

are traces of it in the cellar.  
pub. Today's facade is not the original, although there  
property may not be used as a place of worship nor as a  
of tea fame. Covenants include the stipulation that the  
Adlard Coles, the author of Sailing Years, and Twinnings  
Binstead. Among its many occupants were Kaines  
and was at one time part of the Manor of Quar, near  
called Sydney Cottage. It has footings dating from 1536  
**Pond.** This Grade 1 listed building was originally  
on the right hand side abutting the banks of the **Mill**

**2.** Beyond the bridge is Bridge House which faces you  
the Mill Pond is beautiful and look out for herons, egrets  
and other wading birds.  
for the working of the once tidal mill. The view across  
created a head of water, which was utilised at low tide  
mill pond covering about 100 acres. A sluice gate  
in 1865. To the south of the causeway the water forms a  
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Welcome to  
Wootton Bridge.  
This leaflet is  
one in a series of  
five walks designed to  
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## Historical Walk

## Walks about Wootton

# HISTORIA WAK

### Notable buildings and features



**3.** Now look across the road into Mill Square, where the  
Sloop Inn is situated. The site of the tidal mill was where  
the yachtsmen's cottages now stand. Built prior to  
1690, in the lease of July 1700 between Edward Lisle and  
Col. Edward Fleming the document included a watermill,  
millhouse, dwelling house currently used as an ale  
house, stables, outhouses and garden. Parts of the wall  
of the mill building can still be seen today, adjacent to  
the grass area and public slipway in Mill Square. If you  
look carefully in the wall  
you can see the position  
of the original doorway.  
Sadly, the mill was  
demolished in 1963.  
Beside the yachtsmen's  
cottages there was once  
a small quay where  
several fishing boats and  
other vessels up to 250 tons could operate at high water.  
Twice daily a wherry operated by a William Furdidge  
carried passengers to Portsmouth, returning in the  
evening.

**4.** Continue for about 100 yards until you come to the  
entrance to the Woodland Cemetery on your right at  
Fernihill Park. This has recently been turned into a  
Woodland Cemetery but there is public access through  
the site. Turn into the Park. The woodland to your right  
is known as the Ornamental Drive and was once the  
drive that led to Fernhill House. It was established about  
150-200 years ago and has an unusual mix of exotic  
trees in the walk, including acers, prunus and  
rhododendron. The great Plane Tree, where you started,  
would have at one time been at the entrance to the  
Drive.

**5.** Carry straight on and about 100 yards along on the  
left is the turning for **Fernihill**. The original lodge, now a  
private house, stands here on the opposite side of the  
road.  
Fernihill House itself was situated at the end of Fernhill  
(unmade road). The House was built by Lord Bolton the

**6.** Walk right along the length of Church Road until you  
reach St Edmund's Church, at the end. Dating from  
Norman times, it was built around 1087 AD as a private  
chapel for the nearby manor house. The west wing is of  
the original building, the east wing being added in the  
13th century. At this time a chantry was constructed on  
the north wall; this was demolished in the 17th century  
and replaced by the present side chapel which was built  
on the same site in 1892. The early Norman doorway  
was part of the original structure and the roof timbers  
probably date from the 14th century. The Jacobean  
pulpit and late Victorian stained glass windows  
complement the building.

**7.** Follow the designated  
pathway through the  
recreation ground and the  
Doorstep Green, which  
was opened in 2005. The  
information panel at the  
entrance explains how  
and why the Green was  
created.  
Exit into the High Street.  
Turn left and start walking down the High Street.

## Acknowledgements

The Parish Council wishes to thank the many people and volunteers who have supported and helped in whatever way with the production of the Walks about Wootton project. Without them the production of these leaflets would not have been possible.

This project has been funded by the Local Heritage Initiative which is a national grant scheme that helps local groups to investigate, explain and care for their local landscape, landmarks, traditions and culture. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) provides the grant but the scheme is a partnership, administered by the Countryside Agency.

Local  
Heritage  
initiative



Heritage  
Lottery Fund

The  
Countryside  
Agency

Hidden Britain  
South East

Wootton Bridge  
PARISH COUNCIL

**8.** At the traffic lights you will see the Cedars public  
house on the right hand corner. A public house since  
1953, it was built as a private residence for Edmund  
Brading, retiring headmaster of Wootton School. Later  
requiring a smaller dwelling, he sold it to the Fulford  
family and built the house to the left of the Cedars. The  
car park was once the tennis courts for the house. After  
World War II, the Fulfords sold the property to Mew  
Langton brewery.  
Cross Church Road carefully at the lights and  
continue on down the High Street.

**9.** Pause to look in the garden of number 80 where the  
Queen Victoria Golden Jubilee Fountain is sited.  
Although on private land, the fountain can be viewed  
from the footway. It was originally erected in 1887 at  
the bottom of the High Street (next to where the launderette  
is now sited). It supplied water and on the right hand  
side had a bowl to drink from, whereas the left was used  
for filling buckets. The monument was dismantled in  
the late 1960s and the stonework was transported  
further up the hill to 80 High Street and deposited in the  
rear garden. In 1987 the current owner had it rebuilt in  
the front garden.

**10.** Take a right into an unmade road called **Pump Lane**.  
**11.** Follow the road around until you reach the green,  
pausing to admire the view down the Creek. Proceed to  
the metal gate on the far side of the green. On your right  
there is a group of three cottages dating from 1758.  
Walk through the gate, following the lane round which  
takes you into Mill Square.  
**12.** A survey of 1862 reveals that the buildings to the left  
of the Sloop (as you look at it) comprised the Post Office,  
(now part of the Sloop Inn), Methodist Reformers Chapel,  
(which became St John's Ambulance hall, now a private  
residence) and Ella Cottage.

You have now reached the end of the walk.

Government of the Isle of Wight  
in 1794.  
Sadly it was disastrously  
destroyed by fire in 1938.  
Turn right by the lodge into  
Station Road until you reach  
the junction with the High  
Street. Cross over the  
High Street into Church  
Road, which is opposite,  
using the light-controlled  
crossing.

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reach St Edmund's Church, at the end. Dating from  
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probably date from the 14th century. The Jacobean  
pulpit and late Victorian stained glass windows  
complement the building.

Opposite the Church, turn into Norman Way and walk  
straight ahead until you reach the junction with  
Footways. Take a quick left and then right which will  
take you into the recreation ground.  
**7.** Follow the designated  
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would have at one time been at the entrance to the  
Drive.

Carry on walking until you reach the junction with New  
Road on the left. Turn left and walk along New Road for  
about 150 yards, past the Youth Centre, formerly Wootton  
School (1867), built on land donated by Robert Stayner  
Holford, owner of the former Wootton Manor Estate.

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-  Walks About Wootton Footpath
-  Unpaved footpaths/bridleways
-  Wootton Station (Steam Railway to Havenstreet, Smallbrook Junction and Island Line)
-  Wootton Bridge Help & Information Centre
-  Parking
-  Post Office
-  Church
-  Public House
-  Public Convenience
-  View Point



**WOOTTON BRIDGE HELP AND INFORMATION CENTRE**  
 4 & 5 Joanne's Walk, Brannon Way, Telephone: 884 555  
 Web address: [www.woottonbridge.com](http://www.woottonbridge.com)  
 Open: Mon - Fri 0900 - 1300 hours

