

# Pebmarsh Parish

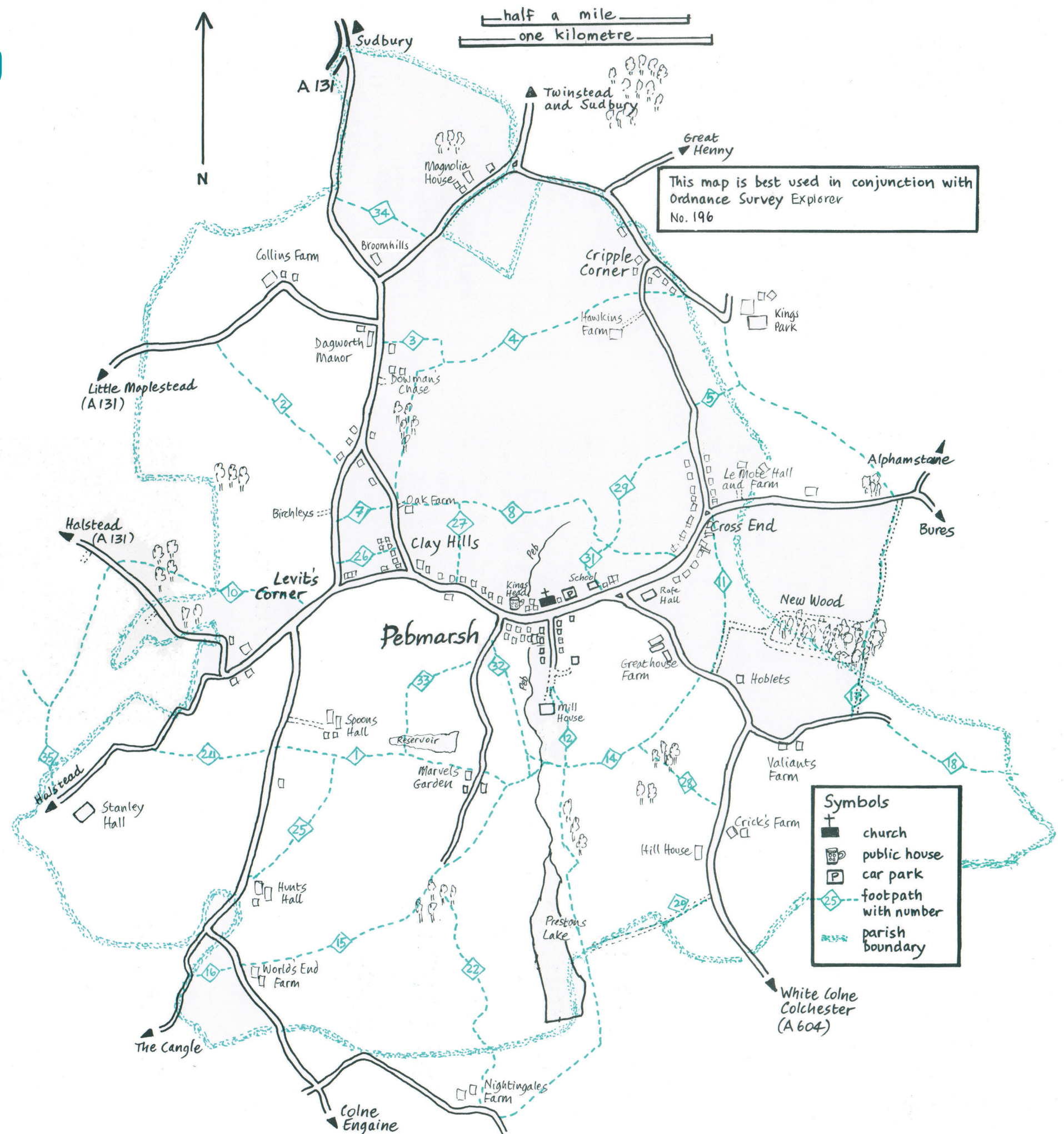
FOOTPATH

## WHEN OUT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE:

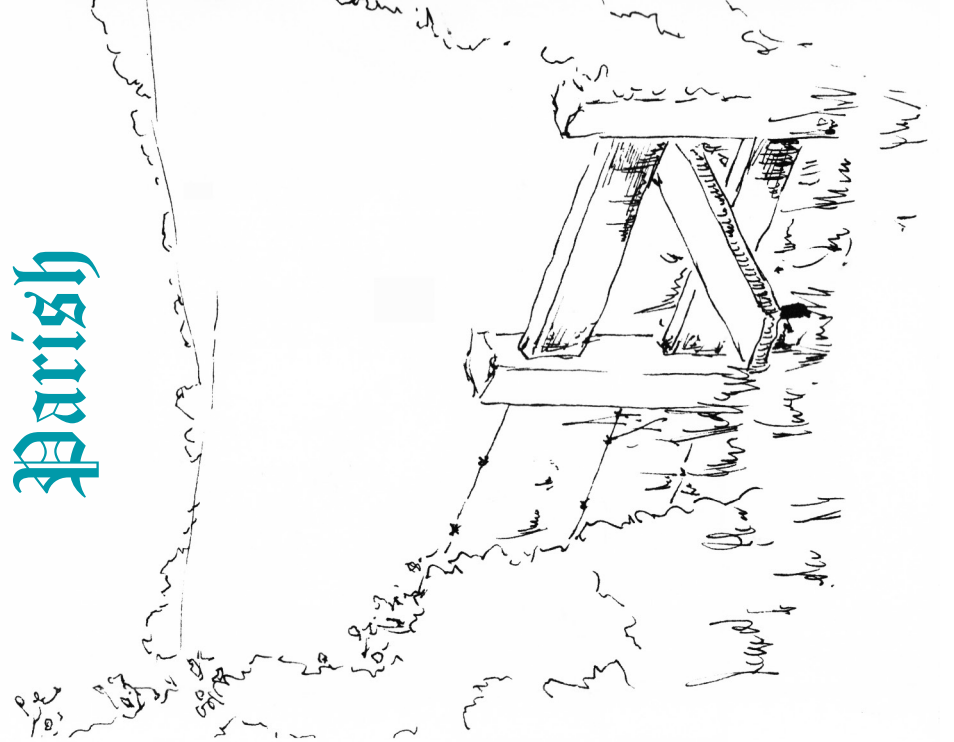
- keep to designated footpaths.
- shut gates where appropriate.
- keep in single file across fields.
- keep noise to a minimum.
- guard against fires.
- keep dogs under control (on lead when livestock present).
- take your litter home.
- treat the countryside with respect.
- no cycling on footpaths.

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:

The County Council (Highways) has a statutory duty to maintain public rights of way. Farmers must restore cross-field paths after cultivation, and must not disturb headland paths without permission.







# Pebrish Footpath of Pebrish

## The

## The Village

The stream that crosses the parish is called the Peb and to the north-east of the village centre it runs through a marshy area. But, contrary to common belief, it does not seem that this is how the village got its name. It is derived from Tybba's Ersc', meaning a stubble field or pasture belonging to Pybba. The same Pybba gave his name to Pebehale, a site now lost, believed to be at or near Stebbing.

In the 13th century the manorial rights of the village were held by the Fitz Ralph family.

Pebrmarsh became an important watering hole on the drovers' route from Lavenham to Coggeshall. The sheep were well sated in the Peb, while their minders took the same advantage of the hostelry. Only recently, evidence was found of their sleeping accommodation in the roof, on palliases.

For similar strategic reasons George Courtauld built his first silk-weaving mill in Mill Lane (opposite the church), in 1798. Plentiful cheap labour was a factor, as was the water of the Peb, though 'the power of water at the propos'd spot was small', but his main reason was mainly to link the silk centres of London and Norwich.

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There are still two rectories in the village, both now in private hands. The older, Rafe Hall, is on the site of an earlier rectory, while a later one is on high ground above Mill Lane

Mill House was once the residence of George Courtauld, and at a later date, Sir Ronald Storrs.

