

own banknotes! On this site wool was turned into many useful products for the Empire, and it was the place that khaki was invented, used to make the puttee.

Pass by the right hand side of the mills, following the footpath, until you come to a bridge across the stream. Cross it, and go down and to the right, under the bridge known as *Thunderbridge* (stay underneath while a train is going overhead, and you will realise why!). This is a point where you will almost certainly need Wellington boots to avoid getting your feet wet.

Clamber up the bank on the opposite side and follow the path along the right hand side of the field. At the far end of the field, very carefully cross over the weir, and then up the

bank the opposite side onto the road. Continue straight ahead to reach the Sports Centre Car Park.

b) For the shorter route, turn left after crossing the bridge system.

After crossing the field, go through the metal kissing gate, carry straight on past

the stream, and then bear left over the stream. Bear to your right, and go up the field and through another kissing gate at the boundary wall.

- Here you will find two fine oak trees and an iron bench. Look to your right, and you will see the spire of Rockwell Green church, and the old water towers.

Continue half-left across the field, onto the track, and turn right to reach the main road. Turn left at the main road, and follow it down the hill, turning off the road opposite the garage. When you reach the school gates, follow the tarmac path to the left.

Follow the path as it passes by playing fields, and once you have passed the school, turn second left into *Wellington*

Park.

- Wellington Park was given to the town by the Fox family in 1903. It is an important example of Victorian design, and also an excellent place to relax.

Follow the paths round the left hand side of the park, turning left at the bandstand at the far corner. Go though the wall into the Recreation Ground,

and then turn right, walking though the gap in the hedge. Go diagonally left across the field, back to The Sports Centre Car Park.

Beyond The Basins

This walk has two versions, “shorter” and “longer”.

Distance:- 2¼ or 1½ miles (3½ or 2½ km)

Time:- 1½ hours or ½ hour

Starts/Ends:- Sports Centre Car Park



Description:- An exploration of West Wellington, juxtaposing industry and wildlife. The influence of the Fox family on Wellington is an integral part of the walk.

Refreshments:- The “Sportsmans Arms” is at the entrance to the Sports Centre.

Terrain:- Medium. Mostly low gradients, with a few stiles. However, sturdy footwear is essential, as it is almost completely off-road, with some muddier patches. For the longer walk, Wellington boots are advised to avoid getting wet feet.



1. From the car park, proceed around the left hand side of the sports centre towards two large ponds.

- These are *The Basins*, and comprise a nature reserve with animals including ducks, terns, water voles and otters.

Use the timber walkway and turn left to go between the two ponds. Then go through the first kissing gate and follow the path across the field, over a stream, until you come to a set of three bridges.

At this point you may choose to follow the shorter or longer routes.

a) For the **longer** route, continue straight over, once you have crossed the bridge,

and then go through the iron kissing gate to the railway.

Cross the railway with care, as directed by the sign.



Bear to the left across the field, and go up the lane beside the thatched cottage. When you reach the road, turn left, and then right, following the public footpath

sign. At the gate, go through the hedge over the stile on your right, and turn left, continuing on the foot-path. At the end of the field, go over the stile and then along the road straight ahead, by the left hand side of the barn.

- You are now at *Tonedale Farm*, previously *Lower Westford Farm*.

The road bends left and, as it twists right, go through the stile on your right, into the field. Continue across the left hand side of the field, towards a stile in the hedge on the opposite side.

Cross the stile, cross the small brook, and then go across the field, parallel to the road, until you come to another stile. Follow the hedge down the left hand side of the next field, and then at the bottom, go over another stile, and turn right along the fence.

2. At this point you have the opportunity of turning left to reach Holywell Lake, an old pump house and the the Holywell Inn; or Langford Budville, Runnington

Church and the Martlet Inn.

Take the path to the right, leading along the left hand side of a large pool.

- Here are the remains of *Winsbeer Farm*. Also, the stream that runs through the wood has been bricked up at one point, to provide a pool for the workers at the Fox Brothers mill.

Follow this path for a way until you have passed a cottage complex called "*Five Houses*". About 40 yards after, turn right through a kissing gate to a field. Cross the field towards the road.

