

Explore the rich and varied history of Petersfield and beyond



Mortar Buriton: Bricks and Museum Heritage Walks

10,000 years in the making



Walking Directions

Starting point: St Peter's Road outside the main entrance to Petersfield Museum

- A** Turn left to face the church and take the steps up into the churchyard following the left-hand path around the church to The Square.
- B** Turn left and walk down Sheep Street.
 - 1** At the bottom turn right, walk through The Spain **2** and then bear left along Borough Road.
- C** After a few metres, at the postbox set in the wall on the right-hand side of the road, follow the footpath up to the top of Borough Hill. Turn left into Borough Hill recreation ground **3** and descend to Borough Road.
- D** Turn left and continue to the first turning on the right – Alderfield – which is signposted Shipwrights Way. Continue over the bridge and follow the Shipwrights Way signs through Meadowlands, Grange Road and into Cranford Road, turning right at The Causeway. **4**
- E** Continue following the Shipwrights Way signs for 1.3 km (0.8 miles) **5 6 7 8** until you reach a large lay-by on the left. Take the lane uphill signposted Shipwrights Way for 1.6 km (1 mile) to Buriton village. **9**
- F** At the crossroads, turn left along High Street **10** to the pond.

- G** From the pond, a walk of 500 m up South Lane and beyond the railway bridge will take you into the old Chalk Pits and an information board about the history of the site. **11 12 13**
Retrace your steps to the pond and church. **14**
- H** Leave the village on North Lane and after 250 m, opposite Pillmead House, take the footpath up steps to the right. Follow this path until it re-joins North Lane. (Note: this path can get muddy; use North Lane as an alternative.)
- I** At the junction with Pitcroft Lane **15** continue left along the main road for a further 775 m.
- J** On the left, immediately after Nursted Cottages take the path through the hedge, across the field **16 17** and then follow the field edge before descending through woodland to a footbridge and kissing gate.
- K** Cross to a stile on the right and follow this path for 1km (0.6 miles) through several fields to Sussex Road.



Get more information online about this walk including a gpx file of the route.



The Buriton Heritage Bank is a community project to research and record the history of local life in the parish, including Ditcham, Nursted and Weston. Visit www.buriton.org.uk for more information.



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FOLLOW THE MAP INSIDE TO LEARN ABOUT BURITON'S HISTORY.

Petersfield Museum
Sited at the foot of the South Downs, Petersfield Museum tells the story of Petersfield and the surrounding villages through an excitingly diverse mix of archaeology, art, historic dress, literature, photography, poetry and social history.

Petersfield Museum
St Peter's Road
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU32 3HX
Tel: 01730 262601

Opening Times
Wed – Sat: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sun & Bank Holidays: 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

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For more information on Petersfield Museum's facilities and café or to book tickets, please visit our website www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk
Registered charity number 1108817



SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

South Downs National Park
The South Downs National Park has it all – rolling hills, glorious heathland, river valleys, ancient woodland, thriving villages and market towns and the iconic white cliffs of the Heritage Coast. Covering over 1600 square kilometres of England's most valued lowland landscapes in the busiest part of the UK, it includes inspirational landscapes, internationally important wildlife, cultural heritage and lively market towns and villages.
When exploring the beautiful South Downs, please help protect this special place by following the Countryside Code. Visit www.southdowns.gov.uk and search 'Countryside Code' for more information.

Take the Lead
For a safe and fun visit with your dog please remember to keep them on a lead around livestock and wildlife and always clean up after your dog.

Buriton: Bricks and Mortar

Not only does the geology underneath Petersfield and the South Downs create the local scenery, it also influences the agriculture, building materials and industrial history of the area. This walk explains the local production of both bricks and mortar from the clay near the town and the chalk at Buriton.

1 The houses on the left are made from different types of building materials used over the centuries from timber to brick. No. 18 retains its timber-frame but is faced with 'mathematical tiles' made to look like brickwork.

2 Clay roof tiles were being made near The Spain, thought to be the earliest part of Petersfield, as early as the 1390s. It is thought that the name 'The Spain' might originate from the old Norse word for tile, 'Spann'.

3 From the path you can see the steep sides of a quarry on the left from which sand was excavated to make cement and mortar. It was closed in the early 1900s.

4 The houses numbered 83 to 119 (right) and 108 to 138 (left) were built by local builders using bricks made in the nearby Larcome brickworks.

5 Britannia Reeves stands on a former brickyard owned by William H Larcome. Here low quality 'clamp bricks' were made, fired in a traditional clamp kiln.

6 To the right of the entrance to the yard are three cottages formerly used for housing brickyard workers.

7 There was a larger brickworks here, in use from the mid-1700s. Also owned by Larcome, it made facing bricks which were air dried in drying sheds before firing. It also made agricultural drains and ornamental tiles. Trading as The Causeway Brick & Tile Works, it was closed during World War Two as the glow from the kilns could be seen by enemy bombers.

8 This crescent of houses is built on the site of a different brickworks, Petersfield Brick & Tile Works, owned by Mr Nightingale. This also closed during World War Two.

9 Fields on the right were considered for another brickworks after World War Two to meet demand for rebuilding in Portsmouth but the plans were never implemented.

