

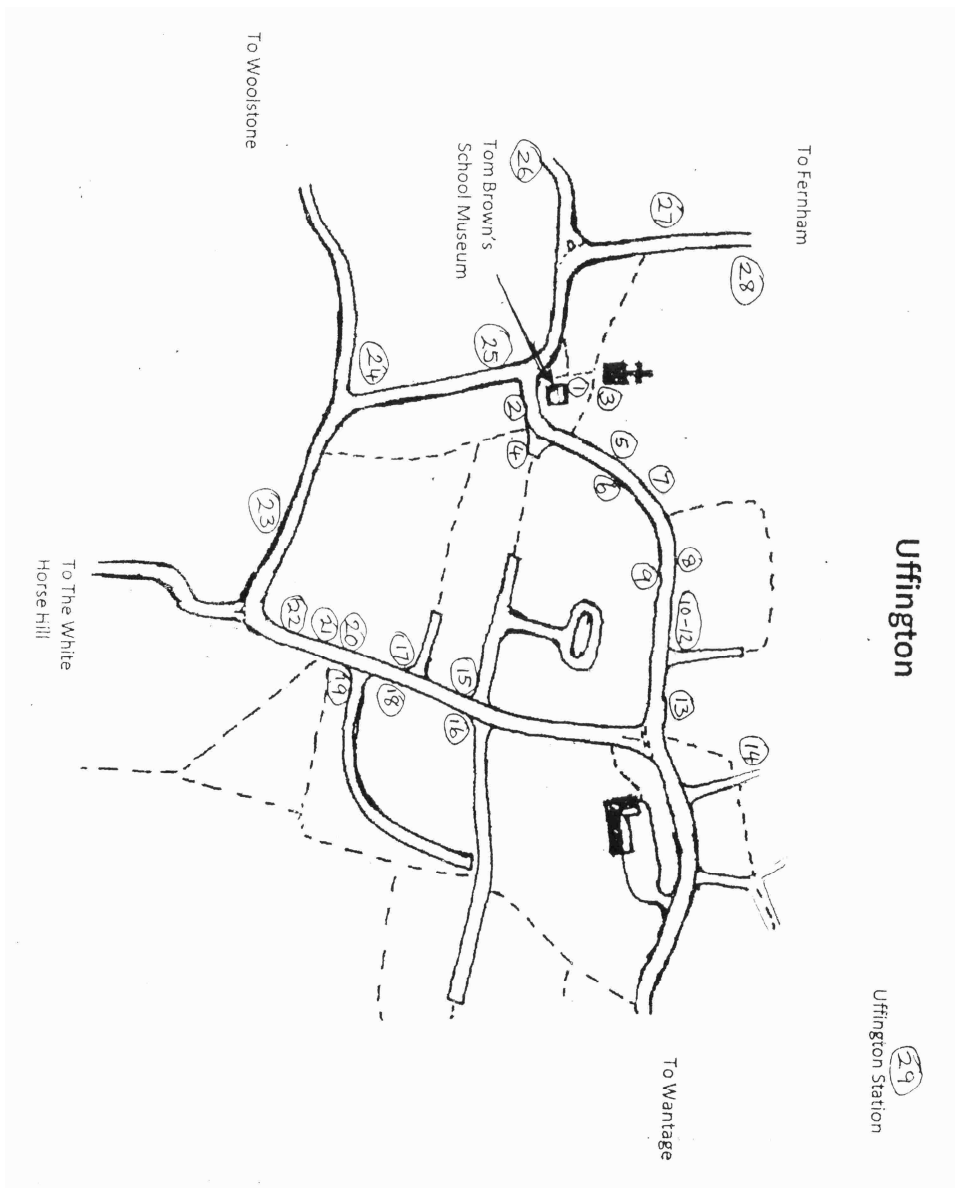
UFFINGTON VILLAGE TRAIL

The plan of the village of Uffington is roughly circular, so that it can be joined at any point. It is bisected by various footpaths which you can explore. Numbers in the text refer to the map on the back page.

