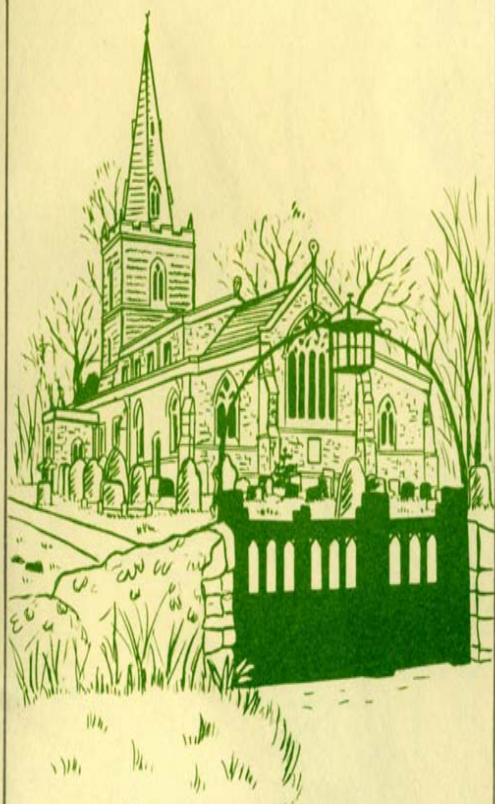
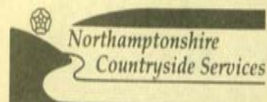


Countryside Walks

Bugbrooke



St. Michael



Bugbrooke

The village was well established by the time of the Domesday Book (1086AD) and its recorded name 'Buchebroc' is likely to mean either the 'brook of the Bucks' or 'Bucca's brook' after the man who gave his name to Long Buckby. The present spelling appeared about 1559.

Bugbrooke has always been situated near to important communication routes. The Banbury Lane is thought to have been used as a prehistoric trackway and later a Drovers road. Watling Street was then built by the Romans in the first century to serve military needs. It originally stretched from Dover to Chester via London and now the A5 trunk road runs over most of its length. The Grand Union Canal was built in 1796 followed by the London-Birmingham railway line in 1832 and more recently the M1 motorway was completed in 1959.

A hundred years ago the first soap factory in England was situated in Bugbrooke which also had bakeries, mills, a brickyard and many other thriving trades.



Clapper Bridge

The packhorse 'clapper' bridge which spans Hoarstones Brook dates from the 16th century when wool used to be carried over the brook by ponies. Due to flooding, the brook was cleared out, deepened and widened in 1970. During these works the bridge was partly rebuilt but the pillars are mostly original.

In 1688 the burial is recorded of Richard Taylor (also knitter) who, suspected of poisoning others, poisoned himself. Being both a suicide and a suspected murderer he was buried as far as possible from the village 'on the left handside of the Northampton Way in a baulk that parts the fields of Bugbrooke and Kislingbury.' Local people still call the area knitters Grave.

In the 17th Century Bugbrooke was the centre of Quakerism and many villagers were imprisoned for being Quakers. The rector then, John Whitfield, was thrown into the grave at one Quaker funeral and in his own words was 'not without danger of being buried alive'.

The Chapel

Built in 1808 it flourished as a Baptist Chapel for 150 years. An early minister, John Wheeler, also ran the soap factory. He baptised his first converts in the brook, hence his nickname 'John the Dipper'. The Chapel is now a meeting house for the Jesus Fellowship, which owns property in the area and has many followers.



The Campion Secondary School is situated on the road to Northampton and is named after a local farmer. Built in 1966-8 it was the first purpose built Comprehensive school in the County.

A Walkers' Code



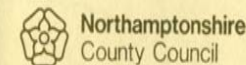
1. Always keep to the path to avoid trespass. If the path is obstructed you are allowed to seek a reasonable way round the obstruction, taking care to avoid causing damage. Please report the obstruction to the highways authority.
2. Remember to close gates behind you. Straying stock can cause damage or spread disease and carelessness may lead to tragedy.
3. To avoid harm or distress to farm animals and wildlife it is best to leave dogs at home. If you have to bring them they should be kept on a leash.
4. If your route takes you onto a road keep to the right, facing oncoming traffic and use the verge if one exists.
5. Always wear suitable clothing and footwear for the season and remember to allow plenty of time to complete your chosen walk.
6. Remember that every piece of land in the country belongs to someone, so please treat it with respect so that other walkers will be made welcome.
7. Remember that Scheduled Ancient Monuments are protected by law in order to ensure their survival. Please respect them and other archaeological sites.

If you experience any difficulty on your walk such as barbed wire, locked gates or damaged stiles and footbridges, please report them to the Principal Rights of Way Officer, West Office, Arnex House, London Road, Daventry. Tel. Daventry 706081.

