

# Miles Without Stiles Laverton



A short walk discovering the local history behind two Cotswold villages - Laverton and Buckland.

**Distance:** 2.4 kilometres/  
1½ miles (1 hour) with ups and  
downs of 52m or 170ft

**Start:** School House -  
Laverton. Parking in  
Laverton or on one of the  
approach roads from the  
B4632 SP072/356

## Route:

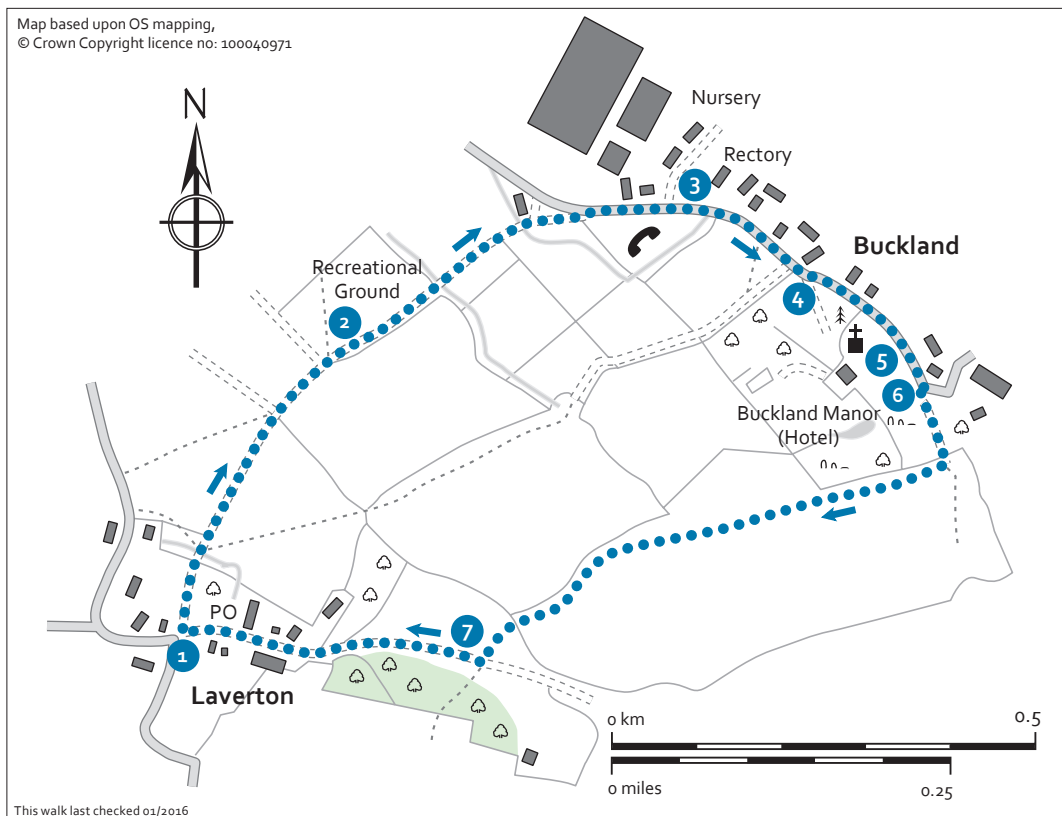
Follow the tarmac path  
opposite School House **1** in a  
northerly direction. As the path  
starts to veer to the north-east,  
the first field on the left is a good  
example of ridge and furrow, a  
relic of the Open Field System.

The path enters an open field,  
once used as a recreation field,  
**2** before entering the final  
stretch to Buckland. As you  
reach Buckland, the first cottage  
on the left is where the village  
blacksmith used to live and work  
until 1963.

Follow the road up through  
Buckland. After passing a  
side turning on the left, the  
imposing building on the left  
is the old Rectory, **3** now  
a private dwelling. Built by  
the Rector, William Grafton,  
towards the end of the  
fifteenth century, it is one of the  
oldest rectories in England.

The road now bears south-east,

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as you pass the entrance to  
Buckland Manor **4** on  
the right to reach the church,  
dedicated to St Michael. **5**  
The church has many  
interesting features, including  
a seventeenth century gallery,  
painted medieval roof timbers  
and the fifteenth century east  
window - restored by William  
Morris in 1883.

Leaving the church, continue  
up through the village until the  
road bears sharp left. **6** Leave  
the road here and follow the  
public footpath sign straight

ahead up the track for about  
100 metres until just before you  
enter a field, where you turn  
sharp right up to the first of  
three gates. Go through, keeping  
the boundary of Buckland  
Manor, a hotel on your right.

About 50 metres after passing  
through the third gate, as the  
fence turns right, maintain your  
westerly direction following  
the row of trees (remnant of an  
old hedgerow). Bearing slightly  
left and eventually uphill, reach  
the gate set in the hedge/fence  
crossing at right angles.

Go through this gate and bear  
slightly left to cross the narrow  
field to a waymarked post  
where your footpath crosses a  
track. **7** Turn right to follow  
this track down to Laverton.

Pass through the gate at the  
bottom of the track and follow  
the road back to the School  
House.