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Map labels: Ravens Bank Drive · Oakridge Close · Medieval Fish Pond 3 · Wood piece Ln. · Maisemore Cl. · Home Meadow Ln. · Medieval Fish Pond 2 · Medieval Fish Pond 1 · Sch · PW · YMCA

# Walks Around Church Hill

## Walk



4

Church Hill North East
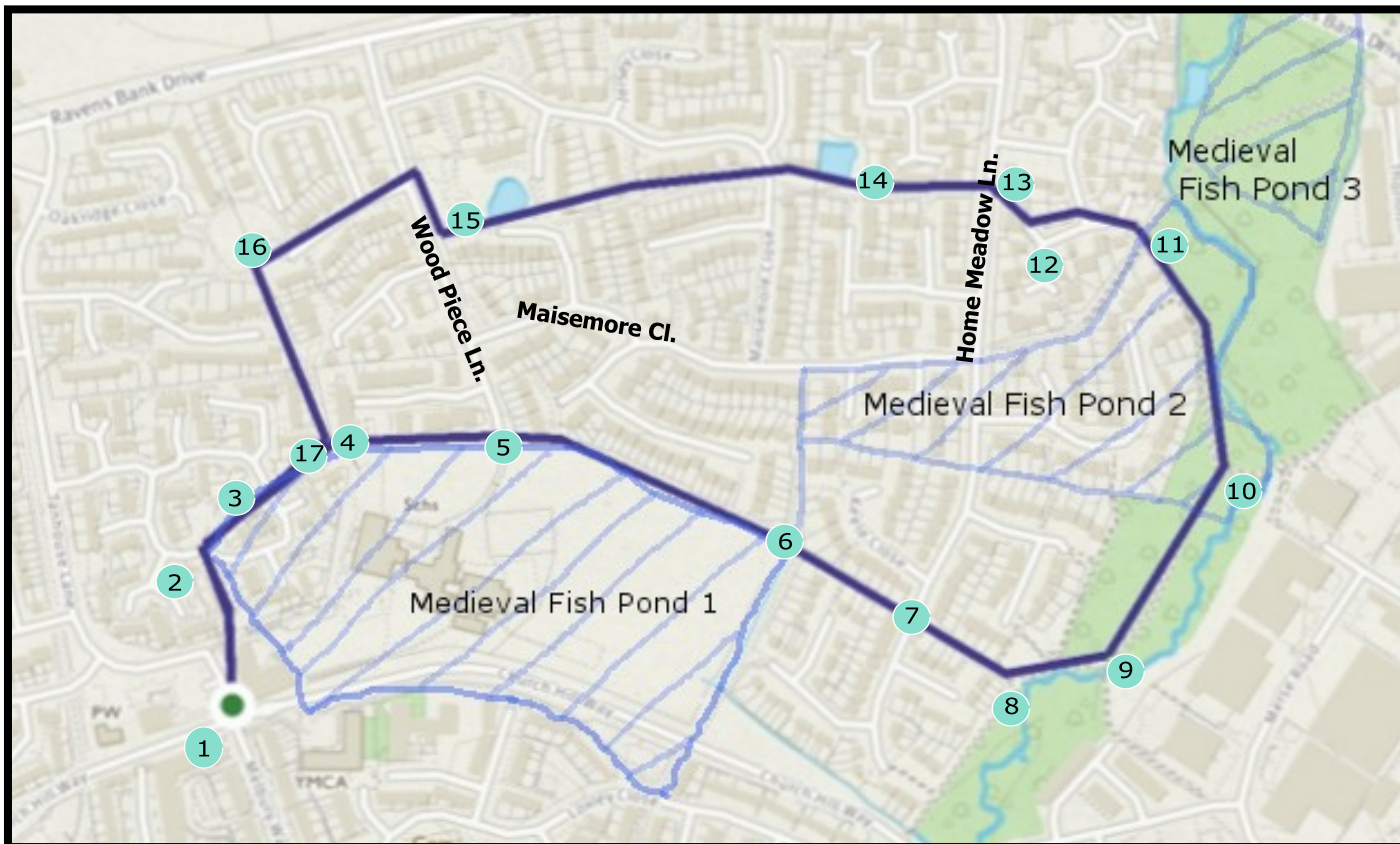A walk round Medieval fish ponds and Marl pits
With link to Beoley.