- Half-way across the field, look behind you, and you will see a large chimney belonging to the old dye works.

Cross the road and go in to the *Weavers Reach* play area. Go straight ahead into the field adjoining the old Fox Bros factory.

- *Fox Brothers & Co.* made textiles on this large site from 1772. Much of it is now unused, but in its hey-day it employed 4500 people. From 1787 to 1921 the company even printed their



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path up the fence on the right-hand side of the field. At the top, go through the gate on the right and then over the stile straight ahead.

At the end of the wood, bear to the left and follow the marked path across the field, parallel to a high brick wall. Go through the gate and onto the road. You are now in *Nynehead*.

3. Go through the gates into *Nynehead Court*.

- *Nynehead Court* was built in 1675 and is now a retirement home. The church in its ground is well worth exploring, e.g. for its 400-year-old oak screen. Ask for the key at the *Court* if you find it locked.

Turn immediately to your right and follow the track round the back of some farm buildings.

- Round the side is an excellent view of the *Court*, and also an unusual ice house.

At the back of *Nynehead Court*, take the left hand track, leading to the field. Then strike out straight ahead across the field, to come back to the 3-arched bridge.

Follow the path back through the woods to return to the *Grand Western Canal*. Then turn second right onto a path

through the copse.

4. Be warned that this track can become slightly muddy in places, especially in the winter.

When you come to a fence and a hedge, continue along the path as it curves to the left. Follow this path along the left hand side of an open field towards a *Water Treatment Plant*. Once you reach a row of conifers along the side of the *Works*, the path bends to the left, through a hedge. Do not continue onto the metalled road!

You soon come to a T-junction with a wall in front of you: turn left. Now follow this path until you reach a stone bridge over the railway.



Continue over the bridge, and at the gate into the farm, turn to the right, and follow the path between the farm and the *Relyon factory*.

At the end of the chain-link fencing, bear right, and then left through the first gap in the hedge. Continue up this half-metalled track past three black and white pillars.

You soon come out onto a junction of the main road. Continue straight ahead onto *Brendon Road*, which becomes *Longforth Road*. Bear right to come back to the car

Wellington to Nynehead

This walk has two versions, “short” and “complete”. There is also a possible extension.

Distance:- 3½ or 1½ miles (5¼ or 2¼ km)

Time:- 1½ hours or ¾ hour

Starts/Ends:- Longforth Road Car Park



Description:- A pleasant way to explore North Wellington. *Nynehead Court* and *All Saints Church* are well worth visiting, and the village itself has close connections to the philosopher *John Locke*.

Refreshments:- The “*Eight Bells*” Inn is near to the car park, opposite *St John’s Church*.

Terrain:- Mild. Low gradients, with only a few stiles. However, sturdy footwear is advised, as it is almost completely off-road, with some muddier patches.

1. Leave Longforth Car Park and cross over *Longforth Road*, turning into a small lane opposite, running alongside the garage.

- Directly ahead, you will see the tower of St John's Church, built during the 15th century.

Continue straight up the lane until you reach the church wall.

- You may turn right here, and then left at the main road, in order to visit the church.

Turn left along *Church Lane*, with the high wall on your right, and the gardens at the back of *Church Green* on your left. When you reach *Drakes' Park*, cross over and carry on straight ahead, along the marked public footpath.

Continue past the rows of back gardens on the left hand side of the path. After a kissing gate, the houses drop away, and on both sides are open fields.



- On a clear day, you may be able to see in the distance on the right hand side the beautiful *Quantock Hills*.

Continue through until you come to an open field. Cross the field to get to the 3rd kissing gate directly in front of you. Go through this and you will come to an iron gate leading to the railway track. Take care crossing the track, as the trains often come through at speeds of around 100mph.

- Once you are over the track, look to your left, and you can see a large chimney belonging to the old dye works.

Go down through the gate opposite and follow the path through two more fields and a 4th wooden kissing gate.

2. You have now arrived at the remains of the old *Grand Western Canal*, intended to link the *River Parrett* near *Bridgwater* to the *River Exe* at *Exeter*.

The *Taunton* section was completed in 1830, and ironically it gained most of its business transporting materials for building the railway line, which had caused its closure by 1867.

