



*Friends
of
Anderton
and Marbury*

Walk 7. Marbury History Walk; Starting from Marbury Lodge, near Rangers' Cabin, some steep steps at point 17.

DISTANCE 2 MILES

TIME 1½ - 2 HOURS

Marbury was the seat of the Merburie, Barry and Smith-Barry families.

Numbers relate to points marked on the map.

1 Marbury Lodge Lime avenues were planted mid-19th century to complement the newly remodelled Marbury Hall.

2 The Swimming Pool Built around 1935 for Marbury Hall Country Club. It is still in use in the summer months.

3 Marbury Arboretum A collection of mainly evergreen trees in a cartwheel design.

4 The Carriage Drive With original gate and railings which mark the entrance to Marbury Hall.

5 Site of Marbury Hall Redesigned in French style by Salvin for James Hugh Smith-Barry (1797-1861) and demolished late 1960s.

6 The Bird Hide and Reed Beds A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) where in winter you just might spot a bittern.

7 Budworth Mere Lies in a depression left after the last ice age.

8 The Slipway The families at Marbury Hall travelled by boat to Great Budworth Church.

9 The Ice House and the Ice Pond Ice blocks from the mere and the ice pond were stored in the ice house.

10 The Site of the Grotto Stone posts and remnants of steps probably led to an artificial grotto.

11 The Site of the Summer House A summer house once stood in the area to the left of the woodland bird hide.

12 Big Wood A designated ancient semi-natural woodland.

13 Forge Brook and the Canal In 1907 the canal bed, a little way to your left, caved in as a result of salt subsidence. Forge Brook passes under the canal.

14 The Site of the First Rock Salt Mine in Britain Lies some 500 yards to the south of the foot bridge. Rock salt was discovered in 1675 when prospecting for coal.

15 The Site of the Lodge The lodge keeper levied a penny toll on the lane. The garden's holly hedge still borders the lane.

16 The Coal Quay Here, coal, cinders and supplies such as hops, malt and barley for the hall were unloaded. Brine Pump Cottages, on the bank opposite, were built in 1882.

17 Hopyards Hops for the hall's brew-house were perhaps grown here.

18 Fox Coverts Planted by the fox-hunting Smith-Barrys. John Smith-Barry owned a pack of hounds, led by Bluecap.

19 Site of One of Marbury's Prisoner of War Camps The area which is currently a wild flower meadow was just one of the Marbury sites used in World War II to accommodate Prisoners of War.

20 Site of a Second World War Hutment A collection of about 150 wooden buildings used by Polish, American and English soldiers in WW II, and later lived in by Polish and ICI families.

