

- A** John Morland bought Northover Mill and tanyard in 1870; the **Morland factory** became famous for quality sheepskin goods but ceased being a family business in 1982.  
**Northover Mill** today still has some elements of the fulling mill it began as in 1517; tanning has been a focus here since before 1451.  
**Pomparles Bridge** is claimed to be the Pont Perlus where King Arthur cast Excalibur into the lake, before alterations the river Brue would have formed a lake around this area.  
Many of the Morland factory workers would have fought in WWI and WWII. The **Morland War Memorial** originally stood just inside the factory gates and details those that fell.
- B** **Wearyall hill** is home to the legendary Glastonbury Thorn; pilgrims would have walked this route and seen far across the then watery landscape.
- C** Rebecca was the beloved wife of James Austin, after her death he founded the **Austin Memorial almshouses** in 1887 for four poor old women.  
The **church of St Benedict** was rebuilt by Abbott Richard Beere in about 1520.
- D** Dyehouse Lane is just one of the indications that this has long been an industrial area, the **railway station** was here and vital to local business.
- E** **Glastonbury canal** opened in 1833, although successful at first it faced many different problems and was quickly replaced by the railway which led to its eventual closure.
- F** The course of the **River Brue** originally partially circled Glastonbury around the south west at Beckery, but was altered in the 13th century by the monastery.
- G** It is possible that the earliest **chapel at Beckery** was Saxon, another chapel known as St Bridget's was built around it probably in the 13th century.  
The stone marked **St Brides Well** has been moved from its original spot on Brides Mound where it marked a spring of that name.

More information about this walk and others can be found at  
[www.avalonmarshes.org](http://www.avalonmarshes.org)

**Acknowledgements:**

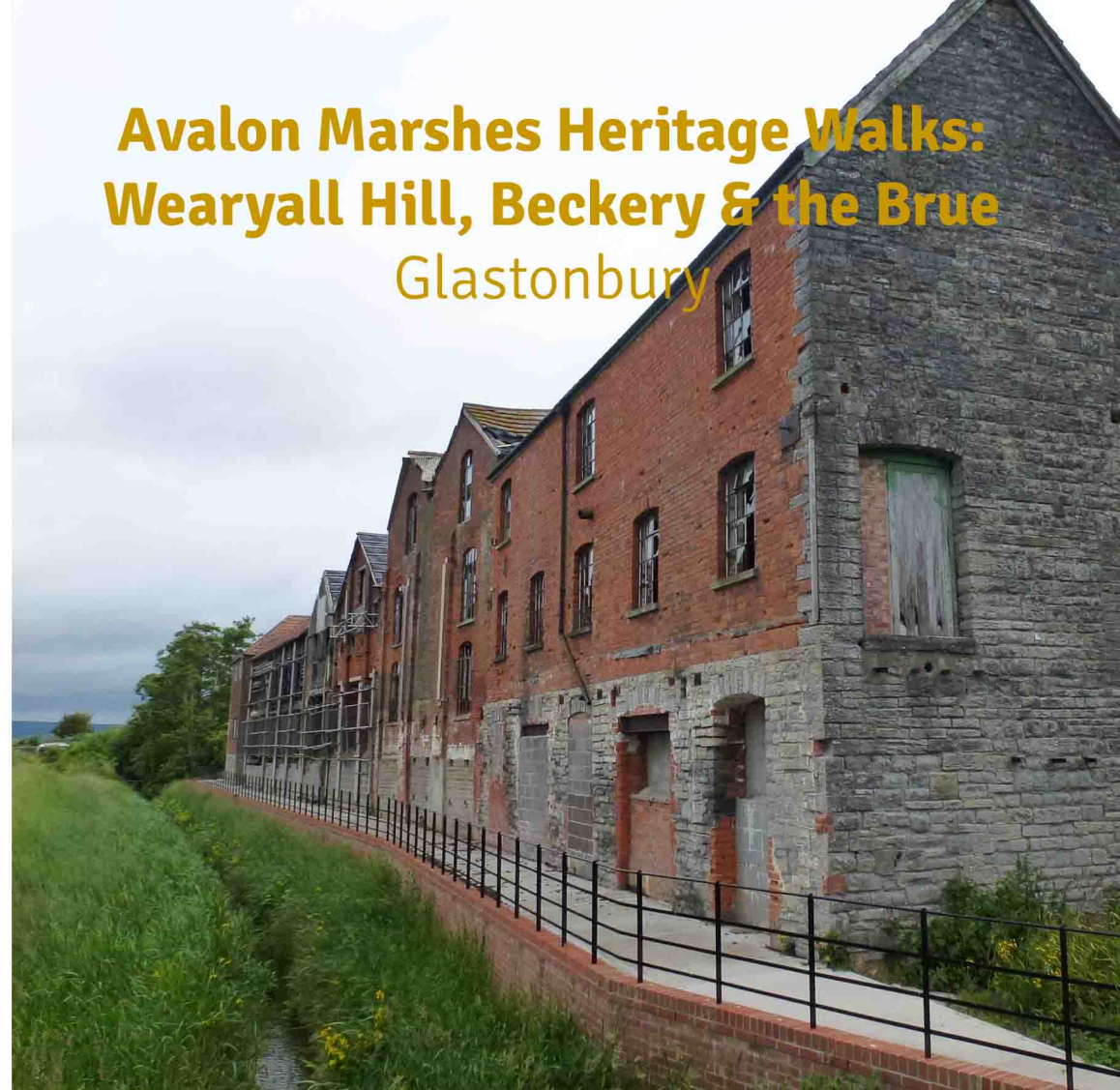
Parking permission kindly granted by the Red Brick Building, Glastonbury.  
Special thanks to the many local volunteers who have been involved in the surveying of walking routes across the Avalon Marshes.  
Route based on Walk No. 5 in Glastonbury Footpath Walks (2003) by the Glastonbury Conservation Society.

