

Local Snippets

Oxendon Tunnels.

Engineers originally designed the railway line and tunnel as double track but only a single track was built to save money. This decision was later regretted, due to the cost incurred, when the line had to be upgraded to cope with increased traffic to the northern coalfields. The tunnels are 410 and 440 metres long. The east tunnel is open to Brampton Valley Way users, but horse riders should not enter the tunnel.



Tunnel Air Shaft.

There is a regular bus service between Market Harborough and Northampton with frequent stops at Great Oxendon. Please check bus services and times before travelling.

Brampton Valley Way

The Brampton Valley Way was once a busy rural branch line run by the London and North Western Railway. It served the towns of Northampton and Market Harborough and numerous villages between for nearly a century. Now trains have been replaced by walkers and cyclists and in some places horse riders.

Since 1987 the County Council has been developing the route by providing facilities such as car parks, picnic sites and a path suitable for wheelchairs and walkers alike. Passing open fields, wooded areas and alongside dense thickets and hedgerows, the route provides access to the Northamptonshire countryside, by linking with existing footpaths and bridleways.

Countryside 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 route.
6. Remember that every piece of land in the countryside belongs to someone, so please treat it with respect and others 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, (Arthingworth and Great Oxendon), Arnex House, London Road, Daventry, Tel. Daventry 301001, or East Office, (Braybrooke), 73 London Road, Kettering. Tel. 524100.

Your general comments on this leaflet and the routes will be welcomed by the Director of Planning and Transportation, Northampton House, Northampton. NN1 2HZ.

The Brampton Valley Way Countryside Ranger Service operates from the Old Station House, Lamport. Tel. 060128 327 and Brixworth Country Park Tel. N'pton. 882322
Leaflet drawn by Sue Payne, notes by Chris Leach and Jim Fletcher. (1992)
Countryside Walks Leaflet No. 35

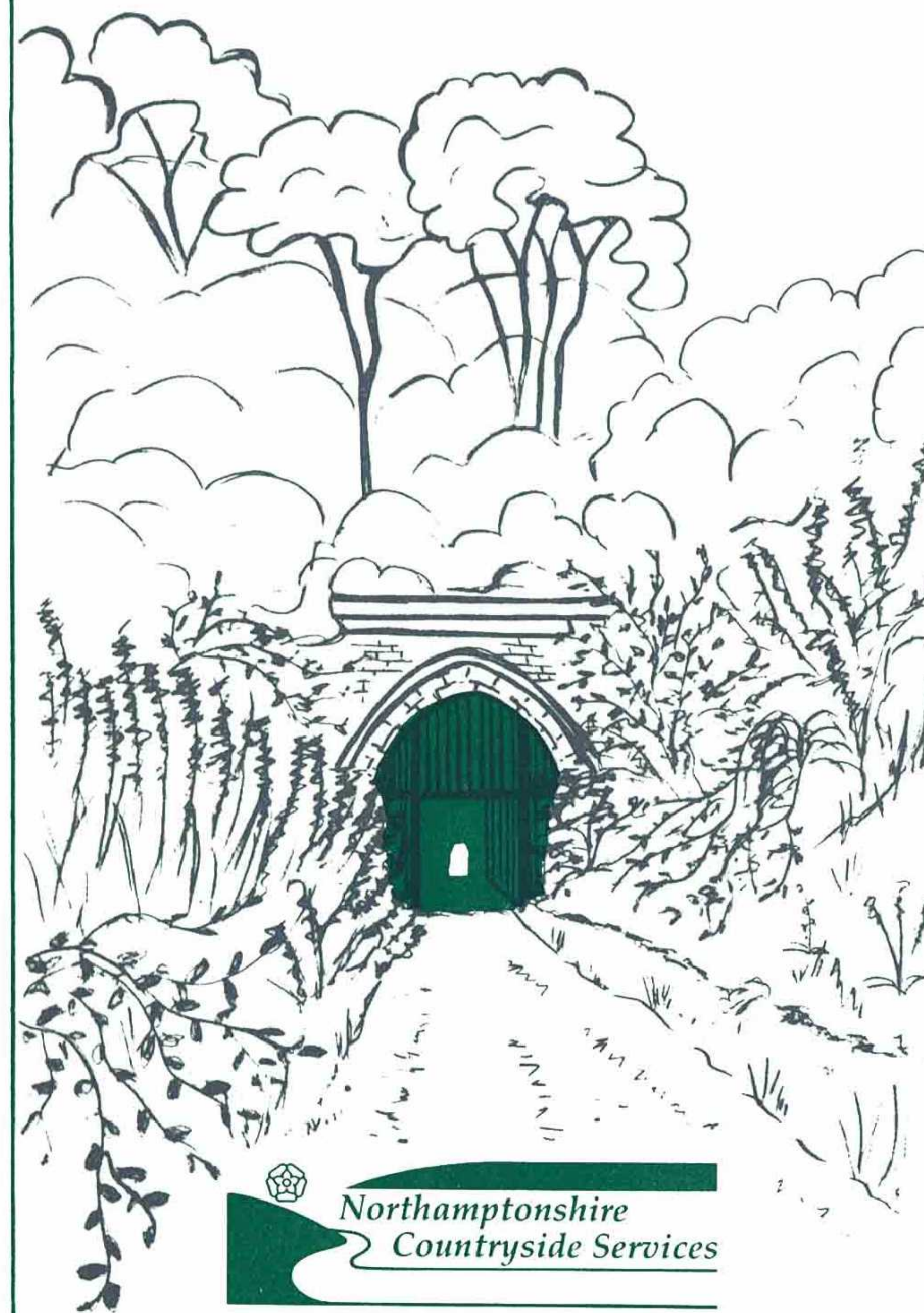


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Great Oxendon Brampton Valley