1. The Tom Brown's School Museum was built as a schoolroom for Thomas Saunders in 1617.
2. Opposite the Museum is The Walnuts and beside it is a small building which was formerly a blacksmith's forge.
3. St. Mary's Church is known as 'The Cathedral of the Vale'. It was built in 1250 on the site of an earlier church. It has an unusual octagonal tower.
4. Benjy's Cottage was named after the character in Tom Brown's Schooldays. It used to be a shop.
5. Uffington Primary School was built in 1853 and was designed by the architect George Street.
6. Largo House is the former Vicarage and was designed by Kendall and built in 1849.
7. Waylands has been built on the site of the Uffington and Vale Garage, which operated from here for many years.

Notice the differing ages and styles of buildings as you walk up Broad Street. The older cottages in the village are constructed with local building materials – chalk from the Downs, thatch and elm. The chalk only survives as a building material when it is built on a foundation of 'sarsen' stones – a hard impervious sandstone found on the Downs. It is further protected from the weather by the overhanging thatch.

8. The Old Post Office also previously operated a 'carrier' service and housed a horse doctor and veterinary surgeon.
9. Opposite The Laurels is Freeman's Close. Freeman's Garage and Coach business operated from this site initially with milk deliveries interspersed with coach outings.



10. The White Horse was previously a public house, one of five in the locality.
 11. Norton House was previously a shop with the shop windows and entrance opening to the street.
 12. The Post Office Stores is now the only shop left in Uffington.
 13. A bakehouse used to occupy this site, now a row of four houses.
 14. Take a short detour, left up a small path beside Little Thatch to meet the road to Manor Farm. Beside the cottage on the left is a small garage which used to house a horse drawn, hand operated, fire pump built in 1831 for the Craven Estate. The area opposite the cottage was the Craven Estate Yard housing the timber and builders workshops. The Craven Estate owned the majority of the village and operated the Brick Yard near Uffington Station.
 15. On the corner of High Street and Chapel Lane is The Bakers Arms, which was formerly a public house. Next door is The Bakehouse – the Arched window would have displayed bread and cakes for sale.
 16. The cottage opposite, Greywethers, was formerly a police house with a small lock up.
 17. Packers Forge and Wheelwrights were the centre of industry in the village. At one stage they were owned by two brothers; one operating the forge and the other the building and carpentry firm and a wheelwrights. The large window at the end of Wheelwrights replaced an earlier large entrance where wagons and carts could be driven in and also operated as a funeral parlour.
- The gable ends of Packers Forge and Curtis Cottage show how a second storey and tiles have replaced an earlier thatch.
18. An earlier cottage once stood here which housed a shoe and boot repairer and maker (a snobby) and before that, a butcher.
 19. The Fox and Hounds is the only remaining public house in Uffington. Next to the Fox and Hounds is a former Quaker Meeting House. There was a strong community of Quakers in the village in the 1700s.
 20. Sir John Betjeman lived in Garrards Farm between 1934 – 1945.
 21. Pear Tree Cottage has fine examples of staddle stones outside their frontage. Granaries were built on top of staddle stones prevent vermin from reaching the corn stored inside.
 22. Yew Tree Cottage and South Cottage are unusual having a slate roof – perhaps these slates were brought in on the Wilts and Berks Canal which passed close to the village. The Wilts and Berks Canal was built in 1780 and had its heyday in the early 1800s before being overtaken by the railways.
 23. South Farm previously occupied the site here and operated a local butchery from the farm buildings.
 24. This row of thatched cottages used to be known as ‘Workhouse Corner’, where the younger children of farm labourers were looked after whilst their parents were working.
 25. Although known as The Manor House, it was in fact the Craven Estate manager who lived in this fine house.
 26. Mill House is situated a little way down the road to Fernham and operated as a mill.
 27. Further down the Fernham Road is The Craven, formerly a public house known as The Swan.
 28. The slight rise in the road marks where the Wilts & Berks Canal ran and the former Wharf House beside the canal. A lift-up bridge used to allow the barges through.
 29. Between Uffington and Baulking, Uffington Station was on the main line between London and the South West with a branch line to Faringdon. Beside the station was The Station Hotel.