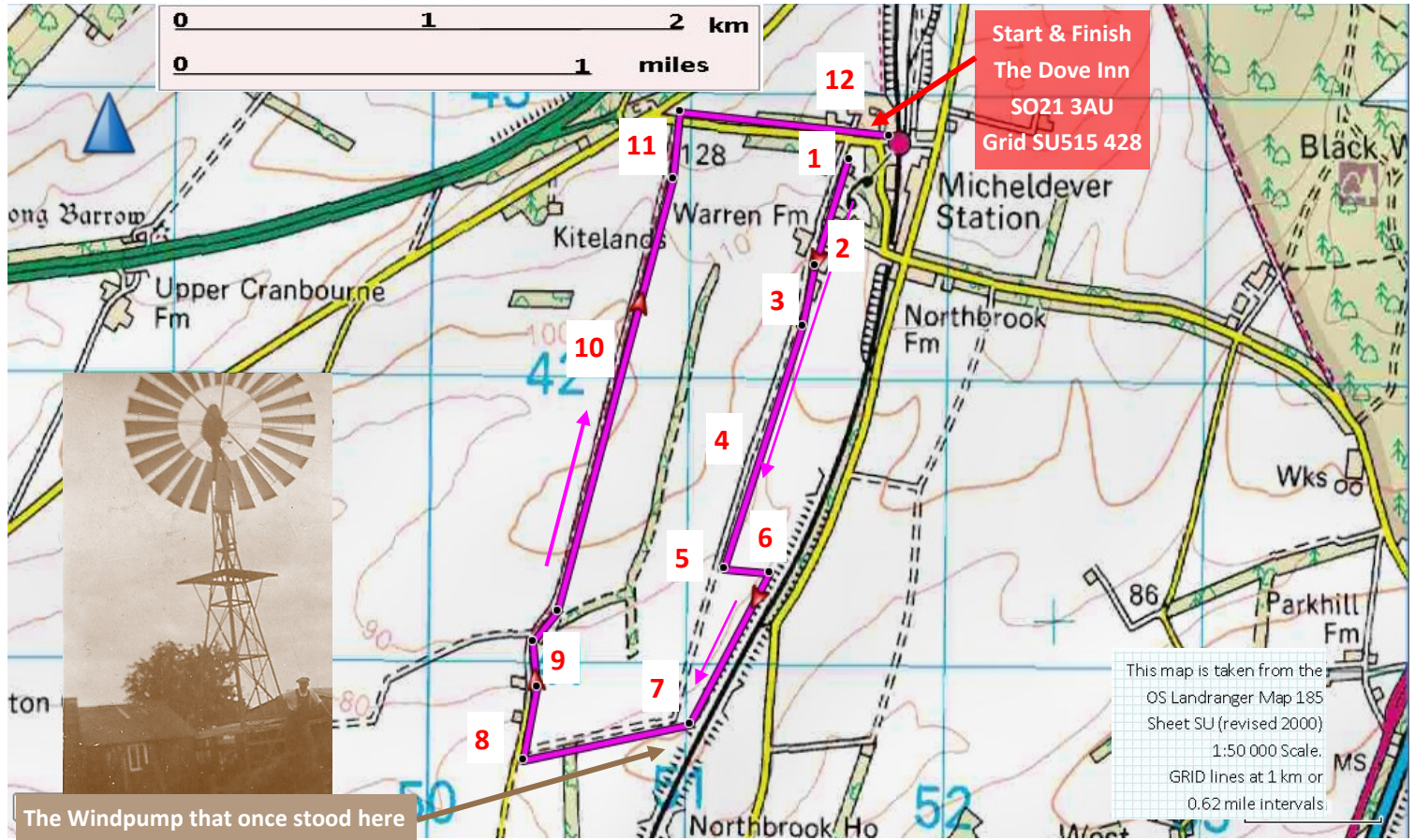


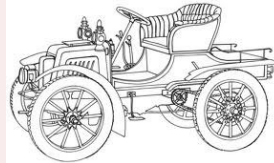
The Walking Year - Walk 1 Windpump Walk (Micheldever Station) 3.8 miles /6.2 km



THE ROUTE Walk 1 The Windpump Walk (Micheldever Station) 3.8 miles / 6.2km easy.

We begin by following a permissive path that traces the steps of Mr Smart whose responsibility it was to maintain the Wind Pump. The water was raised to the surface and piped to the Reservoir at Tower House to supply Warren Farm, and later, the Station and many of the railway labourer's cottages. We detour around a field where the track is obliterated through cultivation. The return is along an ancient bridleway, Weston Down Lane, which can become quite muddy in wet weather. Last ½ mile is down the road to the Station.

1. From The Dove turn right, away from the Station. After 200 yds Ellis Drive is on your right. It is named after the Rt Hon Evelyn Ellis who, in 1895, drove his French Panhard-Levassor from here to Windsor. The first time a 'car' had been driven in this country without being preceded by a person waving a red flag. The original car is now in the Science Museum. Cross the road and follow the lane opposite leaving the Warren Centre on your left.



2. Continue past the back entrance to Warren Farm. Before the Railway was constructed Warren Farm was an isolated homestead having been built in 1775.

3. The tarmac gives way to a grass farm track. Pause for a moment and imagine you can see the sails of the Windpump on the skyline directly ahead of you. This track has a fine mixed hedgerow on the right: hawthorn, sloes, blackberries, crab apple, wayfaring tree, dog rose, honeysuckle making it a haven for birds, mammals & insects all year round.

4. A permissive route goes off to the left, straight across the field and passes through an archway under the railway. Our route continues south down the grassy field track.

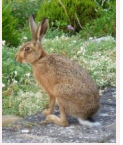
(Watercolour
in The Dove)



R Baigent
Ox-Roast to
celebrate
opening of
the line 1840

5. Where the track ends abruptly follow the hedge on your left as far as the railway embankment.

6. Turn right along the wild field margin. White helleborine and fly orchids have been seen along this stretch in summer months, but brown hare and deer are more commonly sighted in winter.



7. Continue to the other side of the hedge and turn right to join the long-established field track. Pause alongside the gap in the hedge to your Right. Look through this gap to see the track you walked from Warren Farm. On the crest of the hill behind you is a clump of trees and scrub. This obscures the remains of the Windpump. This is PRIVATE LAND so please observe and continue on your way.

8. The track joins a tarmac lane. Turn right and pass Mulbury Barns. Shortly, the tarmac ceases and a grassy track continues. Can be heavily rutted in winter but passable.

9. The Bridleway, Weston Down Lane, heads northward. This is an old drove road and you can see Weston Clump on the skyline ahead of you. Pass the overgrown pond (10) and continue up to Andover Road (11). Turn right and walk down the side of the road to The Dove (12) and the Railway Station.

The Dove Inn is a friendly traditional country pub. Children and dogs are welcomed. The five letting rooms are always popular. Real Ale & good food.



The Dove Inn

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