From this point, you may choose to take a short route back to *Wellington* (turn left onto a track through the copse and go to section 4), or continue to *Nynehead*.

In addition, you may turn right, and go through *Long Copse* to visit *Wharf Cottage* and view remains of the old canal (an extra 20 minutes [0.8 miles or 1.25km] each way).

Once you have reached *Wharf Cottage*, you can either retrace your steps, or turn left along the road, and then left again at the junction. You then rejoin the walk at section 3 (another 0.7 miles (1.1km)).

Carry straight on across the remains of the Canal into the wood, and immediately take the left hand fork. Take the wide

path to the right after about 20 yards, and follow this as it soon bears to the left and goes down the hill.

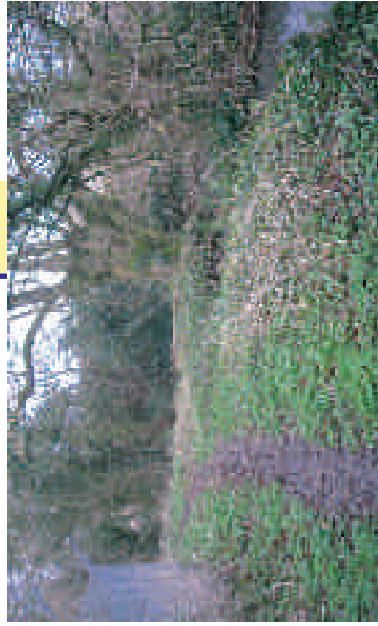
At the bottom there is a bridge across the stream, which you cross. Now turn half-right and cross the field towards an interesting three-arched stone bridge.

Cross over the bridge, and follow the foot-



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Climb over this stile and across the well signed private driveway to another low stile. At this point the footpath signs seem to indicate you are going the wrong way as they only point in the direction from which you have come!



There is likely to be a puddle of water on the other side of this second stile. The footpath has a high fence either side. Follow the path, which after 50 metres cuts back on itself to skirt the boundary to the property.

Follow this pathway which runs alongside a stream on your right. This track can be muddy and wet so take care not to slip over. After about 400 metres you come to a metal field gate. The track continues to the right of this gate with the hedge/fence on your left. After 120 metres you see a wooden doorway in front of you, this enters the back garden of a private house, the track continues left at 90 degrees and after 50 metres you come to a V shaped stile.

6. Climb the stile, down 4 steps onto the road, which is usually quiet. Turn left, walking up the gradient on this road and after 400 metres you arrive at a junction. To the right is signposted Ash, East Nynehead and Bradford.

- If you turn right you walk past a bridge over

the main railway line on the left. Following the road round to the right, you walk for 350 metres after the bridge, to a public footpath on the left. This track, known as Hamlands Lane, follows a route to Bradford-on-Tone, about 2 km away.

The walk continues to the left, signposted Nynehead and Wellington. After 100 metres you go past the entrance to Poole Household Waste Recycling Centre on the left. Continuing, you pass a row of cottages on the right and industrial units, and after 500 metres you come to a T junction.

Nynehead is signposted to the right, a picturesque village you can reach using the Wellington to Nynehead walking guide. Turn left and after 200 metres you pass Cadeside caravan park before reaching the T junction with the B3187. Turning right here it is 1 mile to Wellington town centre.

Instead, continue by turning left. Walking on the footpath, it is 250 metres back to the Bristol gate. Cross the road to the wooden stile to pick up the final part of this walk, described from figure 3 above.



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Priority Perambulation

This walk has two versions, “short” and “complete”. There is also a possible extension.

Distance:- 1¼ or 2½ miles (2 or 4 km)

Time:- ¾ hour or 1½ hours

Starts/Ends:- Lillebonne Close parking area, Priory Estate.

The parking area is located at the far end of Lillebonne Close. This can be found by turning into Priory from the A38, near St John’s Church on the East of the town centre. At the bottom turn left into Kelway Road, then at the T junction turn right into Gay Street, and take the 2nd left into Lillebonne Close.



Description:- A relatively short walk exploring the varied landscapes East of Wellington.

