

13. Continue along Station Road, past the mock Tudor House (Jubilee Lodge) and the white cottage next to it. The small entry to the right is Mill Yard, once the site of **Docking Mill**. It was a Capital Post Mill and was once owned by the Wagg bakery family.

14. Continue along Station Road for a further 150m until you come to Docking's last surviving pub, **The Railway Inn**. The Inn was built in the late 19th Century for the convenience of travellers on the railway.



15. Opposite The Railway Inn is the old **Station Master's House**, now a private dwelling which still has the platform in the garden. The railway crossing and the station were on the bend in the road. The railway line was closed to passengers in 1952 and to goods in 1964.

16. Beyond The Railway Inn was the site of **Miln Marsters Granaries**. One of the largest employers in the Village, they developed seeds for sugar beet and cereals. The last of the buildings were eventually demolished to make way for a new housing development.

17. Retrace your steps along Station Road until you come to a turning on your left, Sandy Lane. This will take you on a scenic route around the Village. When you reach the crossroads continue straight over along Bradmere Lane, past the Playing Field, until you reach the High Street. Turn right past the Fish and Chip Shop, the **Village Hall** (Dr. W.E. Ripper Memorial Hall) and back to the Village Green.

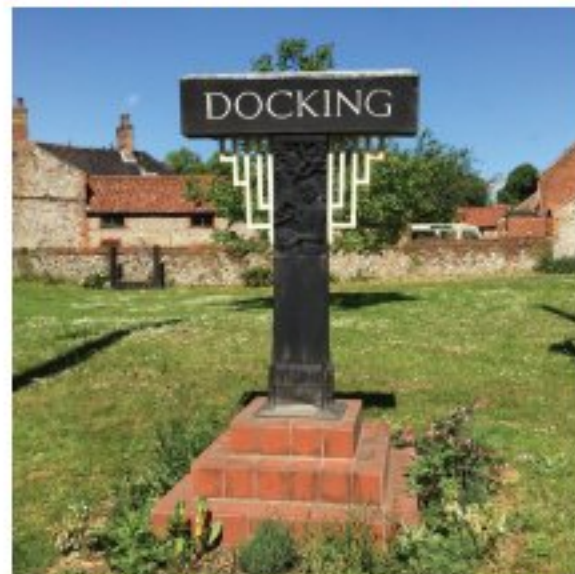


This leaflet has been compiled by members of the **Docking Heritage Group**. If you would like to find out more about our Village and the Group's archives, projects and events then please visit our website.



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DOCKING HERITAGE WALKS No. 1 North and West



DOCKING is thought to date back to the Bronze Age. Archaeological evidence suggests it became a more permanent settlement in the **Roman Period** (400BC – 43AD).

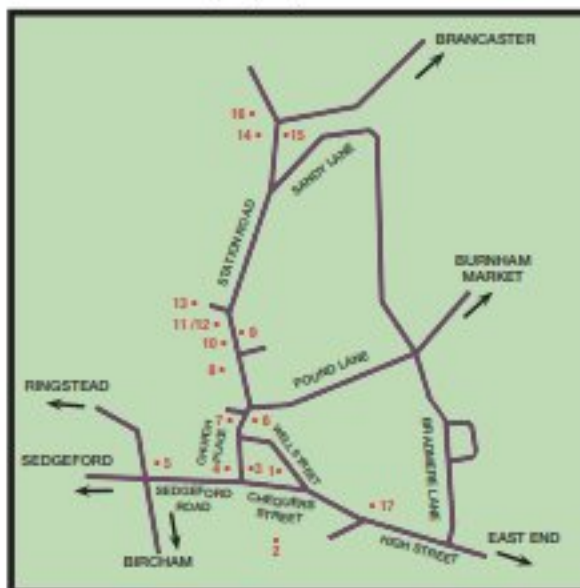
At 82.7m (272ft) above sea level, the Village is one of the highest in Norfolk. It originally had no water supply of its own (other than rainwater), leading to it being nicknamed "**Dry Docking**". As you walk round the Village you will see a large number of ponds ('pits') created as reservoirs into which rainwater was channelled.

1. This Heritage Walk starts at the **Village Green** with the Village Sign and Village Stocks. The sign was erected in 1937 and shows Docca, the reputed founder of the Village, and his son. The mitre in the tree on the sign is thought to represent Aelfric, Bishop of Elmham, who mentioned the Village in his 1083 Will. Take a look also at the plaques on the wall by the Stocks.
2. Across the road you can see the long wall which surrounds **Docking Hall**, owned by the Hare family (private).
3. Walk along Chequers Street to the **School**. This was built in 1861 and is still thriving.



4. Cross the road to the **Church** which is dedicated to St. Mary The Virgin. This is the oldest building in the Village (1300s). The Tower was built in 1415. There is a plaque by the Lychgate. Enter the Church to view the font and stained glass windows.
5. Leave the Church by the small gate onto Sedgeford Road and turn right past the Pit/Pond until you reach a small brick and flint building. This is the **Cage**, an overnight lock-up for vagabonds and drunkards. The walled area next to it is the **Pound** which was used for stray animals.

6. Re-trace your footsteps back to the small Church gate, enter and walk around the rear of the Church to the double gate leading on to Church Place. Turn left and walk to the green area on the corner. You are now on the site of the old **Well and Water Tower**. The Well was 237ft deep and the Village Stocks once stood beside it. The Water Tower replaced the Well in 1928/9 at a cost of £3,606. It was demolished in 1960. The site is marked by a plaque on the wall.



7. Continue North along Station Road. Look across the road to see the **Blacksmith's Forge and Bell Pit/Pond**. The Bell Inn was nearby.
8. Continue to the Spar shop. Opposite is an entrance that led to **Wagg's Bakery**. This was one of the largest employers in the Village. When it closed in 1975 the site became the **Miln Marsters Plant Breeding Centre**. That too has closed and the site is set to be developed for housing.



9. Continue along Station Road to a pair of white houses on the right hand side. These were once the **Hare Inn** which became part of the Hare Estate in 1597. The Inn was used as a staging post by the Royal Mail, an auction house, a courthouse and a smugglers' hiding place.
10. Look across the road at the end cottage of the row of 3, **Bakers Cottage**. This was the original Wagg's Bakery.
11. Continue along Station Road past the cottage named Dingle Hall and look across the road at a large building. Built in 1854, this was once the **Police Station and Courthouse**. The Police Station had 2 cells, one for men and one for women. The Courthouse was the single storey building to the right.
12. Next door to the old Courthouse is Docking House, once the headquarters of **Docking Rural District Council**. The Council was established in 1894. In 1974 the District was abolished under the Local Government Act and became part of the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. The old Docking Rural District building has been extended and is now a Care Home.