These walks have been created in association with the Church Hill Big Local.
initiative on local walking trails.

**www.chbl.org.uk**
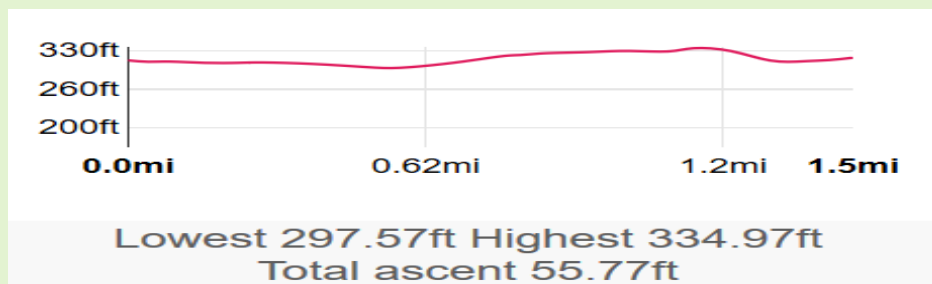
**www.wredditchwalks.org.uk**

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**With Thanks to Worcestershire County Council Archaeological Dept. and Redditch Walks.**



4

Approx. 1.6mile (2.5km) Gentle walk along urban footpaths & pavements. Level terrain with slight inclines & steeper downward slope.



Lowest 297.57ft Highest 334.97ft
Total ascent 55.77ft

**Car Park**—Church Hill Shopping Centre     **Public Transport**—47,48,57,58,150 buses to Church Hill Centre

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Redditch Walks

# Medieval Fish Ponds
# &
# Marl Pits

There are 3 Medieval fish ponds on Church Hill dating back to at least the 14th century and possibly as early as the 12th century. The best preserved pond is the one on which Abbeywood & Church hill Middle school sit. The ponds use the contours of the land with a large dam still present at the end of the school grounds, with a leat leading from the dam to the stream.

There are several Marl Pits on Church Hill North. These pits were created when farmers extracted the glacial marl (clay) to use as an aid to fertilising the land. They have a characteristic shape of being shallow at the front to make loading the carts easier and very steep at the back.

These pits often filled up with water and two of these pits on Church Hill North still have water in them.

**1** Start at signpost for Walking Routes by shoppers car park in Church Hill centre. Cross over Tanhouse Lane to shops. Turn left & cross over shops service road. Follow the path going down between the bungalows and flats

**2** Cross over Sandhurst Close, on your left you will see an ancient oak tree. Follow the path bearing right, under the house.

**3** Pass under the house, cross over the road and continue following the path to the junction with two other paths. There will be another ancient oak on your left.

**4** Take the right hand path, keeping Church Hill Middle School on the right .This path follows the edge of the Medieval fish pond.



**5** Continue along this path crossing over Wood Piece Lane and entrance to the school.

**6** On reaching the crossroad of the paths, continue straight across.

**7** Cross over Home Meadow Lane and continue following the path.

**8** At the T– Junction turn left then immediately right.

**9** This path leads through a woodland setting where many wildflowers can be seen in the Spring. Woodpeckers can often be heard.

**10** Continue following this path. This path skirts past another medieval fish pond on the left.



**11** Just as you reach a small bridge over the stream, turn left along a short path into Fairford Close. You can continue over the bridge and under the subway to Beoley and the Village Inn.



**12** Follow the path past house no. 51 on your left, bear right & follow the path round, where a path with house no. 49 on your left can be seen. Follow this short path through to Home Meadow Lane.

**13** Cross over Home Meadow Lane and continue following the path.

**14** As you walk along this path there is a green area on your right with a path leading to one of the water filled marl pits. Continue along the main path.



**15** Towards the end of the path on the right there are more marl pits, with a disused adventure play area. Cross over Wood Piece Lane. Turn right along the path into Kingscote Close. At the end of the path on the right is another marl pit.

**16** Just before the end of the path on the left is a path leading down the hill. Follow this path down. On entering Lydney Close bear right. Take the left hand path. With the bungalow on your left and the back of the houses on your right. Follow this path to the junction .

**17** At the junction turn right and reverse waypoints 1-3 back to Church Hill Centre.