

## Pettistree with Loudham An Introduction

Pettistree is a small village situated in East Suffolk, 4 miles north east of Woodbridge, and 12 miles to the north of the county town of Ipswich. It sits astride the main London to Yarmouth turnpike, now bypassed by the current A12 trunk road, and is partly flanked by the river Deben.

A characteristically rural agricultural village it consists of 'a fair few' clusters of houses. Cottages, farm houses and two manor houses are interwoven with a tapestry of parklands, meadows and arable farm lands.

The population, which hovers around the two hundred mark, has been served for several centuries by its two 'drinking houses' - The Three Tuns, an 18th century coaching inn, and The Greyhound, a typical rural public house, thought to have been the village Guildhall. According to legend, the latter provided accommodation for the builders of the C14th church, which is dedicated to St Peter & St Paul.

Pettistree covers some 1768 acres of fertile land, at various times cultivated by between six and ten mostly resident farmers. It falls within the Hundred and Deanery of Wilford, and the district of Suffolk Coastal. Historically it dates from the Anglo Saxon period, and now includes the two non-parochial hamlets, Loudham & Byng, both once Manors in their own right.



Open the leaflet to view the map and choose your route. The Great Mount route is mostly roads and a level field footpath, whilst the Byng and Java Lodge routes are more demanding, extended country walks using way-marked footpaths that include stiles and gates. Please note there are likely to be cows in the church field on the Java Lodge walk.

Dip into the website to find out more about Pettistree with Loudham's local history, at [www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk)



## Byng Route (approx. 3½ miles)

**20. Scott's Hall.** Early 19th century, once home to the Scott family and belonging to The Grange estate when it was two worker's cottages, later passing to Green Farm. The initials WFM may have belonged to William Motum, inserted when the house was remodelled in 1859.

**21. Old Carleford.** Formerly three cottages with a well, shared with Flint Cottage.

**22. Flint Cottage.** A sweet and tobacco shop in the mid 20th century.

**23. Presmere Pond & Sunnyside.** Presmere Pond (or 'Common Mere') may have served the small community in Stump Street. It is close to Sunnyside, a 1930's bungalow built on the site of a potash manufactory.

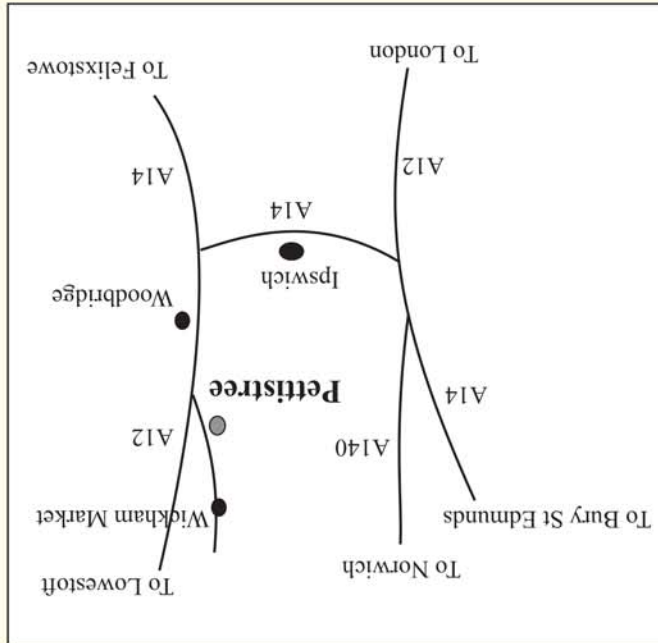


Turn right at the pond to continue on the Byng route.  
Turn left to walk the Java Lodge route.

**24. Stump Street Cottages.** Stump Street is a typical Anglo Saxon layout. Cooper's Cottage, built in 1541, was named after its occupants and was copyhold of the Manor of Byng. It is one of the oldest cottages in the village, part of a group of dwellings that were formerly seven households and formed a small community centred around a well. As Byng Hall may have had the site of a Roman brickworks it is reasonable to suppose that this centre of population moved in the direction of Stump Street. Across the road are the previously named Potash Cottages, built to serve a potash manufactory, and part of that small community.