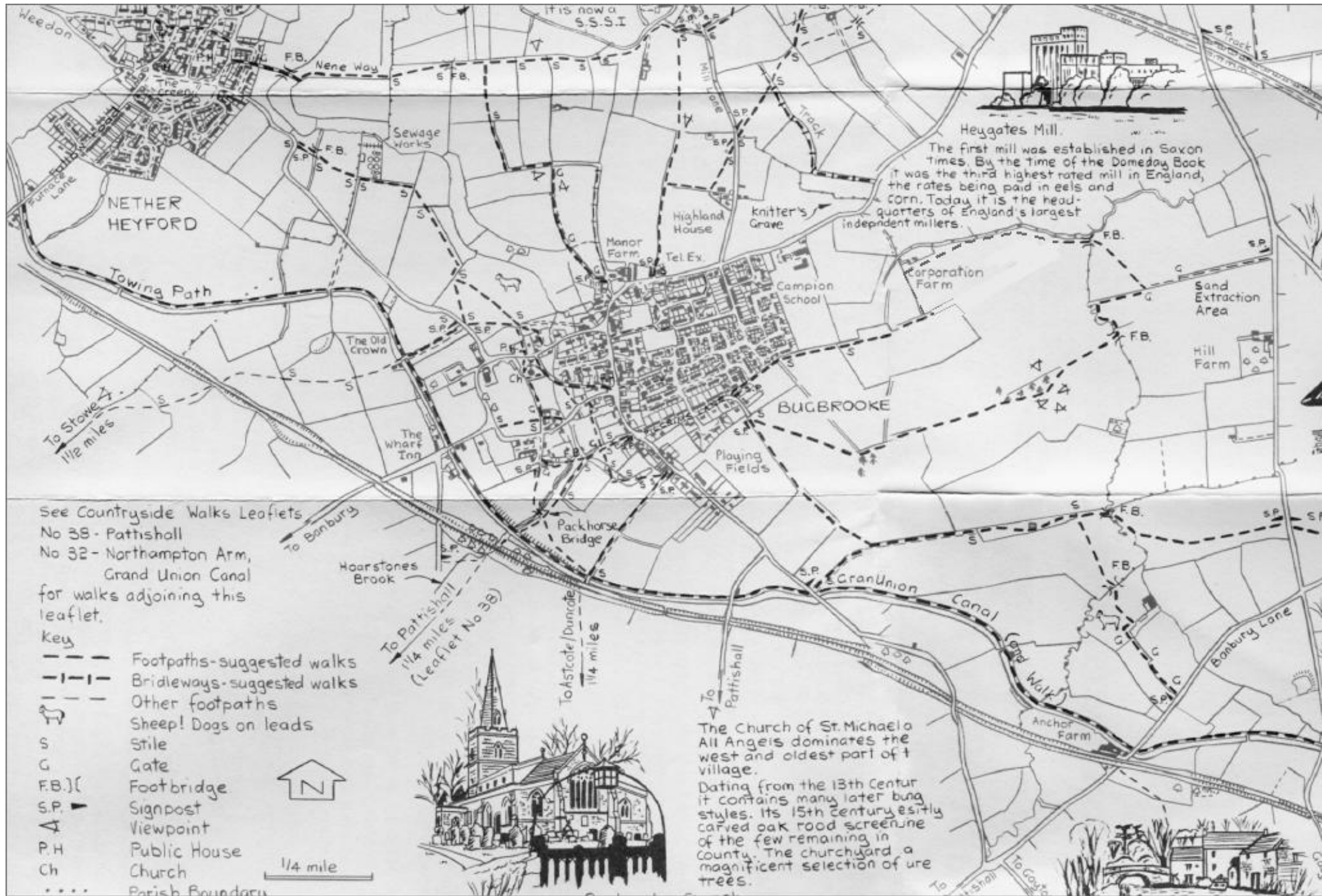
Your general comments on this leaflet and the routes will be welcomed by the Director of Planning and Transportation, Northampton House, Northampton. NNI 2HZ.

Drawn by Sue Payne 1993

Countryside Walks Leaflet No. 4.



Supported by the
COUNTRYSIDE
COMMISSION



Heugates Mill.
 The first mill was established in Saxon times. By the time of the Domesday Book it was the third highest rated mill in England, the rates being paid in eels and corn. Today it is the headquarters of England's largest independent millers.

The Church of St. Michael
 All Angels dominates the west and oldest part of village. Dating from the 13th Century it contains many later bug styles. Its 15th century esitly carved oak rood screen is one of the few remaining in county. The churchyard a magnificent selection of ure trees.

See Countryside Walks Leaflets
 No 38 - Pattishall
 No 32 - Northampton Arm,
 Grand Union Canal
 for walks adjoining this leaflet.

- Key**
- Footpaths-suggested walks
 - |-| Bridleways-suggested walks
 - - - Other footpaths
 - 🐕 Sheep! Dogs on leads
 - S Stile
 - G Gate
 - FB. Footbridge
 - S.P. Signpost
 - ▲ Viewpoint
 - P.H. Public House
 - Ch Church
 - Parish Boundary

