

WALKS
around 
ALVECHURCH

A series of walks researched and published by the
Alvechurch Village Society



Walk No. 1

***Alvechurch - Withybed Green - WheeleyFarm -
Cattespool - Scarfields Dingle - Alvechurch.***

Distance: Approximately 4 miles.

Duration: about 2 hours.

DIRECTIONS

(with points of interest **A-G** noted)

1. From car park turn left onto Tanyard Lane, then onto loose surfaced footpath at Brookside Close, emerging on Snake Lane. Follow Withybed Lane under railway and over canal bridges, into the hamlet of Withybed Green. Pass The Crown Inn.

A. The Crown Inn is featured on a similar walk in Pub Walks in Worcestershire, by Richard Shurey (1993). Next to the Worcester & Birmingham Canal, the pub dates at least to the first part of the 19th century when the canal was finished; The Crown provided accommodations for horses and barges. The three storey houses just beyond it are 300 years old. Most of the others in the hamlet were built just before the turn of the century as dwellings for workers in the brick factory nearby to the south, defunct since just before World War II.

2. Proceed straight ahead to stile next to gate at field. Following waymarkers, go up hill over stiles and through gates to Foxhill Lane, where an old stable barn has been converted to apartments.

B. Before reaching the stile at Foxhill House, look back at the extensive view over Withybed Green and Alvechurch Village to the hills opposite Forhill, Swan Hill, Weatheroak Hill.

3. Cross Foxhill Lane, following waymarked path across a number of stiles to emerge onto road near The Nook. Follow road west beyond junction with Wheeley Road.

4. Opposite Wheeley Farm follow broad footpath past pond on the right and over cattle grid. Turn right over stile next to modern barn, left over cattle grid, following bridleway past outbuildings and barn conversions of Cattespool.

C. On a clear day the Malvern Hills will be visible just ahead and to the right. Cattespool Farm dates from Elizabethan times, as evidenced in the architecture of Cattespool House, to your left as you climb Stoney Lane. (In spring it is surrounded by snowdrops and daffodils. Often there are many pheasants in the area.)

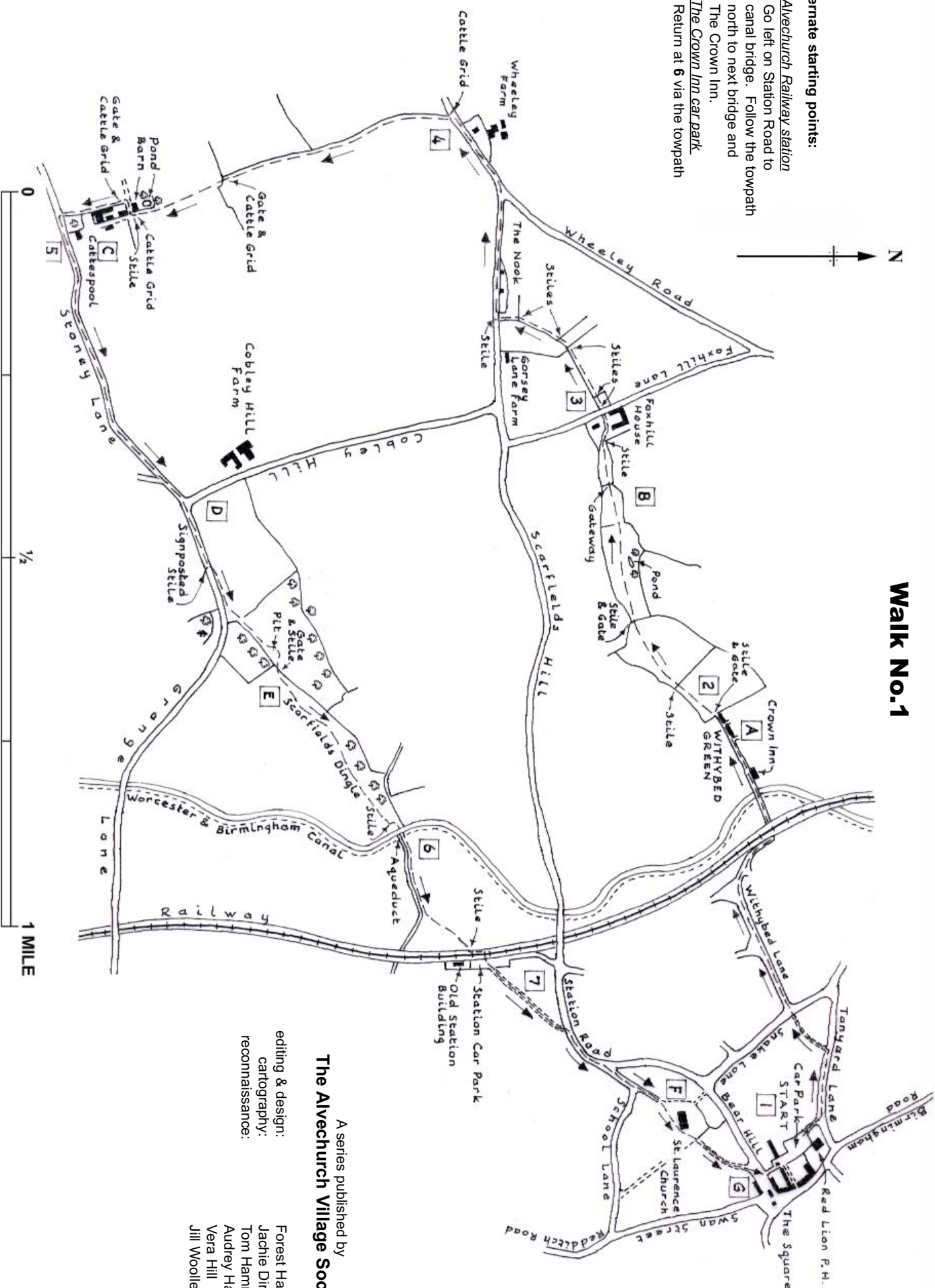
5. Turn left and go up Stoney Lane to top junction with Cobley Hill and Grange Lane. Turn left and go up Stoney Lane to top junction with Cobley Hill and Grange Lane.

D. The view south to west from here is especially stunning if not obscured by clouds or smog. The Malverns will be clearly outlined in the southwest, between the ridges of the Cotswolds to their left and Abberley Hill to their right.

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Alternate starting points:

1. Alvechurch Railway station
Go left on Station Road to canal bridge. Follow the towpath north to next bridge and The Crown Inn.
2. The Crown Inn car park
Return at 6 via the towpath



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