Refreshments:- In Wellington town centre.

Terrain:- Medium. Mostly low gradients with a number of stiles. Sturdy footwear is essential and Wellington boots advised as there are a number of puddles and muddy areas, especially after rain.

1. Next to the parking spaces is a play area known locally as The Mounds. Starting from the pollarded tree, to the left of the mounds, walk left across this play area at a 45 degree angle for about 50 metres to cross a concrete bridge over a stream. Follow the path alongside St John's School playing field until you reach a stile into a field. Go straight across the field for about 75 metres to a gap in the hedge. Go over a concrete pipe, carrying the stream water, into the next field. Continue eastwards across the next field for about 100 metres to a gate, which you may have to climb over. If you look right as you cross this field, you get fine views of Wellington Monument and the Blackdown Hills.

Cross the next field, heading straight ahead for just over 200 metres to reach a stile. Over to the right you see the big vegetable preparation sheds and caravans of local vegetable grower Ken Coles. On the left is the man-made "hill" of the now closed tip at the Poole recycling centre, beyond which you can see the Quantock Hills.

- The tip was formerly the clay pits of the Wellington brickmaker William Thomas, whose tall chimneys once dominated the local eastern skyline.

2. Heading straight on towards a large oak tree in the next field, go across the field for about 150 metres, to reach a green metal footbridge over a small stream, and to the right of the electricity pole. Turn left and follow the hedge and stream for 100 metres to reach a wooden kissing gate. As you walk to the kissing gate, notice the reed filtration beds on

your right used to clean the water from the vegetable packing sheds.

Through the kissing gate you then climb nine wooden steps to reach the B3187 Wellington-Taunton Road, which may be busy with traffic. Here you can either cross the road to Chelston Bridge and turn left to follow the pavement or turn left without crossing the road, and walk along the grass verge. The former is considered safer as the latter means you have your back to the traffic. This road can be particularly attractive in spring when a profusion of daffodils bloom along the verges.

On the Chelston Bridge / pavement side of the road walk towards Wellington and across a minor road signposted to Chelston. After 250 metres you reach a metal Bristol gate (a field gate with a pedestrian gate) which is just beyond street lighting column number 17.

At this point you have two alternative routes.

The complete route (starting at figure 5) is to go through the Bristol gate into the field, which leads you on a circular walk via Ham, or even further to the charming village of Bradford-on-Tone, where food and drink may be obtained at the White Horse Inn or the locally run village stores.

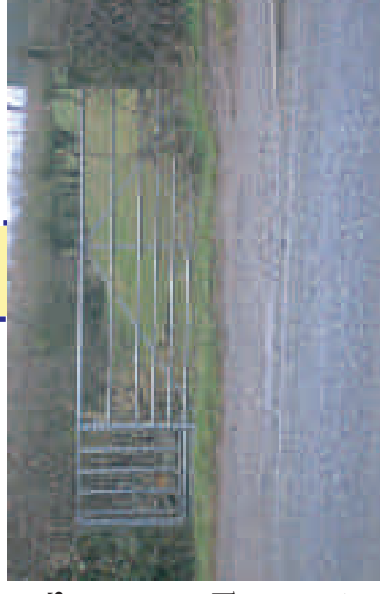
3. The shorter route will take you back to Lillebonne Close via Cades Farm. Cross the B3187 road to a wooden stile. After climbing the stile, turn right to cross the corner of the field to reach another stile which is about 80 metres away. Come prepared, as it can be very wet on the town side of this stile with some ponding after heavy rain. Follow the path along the hedge on your right for 300 metres to the corner of the field. Go through the gate, then walk for 100 metres straight across the next field to reach a metal gate in the right hand corner at the rear of Cades Farm.

4. Climb over this gate and walk along a concrete drive at the rear of Cades Farm for about 40 metres, past one metal gate and pass between two cattle ring feeders.

Climb the second metal gate on your left; following the hedge on your left for 100 metres to reach a metal kissing gate in the left hand corner of the field.

