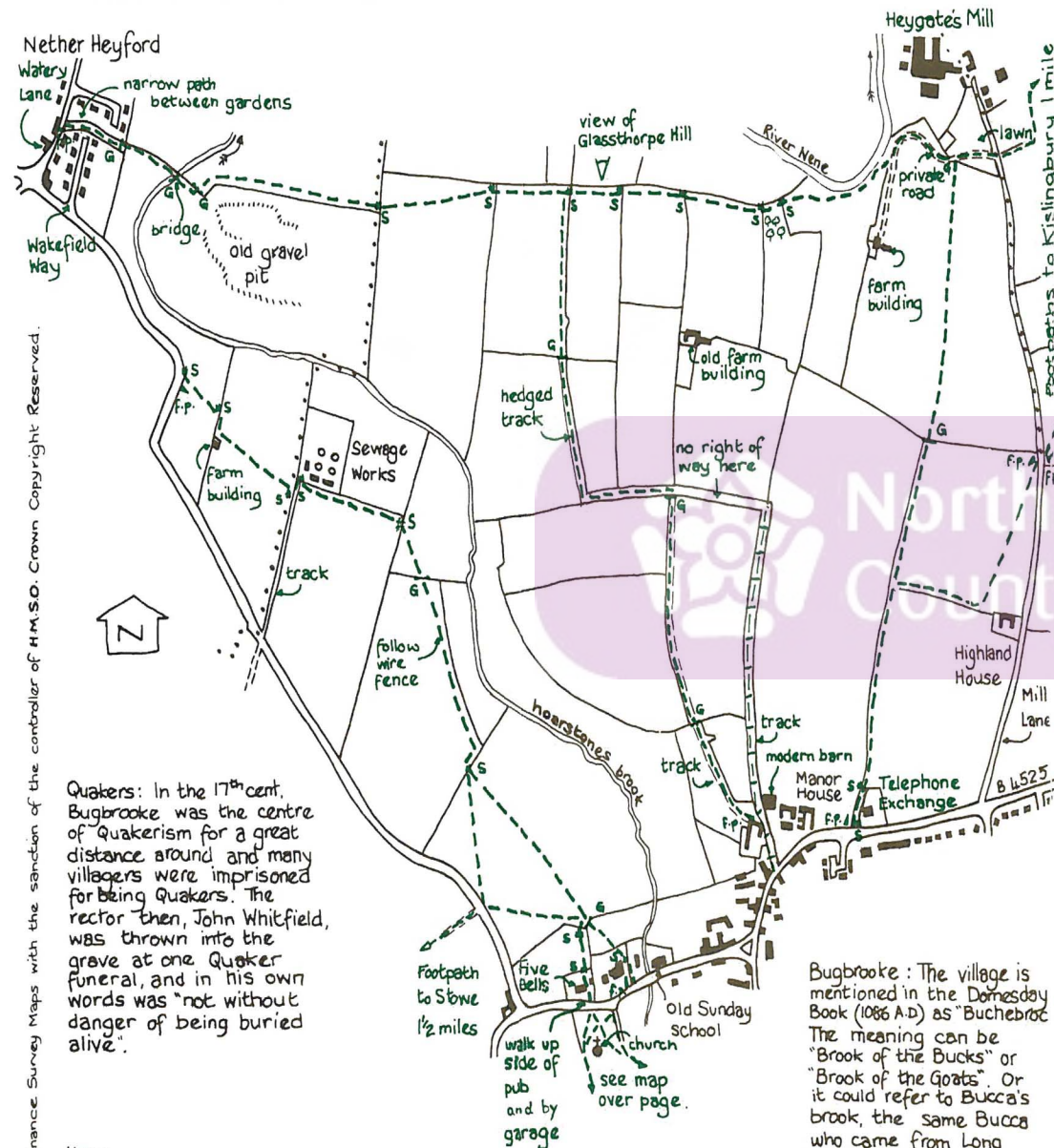


Heygate's Mill: the first mill was established on the site in 800 A.D. By the time of the Domesday Book (1086 A.D.) Bugbrooke Mill was the third highest rated mill in England, the rates being paid in eels and corn. Numerous disasters over the centuries in the form of fires and floods have overtaken the Mill. Today it is the headquarters of England's largest Independent millers.