10 Old buildings in the village (such as the Five Bells, the school and the poorhouse) use local malmstone with more hard-wearing bricks around windows and doors. Flints from the chalk hills are also used in walls and buildings.

11 The opening of the Portsmouth to London railway line in 1859 helped new industries to develop – including large chalk quarries and limeworks in Buriton. Coal for the lime kilns could be brought in and processed lime taken away.

12 Dozens of people were employed here for about seventy years up until World War Two. Excavating the chalk was hazardous with men creating cliff faces 20m high by a mixture of hard work and explosives.

13 Chalk was burnt at high temperatures in nearby kilns for a number of days to create lime which, as well as being used to produce mortar and other building materials, was also used in agriculture and water purification.

14 The pond has always been important in village life. At the end of each working day, the horses which had been hauling trucks in the quarries were brought to be washed and then raced back up to the limeworks, ridden bare-back by pony boys.

8 Petersfield Brick & Tileworks

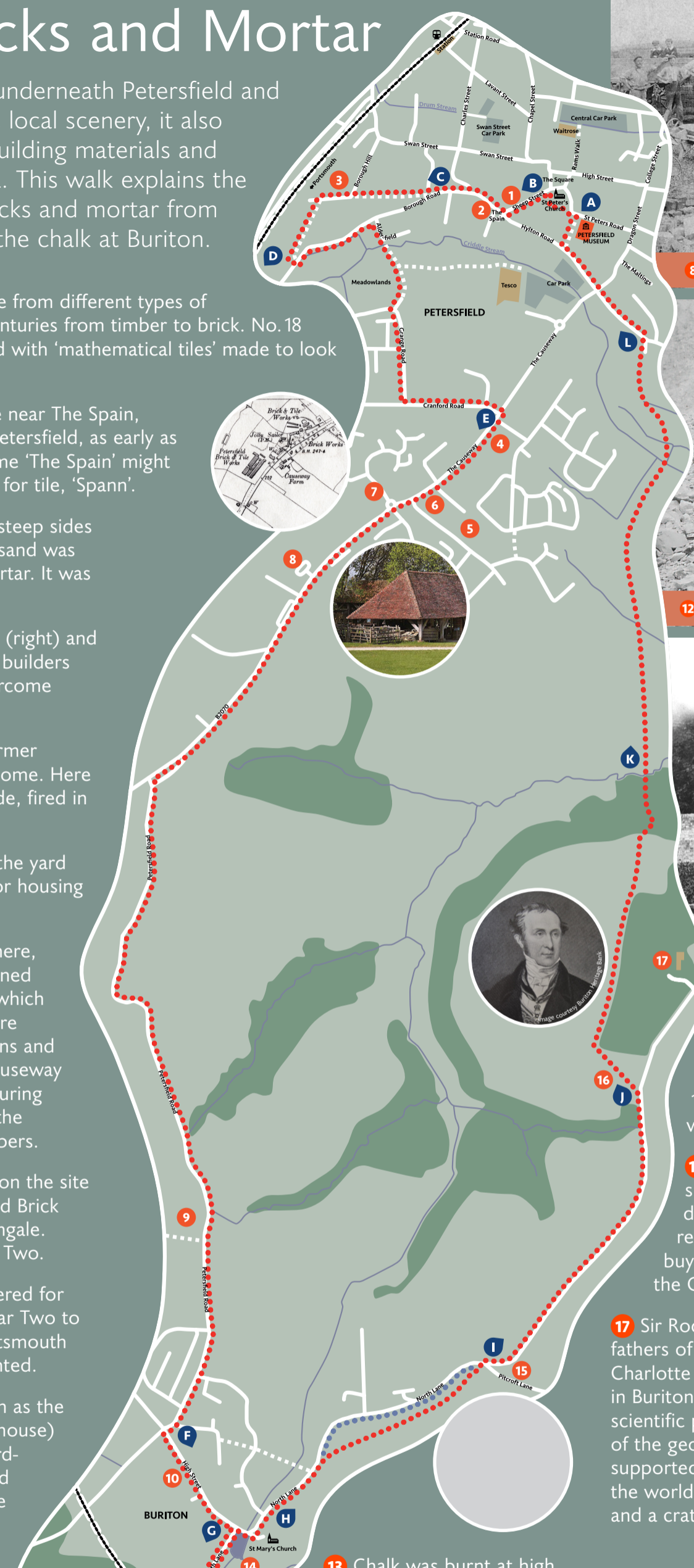
12 Hewing chalk in the quarries

13 Workers at nearby lime kilns

15 Hops were grown on the greensand here for about 150 years until the 1960s. Scores of hop-pickers were here every September.

16 Most crops need well drained soil and many fields have 'land drains' below the surface to remove water. Local farms could buy their land drain pipes from the Causeway Brick & Tile Works.

17 Sir Roderick Murchison, one of the fathers of the science of geology, married Charlotte Hugonin of Nursted House in Buriton in 1815. He wrote over 350 scientific papers, including an 1826 study of the geology of the Petersfield area. He supported expeditions to unknown parts of the world and had various places on earth and a crater on the moon named after him.



- KEY**
- Heritage walk
 - Public footpath
 - Alternative route
- 1** Point of interest **A** Directions

Distance 9.5 km (5.9 miles)
Average time to complete 2h 15m
Terrain Tarmac, paving, gravel, fields with some rough and hilly areas.