This brings you out at the rear of the houses in Humphreys Road. Walk straight ahead for 30 metres, then turn left at the street lighting column by No 26. Follow the pavement into Humphreys Road car parking spaces, walk diagonally right across the area, before turning left at another street lighting column (by No 42) down a pathway to reach the parking spaces in Lillebonne Close.

5. For the longer walk, go through the Bristol gate and keeping to the left hand hedge follow the perimeter of the field until you reach a stile.



Mill on the left, turn right along a lane, which passes through a farm. After about 700 metres you come to a road junction. Across the field in front of you is a building, erected by the Elworthy family, which has had a varied history including the manufacture of hospital supplies in the Second World War and now is used by Westford Plastics. Bear right over a small bridge with reed beds on either side of the road. You now have a choice of route.



9. Turning left you walk by road through Rackfield, past Hayman's coal yards and the Old Manse, and come into Higher Westford. At the road junction turn right, after about 50 yards, and immediately before the bridge over the River Wrang / Westford Stream, turn left along the footpath by the stream (→ 13).

10. For the main walk go onto the footpath immediately in front of you which leads to a small bridge over Westford Leat and a stile. Turn left and head across the field along the wooden fencing towards the right hand side of some buildings. This field is a flood plain and on the right, as you cross the field, is a dam constructed over the stream to retain heavy rain waters which would otherwise flood Westford.

11. At the end of the field there are two metal stiles, between a building and the stream, onto

the road. The building was previously Westford Watermill, established in 1780 as a small worked mill. The existing building is thought to date from the 1870's and is now in residential use. There is said to have been a corn mill on this site noted in the Domesday Book. The water for this mill came from Prowse's Mill and through Westford Mills.

12. You again have two alternatives to complete this walk. The shorter route is to the right, along the road past a pumping station on the left. Built in 1886, originally with steam powered ram pumps, later converted to diesel engines. Be careful, the footpath is intermittent. At the railway bridge turn right over it into Rockwell Green. The Weavers Arms is about 250 metres ahead on the left hand side of the road.

13. The longer walk is across the road onto a path running to the left of the River Wrang/Westford Stream. At the end turn left. The road bears right after about 50 metres. Pass Fox Close on right and turn right at Linden Cottage (You are now walking along part of the path described in Beyond the Basins). Go through a kissing gate. Cut across the field bearing left 45 degrees towards the railway line and through a white kissing gate. Cross the line with care. The path bears left through another kissing gate and then takes you over the stream on a bridge to the right. Continue on this path until you join another footpath running left to right. Turn right. The River Wrang is to your left. Go through the kissing gate at the end (now leaving the Beyond the Basins Walk) and turn right. Continue up the road, Oaken Ground to the left and Northside to the right. At the top is a cul-de-sac and short footpath which brings you out onto Rockwell Green. Turn left and the Weavers Arms is about 100 metres on the left.

Rockwell Rambles

This walk has a main route and some alternatives.

Distance:- 2½ or 1¼ miles (4 or 3 km)

Time:- approx 1½ to 1 hours

Starts/Ends:- Weavers Arms, Rockwell Green.

There should be enough on street parking in the area for small groups.



Description:- A mixed walk exploring the West and North of Rockwell Green taking in spectacular views of the Blackdown and Brendon Hills and some of the industrial heritage of the area.

Refreshments:- Weavers Arms, Chip Shop and Brock's Convenience Store.

Terrain:- Medium. Mostly low gradients with a number of stiles. Sturdy footwear is essential and Wellington boots advised as there are a number of muddy areas.

1. Start at the Weavers Arms. Head south towards Exeter Road; the water towers and church spire can be seen on the right hand side of the road. Cross the road at Brock's and walk along Rockwell Green past the village hall on the right. Immediately after the hall turn right up a lane. On the right are the two water towers which supplied water to Wellington and Rockwell Green before the area was served by Clatworthy Reservoir. All Saints Church is visible on your left. At the end of the lane you enter the new housing estate of Dobree Park.



Walk straight ahead to a T junction with Warren Street play area in front of you. Turn right along the play area then left through a short footpath. At the end, bear left and walk straight ahead into a cul-de-sac. At the end is a gravel footpath to the left of a wooden fence, which brings you down two steps to a wooden footbridge over a stream, cross the stile into a field.