The first purpose-built school was built on glebe land next to the church (E) in 1851.

The present church is mainly early 14th century. Its tower is 40ft in height. There was a previous building on the same site as early as 1254.

Spoons Hall, on the west of the parish, is also of 14th century construction. Nearby Stanley Hall is older (13th century). It possesses several panels of 17th century heraldic glass. The Kings

Head went up in 1450, while next to the church (W) is the old manor house, once the residence of the Fitz Ralphs.

## Buildings



Brass to Sir William Fitz Ralph, c. 1323; the Effigy and three pieces of the Inscription (b); from a rubbing by the Rev. G. Montague. Benton, F.S.A., 23 July 1901.

## The Footpaths

Most footpaths have been literally walked into existence, worn into being by man and his livestock. They took country people from their homes to church, to the pub, the farm, the market or their place of work.

The Tudors were the first to build roads on any scale after the Romans. Many paths became roads, but most remained intact.

This is the legacy which we are now able to enjoy. Footpaths take the walker back in time, to share views our forebears witnessed up to a thousand years ago. They give us access to the heart of the countryside and to a precious solitude infrequently available in modern life.

There are 103,000 miles of footpaths in England and Wales, of which about 10 miles are in the parish of Pebrmarsh! We hope that you will enjoy walking them.

## Footpath

The Kings Head gained its name only after Charles II gained the throne. For a period of its life, the residents were active in the smuggling of brandy.

In the last century, a madman was found in the parish in a state of frenzy, carrying the head of a murdered victim in a bowl under one arm while holding two chickens and a shotgun under the other.

In the 1930s the village used to hold large religious plays, in which most of the parishioners took part. The size of these events was such that they were recorded in the London papers.

A distinguished resident of the village was Sir Ronald Storrs, whose tomb is just inside the churchyard gate. He was Governor of Jerusalem and of Cyprus, and, in the words of T. E. Lawrence, 'the most brilliant man in the Near East'.