307 and follow it into Abington.

Look for number 31A on the right. Turn right immediately before number 31A and follow the footpath between fences until you reach Bourn Bridge Road. At this point, cross the road as it has a footpath on the other side. Turn left and follow Bourn Bridge Road round to the right towards St Mary’s Church, Lt Abington. You will pass West Field on your right.

At St Mary's Church, follow the road round to the left into Church Lane.

Follow Church Lane back to the campsite (531492).

N.B. You are advised not to take the alternative route from the old A11 back to Abington along Bourn Bridge Road. Bourn Bridge Road is fairly busy and narrow, and has no pavement.



(Not to scale.)