

SMITH JESSOP - 1810

It was pitch black of night
The waters ran dark and deep
While a hurricane blew
I tried to rescue my Dad's sheep.

But without any warning
The tide early and bold
Breached the new sea banks and
Surged over those of old.

While vessels wrecked and sank
Homes and crops a carnage scene
I died in that great flood
As did teen, William Green

So take a jaunt this way
Around my village patch
Big skies, wildlife, crops and ships
Great things to see and watch.



At Corporation Point take right hand pathway away from the river



KESTREL



The hover of the Kestrel
The flash of the Kingfisher
The dive of the Grebe
The song of the Red Warbler



KINGFISHER

Sailing up The Haven towards the Port of Boston
At this silted up wharf, thirsty seamen would linger,
I think we can all guess, why this one time Public House,
Bustling in the 19th Century, got it's name 'The Jolly Sailor'.



ST. GUTHLACS CHURCH

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I sit on the highest ground in the village
Once an island in the tidal marsh
Dedicated to Saxon St. Guthlac, Patron
Saint of the Fens, when life here was harsh

His statue stands high on my tower
Which Pevsner said was older than me
I've been here for over 900 years
So we are both as old as can be.

Turn right at signpost
by Fishtoft Lakes

Gnawing on grassy stalks
Living in dyke side holes
Startled 'plop' in the water
Spells endangered Water Vole



If you choose to take a look
Fishtoft's in the Domesday Book
But to find, you'll need some luck
Just 'Toft' then, the name it took.



DARK BUSH CRICKET

Bee Orchid, Cowslip and Yarrow,
Clover and Ladies Bedstraw,
Buttercup, Teasel and Ox Tye,
Knapweed and so many more.



PHEASANT

These once marshy lands
Would produce Methane Gas
Which spontaneously ignited
To produce flares, alas
Giving rise to the belief
Twas haunted by a spirit class



Turn right, then left at sign
by fence to river bank
Turn right and head back
to Car Park



FISHTOFT PUMPING STATION

COMMON BLUE

More butterflies will cast their spell
Red Admiral, Common Grayling, small Tortoiseshell
Large & Small White, Gatekeeper, Common Blue,
Brown Angus, Six Spot Burnet, to name but a few



STARTING POINT - CAR PARK

From Car Park
turn right through gate
and along river bank



PILGRIM FATHERS MEMORIAL

Turn left by the hedge and
right onto Old School Lane

Turn left to junction then
right onto Clampgate Road
follow past the church



THE RED COW PUBLIC HOUSE

Turn left at signpost
land for a few yards then turn
right over dyke and follow
meandering dyke on your left

Wood was a plant a metre tall with a pretty yellow flower
Humble toilers on hands and knees would crawl to weed and gather.
Pulped, fermented, balled by hand and dried for several weeks
Broken up, stirred 50 days, vats of powder what they seek.
There wood was grown to dye the best woolen cloth deep blue
Soldiers, sailors, early policemen, all had uniforms of this hue.



WOOD FARM



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