2. Head across the field at about 45 degrees to the right towards a metal Bristol gate. After the gate head slightly to the left across the field, towards a telegraph pole in a dip. At the bottom of the field go through a stile, which has a dog latch, onto a grassed mud track; this is Pitt Farm Lane. If you look left along the track you will see on the right an old pumping station. To continue the walk turn right along the track

for about 40 metres to a fork. The main walk is along the left fork.

3. However, if you want a very short walk or have footwear unsuitable for mud take the right fork to a metal gate into a field. Skirt around the right hand side of the field to a small bridge over a brook, cross a stile back into Dobree Park housing estate. Walk directly ahead for about 300 metres, passing a play area and playing fields on the left, over another stile and out onto Rockwell Green opposite Coates the Butchers. Turn right, Weavers Arms is 50 metres on the left.

4. For the main walk, take the left fork and go through the Bristol gate. Walk up the slope and then onto the track between the hedge and the electric fence. As you walk along here, look to the left for a magnificent view of the Wellington Monument and Blackdown Hills. After 200 metres on this track, turn right and through a Bristol gate onto another track, which can be very muddy. Turn left towards Perry Elm Farm and past the animal sheds on right. Immediately after the animal sheds turn right along a narrow lane at the end of which is a stile with a dog latch into a field. Keeping the farm buildings on your left, head across the field towards a white house. At the hedge go through the wooden kissing gate onto a road.

5. Turning left takes you towards the main Exeter Road. Straight ahead is a public foot-

path, go over two stiles into a field. This footpath goes across the Exeter Road to the pleasant village of Sampford Arundel (about 1km).

6. The main walk continues by turning right past Backways Farm (a Bed and Breakfast establishment) onto a lane in front of you with Feldacre House on the left. Unfortunately the sign indicating that it is a footpath is on a short post about 20 metres on the left into the lane, which may be obscured by foliage during summer months. This leads into a gully, at the end of which is a stile into a field. Head left to go through a short tunnel under the railway. About 50 metres further on is a wooden bridge over Westford Stream. Head for the building in front of you and over a stile to the right of it.



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7. This is Prowse's Mill built in about 1800 by Thomas Elworthy, with a lead connecting it to his other factories in Westford. The chimney is mid to late 19th century. In 1890 a red brick block was added to house a steam engine and remains can still be seen. For another view of this interesting building you can turn left and go through the stile, next to wooden entrance gates, then turn right in front of the house and over another stile. If you continue on this path there are further walks to Holywell Lake and the Beam Bridge Hotel (see Taunton Deane Wellington Westford Circular Walk).

8. After crossing the field stile, with Prowse's

the stone chippings drive alongside the row of cottages to the end. Turn right into a pathway running between the houses and follow it to emerge at the other end into Twyford Place. Turn right down the unadopted roadway into Bulls Row and emerge onto Mantle Street.

- To the left of the entrance is The Wellesley, a cinema built in 1937 and a good example of Art Deco architecture.

Cross the road into Court Drive. After 60 metres turn right into a small residents only parking area behind the flats. Go through a metal kissing gate on the left, back into Wellington playing fields. Walk round the field keeping to the left, past the tennis courts and residential home, to come onto a tarmac drive, turning left into the car park.

b) Follow the path to the junction with Pyles Thorne. Cross, following

the old West Buckland Road until it rejoins the relief road. Turn next left into a small lane, which soon deteriorates into a potholed path. At the farm buildings bear left, and again at a gate. Follow the road for about ½ mile, until it enters a housing estate. Continue along

Jurston Lane until you

reach Sylvan Road. Cross the road and turn left, then right into the Blackdown Business Park. Almost immediately, take a small

footpath on the left with a beech hedge running along its right hand side. At the chain link fence, turn sharp right past the Wellington School Sports Centre on your left. The path exits opposite the telephone exchange on Scotts Lane. Turn left, and proceed past the Salvation Army Hall on the left, to turn right into Clifford Terrace. At the cul-de-sac, take a dogleg right to come out onto the High Street. At the traffic lights go down North Street, past the Fire Station, and turn left up Courtland Road to reach the car park.