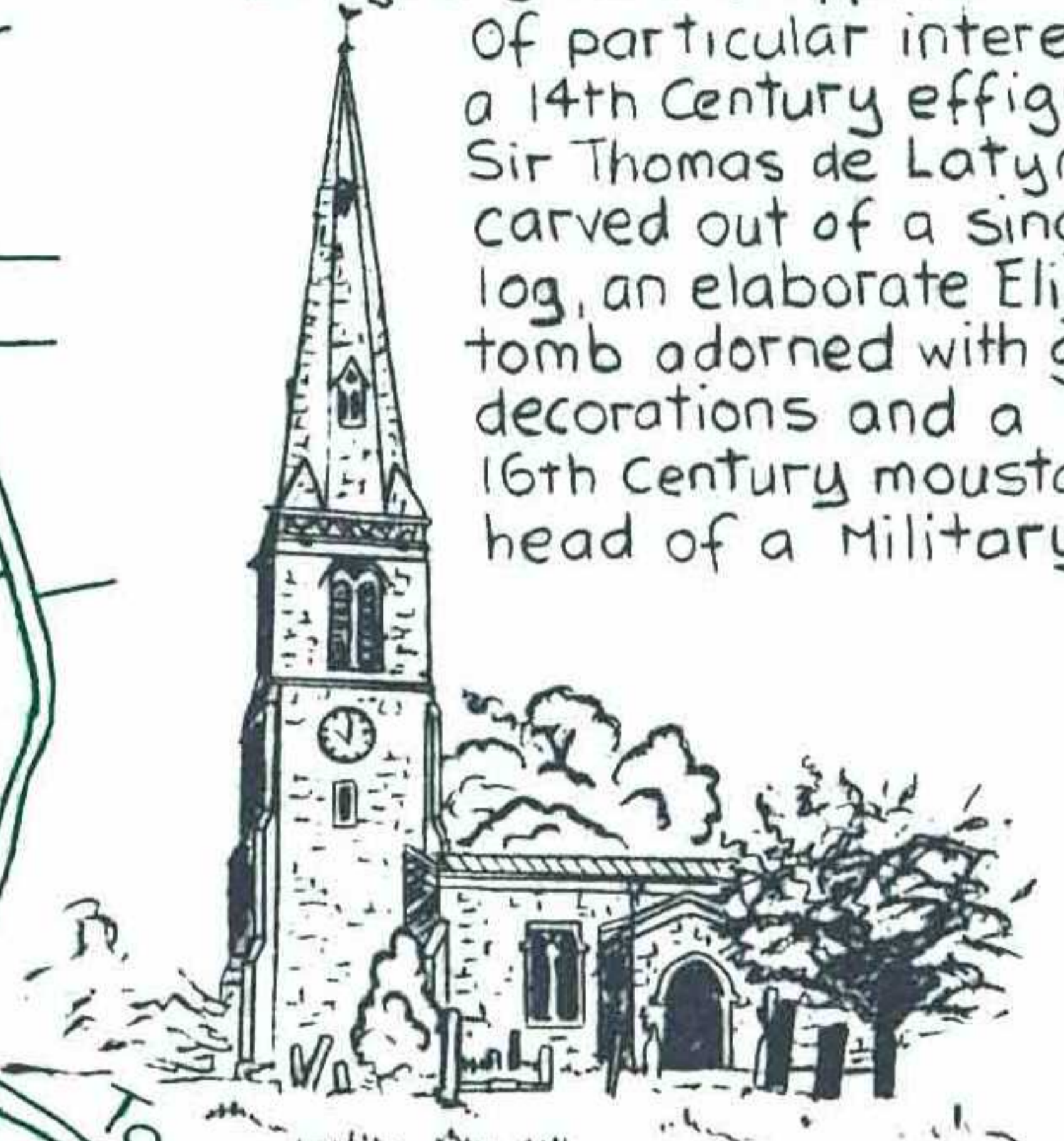
Northamptonshire
Countryside Services

Little Oxendon.
Well preserved earthworks of the deserted medieval village of Little Oxendon. It was probably deliberately depopulated in the 14th Century for sheep farming.

Extensive earthworks to the east of Braybrooke village are the remains of a fortified Manor House, its moats and elaborate fishponds.

Braybrooke Church.
The 13th Century Church has many interesting interior monuments associated with the castle and its residents, the Latymers and Griffins.