Quakers: In the 17th cent. Bugbrooke was the centre of Quakerism for a great distance around 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".

Key:  
G- Gate. --- Footpath  
S# Stile. -|-|- Bridleway  
F.B. Footbridge. .... Parish boundary.  
F.P. Finger post.

Bugbrooke: The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086 A.D.) as "Buchebrōc". The meaning can be "Brook of the Bucks" or "Brook of the Goats". Or it could refer to Bucca's brook, the same Bucca who came from Long Buckby. The present spelling first appears about 1559.

O.S. Sheet 152 (6.R.675573)

## 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 highway 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 countryside belongs to someone, so please treat it with respect and other walkers will be made welcome.

If you experience any difficulty on your walk such as barbed wire, locked gates or damaged stiles and footbridges, please report them to the County Surveyor, Northampton House, Northampton. Tel 236701

Your general comments on this leaflet and the routes will be welcomed by the County Leisure and Libraries Officer, 27 Guildhall Road, Northampton. Tel 20267.

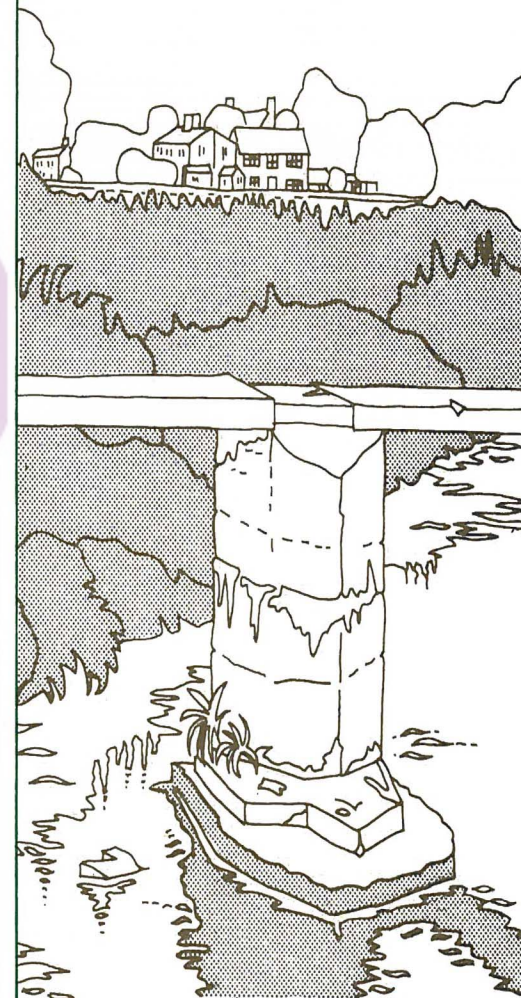
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Compiled and designed by Keith Wheel.  
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Northamptonshire Leisure Services  
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Updated June 1985

# Countryside Walks

## Bugbrooke



Northamptonshire  
Leisure and Libraries

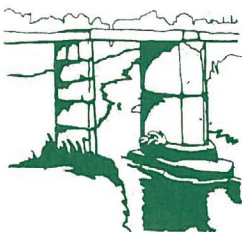




**The Church:** The 13<sup>th</sup> cent church, with many later additions, has grown from a small chapel a century older. Inside note the very fine 500 year old rood screen carved in oak. The churchyard has a magnificent selection of mature trees.

**Knitter's Grave:** In 1668 the burial is recorded of Richard Taylor (also Knitter) who, suspected of poisoning, poisoned himself. Being a suicide he was buried as far as possible from the village "on the left hand of Northampton Way in a baulk that parts the fields of Bugbrooke and Kislingbury". Local people still call the area "Knitter's Grave".

**The Chapel:** Built in 1808 it flourished as a Baptist Chapel for a century and a half. An early minister, John Wheeler, ran a soap factory next to the present V.G. Stores and baptised his first converts in the brook; hence his nickname "John the Dipper".



**Hoarstones Brook:** Each winter the brook used to flood the west end of the village. In 1970 it was cleared out, deepened and widened. The packhorse "clapper" bridge dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> cent. when wool used to be carried over the brook by ponies. When the stream was widened the bridge was partly rebuilt, but the pillars are mostly original.