3. Turn right, and at “Byways” cut left through the hedge. Carefully cross the road, climb up some steps, and go over the stile into a field. Bear diagonally right, and at the stile, turn left and follow the hedge to a kissing gate. Go down the field to another 2 gates across an orchard, meeting a lane. Continue through a further 2 kissing gates, passing two beautiful Cedars of Lebanon, until you come to a road. Follow the path across a field to the tunnel under the motorway, and over 3 stiles crossing 2 fields. Cross the road, and proceed up the steep gravelled path to the monument.

- This monument was erected in honour of the Iron Duke’s victory over Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

Retrace your steps back down the hill until you reach the relief road. Follow **a** or **b** back to the car park.

Strolls around South-West Wellington

This walk has two versions, “shorter” and “longer” and an extension to the Wellington Monument.

Distance:- 3¼ or 2½ miles (5 or 4 km), add 3 miles (5km) to go to the Monument

Time:- 3 hours or 1-1½ hour

Starts/Ends:- Courtland Road Car Park, opposite Wellington Park



Description:- An exploration of the lesser known parts of Wellington town, with an extension to the renowned Monument.

Refreshments:- “The Vintage” is a short distance into the walk; and there are many options available in the town centre.

Terrain:- Medium to hard. Sturdy footwear is advised, as there are some off-road sections, with muddy patches. The walk to the Monument involves steep gradients, and several stiles, so walking boots are essential.

1. From the car park, take the footpath to the left of the row of conifers which leads onto Wellington playing fields. Follow the tarmac path past the cricket pavilion and the soccer clubhouse to the top left-hand corner of the fields.

- Wellington FC plays here, but once the pitch was the site of Wellington House, a residence of Sir John Popham KT, who became Lord Chief Justice of England in 1592.

Follow one of two pathways into North Street car park (depending on which gate is locked). Continue straight across the car park, past the public toilets, aiming for the “Town Centre” sign clearly visible. Take this path until you come out at Fore Street, next to a branch of Lloyds TSB.

- This was previously the Fox Fowler Bank, the last in England to issue its own £5 notes. Directly across the road is the Wellington museum, which contains a wealth of information on the area.

Turn right, continuing along the pavement and crossing the road opposite *The former Three Cups* inn.

Go under the archway and continue straight along the public footpath.

At the end, cross over the

road and turn right and then left. Take the path through a small entrance on the left, passing the astroturf hockey pitch.

As you pass down this alley, look to your right and on a fine day you will see views of the Monument and Blackdown Hills. Further on, there are some wrought iron gates on the left, affording a sight of the fine chapel of Wellington School.

Go through the barriers and follow the path to the end of the playing fields. Continue straight across the crossed paths, going up a slight incline.

- Further along the path on the right is an old water tower, now residential, which used to be part of Wellington’s main water supply before Clatworthy Reservoir was constructed.

At the end of the pathway, cross over Wellesley Park road and follow the footpath directly opposite, past the grounds of Wellesley Park School.

2. You have now come out onto the busy A38 Wellington relief road. To take the longer walk to the Monument, continue to section **3**. Otherwise, you

can turn right and follow route **a**, or turn left and follow route **b** back into Wellington.

- a)** Follow the tarmac path alongside the road, crossing the junction with Swains Lane. Continue along the grass verge to the Stallards / Farthings Pitts crossroads.

- This is known locally as “Webber’s Grave”. It is rumored to be the resting place of a corrupt lawyer, who could not live with his conscience and committed suicide. It was customary to bury suicides at crossroads so their spirit would not know which pathway to take.

Turn right, after a short distance you walk past a terrace of cottages on the left and into Foxdown Hill. Look to your left and on fine days you will have good views of Rockwell Green and the distant Brendon Hills. When you reach the bungalow “Longridge” on the right-hand side, go through a Bristol gate into the field. Follow the public footpath along the right hand field hedge to a second Bristol gate. Walk down the grassy footpath for about 50 metres to join Foxdown Terrace and Ardwyn. Turn left down the hill. At the end of Wellington School playing fields on the right, turn right into Improvement Place / Bulford Lane. Take the 2nd left after about 160 metres into Martins Buildings, following