Of particular interest are a 14th Century effigy of Sir Thomas de Latymer carved out of a single oak log, an elaborate Elizabeth tomb adorned with griffin decorations and a huge 16th Century moustached head of a Military man.



Braybrooke Church.

Hedgerow species such as ash, dogwood, field-maple, midland hawthorn and wild-hop can be seen west of the track.

Local watershed ridge between the Welland and Nene Rivers, and the Jordan and Ise, their respective tributary streams.

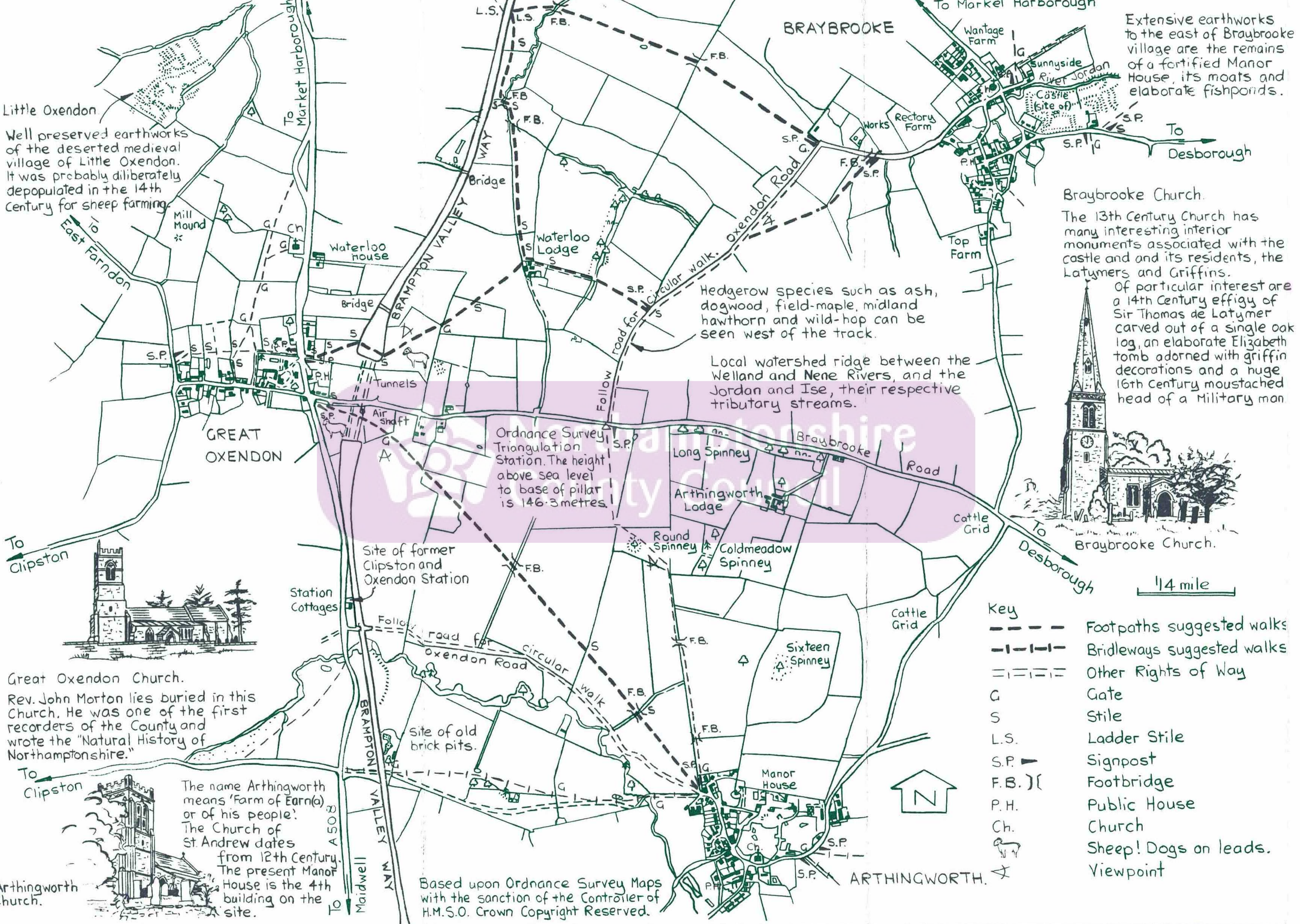
Ordnance Survey Triangulation Station. The height above sea level to base of pillar is 146.3 metres.

Great Oxendon Church.
Rev. John Morton lies buried in this Church. He was one of the first recorders of the County and wrote the "Natural History of Northamptonshire."

The name Arthingworth means 'Farm of Earn(a) or of his people'. The Church of St. Andrew dates from 12th Century. The present Manor House is the 4th building on the site.

Arthingworth Church.

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- Key**
- Footpaths suggested walks
 - .-.- Bridleways suggested walks
 - == Other Rights of Way
 - G Gate
 - S Stile
 - L.S. Ladder Stile
 - S.P. Signpost
 - F.B. Footbridge
 - P.H. Public House
 - Ch. Church
 - Sheep! Dogs on leads.
 - ☆ Viewpoint