**Feedback:**

If you would like to comment on this walk route, please write to:  
Avalon Marshes Centre, Shapwick Road, Westhay, Somerset, BA6 9TT  
T: 01458 860556 E: [info@avalonmarshes.org](mailto:info@avalonmarshes.org)

Specific footpath faults should be reported to Somerset County Council.

# Avalon Marshes Heritage Walks: Wearyall Hill, Beckery & the Brue Glastonbury



One of a series of circular heritage walking routes in the  
Avalon Marshes of Somerset

A moderate 4 mile (6.5km) walk around the industrial heritage of Glastonbury, incorporating some stunning views of the town and surrounding Avalon Marshes from Wearyall Hill.



Supported by  
**The National Lottery**<sup>®</sup>  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



**The Walk:** The walk starts at the Red Brick Building (RBB) on the Morland Enterprise park (Postcode BA6 9FT) where there are car parking, café (no dogs allowed inside) and toilet facilities. Glastonbury is well served by public transport.

- 1 From the RBB, turn left into Morland Road and left again, walking behind the old factory building and along the Mill Stream to Northover Mill. At the bypass, look for a pelican crossing 100m to the right at Pomparles Bridge; cross here and walk back to The Roman Way.
- 2 As you walk along The Roman Way look for the Morland War Memorial on your left hand side; the road then bends right uphill; after about 100m, next to a cattle grid, take the footpath to the left which leads up onto Wearyall Hill. There may be livestock in these fields.
- 3 At the far end of the hill, do not go through the gate, but head left down towards Morrisons Supermarket where there is a gate in the hedge. Turn right here and cross the road at the zebra crossing and keep heading towards the town centre, turning left into Magdalene Street.
- 4 Opposite the Abbey car park, turn left into Heritage Court under the building archway and just past the almshouses look for a cut through to St Benedict's Church; turn left before the church and follow this down to the pelican crossing beyond the brick wall, marking the start of the cycle way.
- 5 Cross the road into Park Farm Road and then turn right into Dyehouse Lane, noting the disused railway gates on your left.

- 6 Go straight ahead at a mini-roundabout and follow the road left over a bridge. About 40m further along take the footpath left into the field, which follows the line of the old canal.
- 7 The footpath goes across two fields via a footbridge and emerges on Middle Road via a stile; turn left here and then right at the T-junction, watching for occasional traffic.
- 8 At the Weak Bridge sign, take the footpath to the left through the gate which follows the bank of the Brue. This path can get a little overgrown in the summer and there are a few gates along the way.
- 9 The footpath ends at a stile next to Pomparles Bridge. Turn left back along the bypass and left again to the RBB.

#### THE AVALON MARSHES WALKERS' CODE

1. Keep to the right of way to avoid trespass (droves are not rights of way unless shown as such on the map). If the path is obstructed you should seek a reasonable route around the obstruction.
2. Leave gates and property as you find them.
3. Keep dogs under close control at all times, and on a lead around farm animals and wildlife. However, if cattle chase you and your dog, it is safer to let your dog off the lead.
4. Where the route takes you onto a road, make sure you can be seen by traffic and be especially careful when approaching blind bends, using the verge wherever possible.
5. The marshes can be very muddy at times, so always make sure you wear appropriate footwear and clothing.
6. Respect the local community and other people enjoying the countryside, and take your litter home.

