

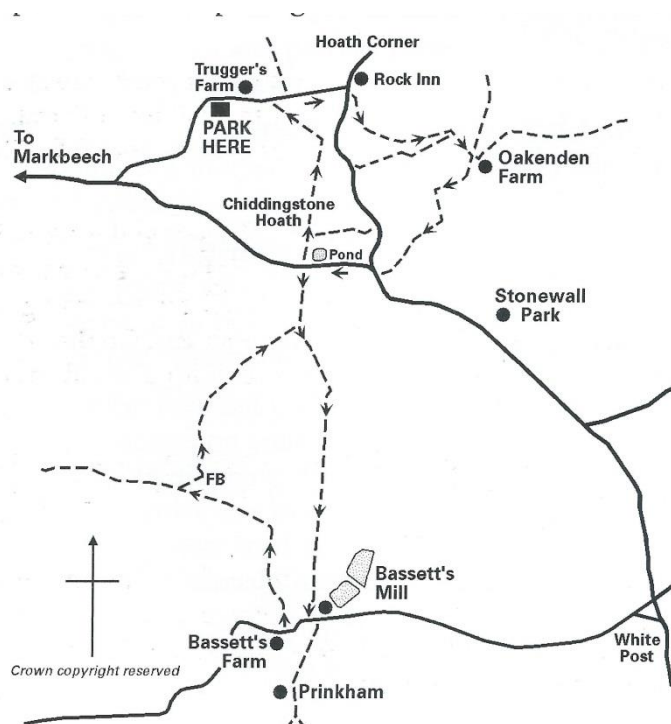
## HOATH CORNER TO BASSETT'S MILL

This 4-mile walk could be linked with the "Hoath Corner to Chiddingstone" walk to form a very pleasant figure of eight walk with the Rock Inn as a lunch stop. This is an area of slightly more hilly Kentish countryside, north of the river Kentwater, which forms part of the country boundary between Kent and Sussex. In the valley are three lovely old houses. Bassett's Mill, Bassett's Farm and Prinkham, all within a few hundred yards of each other. A country pub, the Rock Inn, is at the start of the walk.

**Distance:** 4 miles (6.4 Kilometres)

**Map reference:** O.S Explorer 147, 492430

**Parking:** on a wide grass verge near the entrance to Trugger's Farm.



### Directions:

1. From Trugger's Farm, walk up the lane to Hoath Corner. At the top of the road, turn right for approximately 50 yards to a small green and follow the footpath on the left passing a few houses and on to common land
2. The footpath drops down towards a marker post and forward into trees and becomes much wider. At this point go right along a narrow path which climbs slightly and forks to the right up to a stile and field. Cross the stile and walk up to the right towards a hedge and rocky outcrop on the right. Turn left, keeping hedge on right. Further on along the path turn sharp right over a stile into a field.
3. Keep the hedge on your right. 100 yards further on look to the left for a beautiful view with Penshurst Place among the trees in the middle distance.
4. Head towards the stile, down 2 steps and onto a wide track in front of Oakenden. Turn right here and follow the track out to the road at Chiddingstone Hoath.

5. Turn right along the road, ignore the road off right at the junction, walk carefully along the right-hand side until you come to a footpath on the left just beyond a duck pond. Go through a kissing-gate and follow the hedge on the left to the bridle-gate. (You will return to this point later in the walk).
6. Go half-left to the footpath sign, into a field with extensive views across the Kentwater Valley, towards Crowborough and the Ashdown Forest. As you look ahead you will notice a group of trees over to your right. The path goes to the left of these trees.
7. Walk down the path keeping the wire fence on the right. At the next stile turn right into a wide grassy ride and immediately bear left going slightly downhill but keeping near the wire fence on your left. Go through a gate and on to another gate and stile to draw level with a wood over to the left.
8. You may notice red and white marker tape around gates and stiles, these are routes for horse riders. Keep straight on to reach a field gate down in the bottom right hand corner.
9. Below, to the left is Bassett's Mill built in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century with its two lakes. Continue downhill to the road below.
10. Turn right along a narrow road. After approximately 100m yards your path turns off on the right. (\*\*) Go straight ahead to bridge over a stream.  
(\*\* Bassett's Farm House, built in 1328, is just around the bend, is worth a closer look, before taking the path on the right.)
11. Go through the wood to another stile and cross into a steep field with a narrow footpath climbing up the hillside, to pass a steep rocky outcrop on the left.
12. After about 100 yards on the right behind a large oak tree you must follow the edge of the same wood to a stile leading down to a footbridge. Continue to follow the path bearing left and uphill until you reach the end and come to a field.
13. Go through the bridle-gate and keep forward uphill alongside the edge of the wood.
14. At the top look for a kissing-gate about 10 yards beyond a field gate. Go through the kissing-gate and follow the enclosed path until you go through a gate into a field. (You will remember this field as it is the same you crossed earlier, point 5.) You now go to the left and retrace your steps alongside the hedge to the gate onto the road again.
15. This time cross over to the footpath opposite and keeping straight ahead follow the path through woodland and then through a gap on the left into a field, where the path becomes a track and follows the line of telegraph poles.
16. Just before a farm gate to a road, turn left, on a path to a kissing-gate in the hedge. Take care to keep in the same direction you have been following and as you drop down the hillside bear right for the roofs of the buildings where you started. At the stile, at the bottom turn to the left for the car.