**25. Townlands.** Site of 'poor houses' for the village, with earliest references dating to 1441. Formerly two cottages used as a workhouse with about 17 acres of copyhold land. The Townlands Trust continued to manage these houses until 1946, after which they were sold, fell into disrepair and were replaced.

**26. Byng Hall.** Thought to be the earliest settlement in the area. This is reflected in the Manorial records, there being a Manor of Byng, which later became Wickham, Harpole, Gelham and Byng. Byng was granted its own market in 1286, with evidence of an early church becoming disused by 1254. In 1846 a Roman brick kiln was discovered on land associated with the occupier of the farm, Isaac Churchyard. Its whereabouts is uncertain.



Map of how to find us

Buses stop by request at the Three Tuns public house, linking you to the walks (First Buses 63 & 64). If you are joining the trails from the bus stop on the main road please refer to the map to identify houses on your walk into the village.

Pettistree, being a rural village, has narrow lanes and no pavements, so please take care when walking along the roads. You are welcome to park at the Village Hall but please be aware of other users and park appropriately.

## Car Parking & Buses

**27. Fen Cottages & Meadow.** A pair of red brick cottages once serving Grove Farm. Byng Brook, which bounds the meadow, is now adjacent to a modern agricultural reservoir.

**28. Grove Farm.** This former fruit and dairy farm once overlapped three parish boundaries: Pettistree, Wickham Market & Dallinghoo. The house is built of stud and plaster with a tiled roof and stands back from the road, the frontage formerly being a carriage sweep. Once part of Lord Rendlesham's vast Estate.

Rejoin the Great Mount route at 19 where the footpath passes evidence of ancient hedgerows. The Mount is visible from this path, which takes you back to the car park at the Village Hall.



## Java Lodge Route (approx. 2 miles)

The Java Lodge route takes you to the bridleway known as Elder Stubb Lane, from where you can view the rear of Pettistree House.

**29. Pettistree House.** Formerly known as Java Lodge, so called by the owner who served in the East India Company. It was he who first enlarged the house that was originally a cottage once lived in by Isaac Johnson as a child, a noted surveyor in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Note the veteran trees in the parkland which can best be viewed from the main gateway.



From a drawing by Isaac Johnson for Joseph Hammont 1834

**Brick Kiln Lane** Over the turnpike road the lane previously led to Brick Kiln Cottages, now the site of a reservoir serving the horticultural nursery. The route takes you through a copse to the commercial area to join Loudham Lane.

**Hall Farm House and Stone Cottage** are to the left but turn right along the lane and then left over the field to cross the B1438. The final leg is through two fields ( there maybe cows in the field ) back to the church. Retrace your steps to the car park by turning right at the road.

Printed by Sharward Services, Westfield  
 Suffolk Record Office (sources of information)  
 Pettistree Parish Council (grant towards publication)  
 Suffolk Coastal District Council (pen & ink drawings)  
 Suffolk County Council (Locality fund)  
 Pettistree Heritage & the Trail group

## Acknowledgements

The earliest known Lord of the Manor of Loudham was Robert Malet (1086), also Lord of the Manor of Byn. From 1316 to 1625 the Lordship belonged to the de Ludham family and their descendants. Joan de Ludham's second marriage was to Ralph Blenrhasset of Frenze in Norfolk, thus establishing this notable link for 120 years. In 1543 Mary Blenrhasset married first Thomas Culpeper and secondly Francis Bacon (see brass in church) before her half brother Samuel inherited the property and lands. By the mid 17th century the Hall was in the ownership of Sir Henry Wood, Clerk of the Green Cloth to the Royal Court. He was described as "an odd person but extremely wealthy." His daughter Mary was betrothed at the age of seven to Charles Fitzroy, illegitimate son of Charles II and Barbara Palmer (nee Villiers). After Henry Wood's death there followed a complicated period of legal representations as to the true ownership of the Hall, claims being made by various family members, including Charles, then known as the Duke of Southampton. It eventually came into the hands of Sir Caesar Crammer, husband of Henry's sister, as Henry's daughter Mary had died at the age of sixteen.

The Wood dynasty continued through the 18th century when families related by marriage inherited the Hall. These included Charles Crammer, Robert Oney and Sir William Chapman. In the late 18th century the Hall was acquired by Jacob Whitbread, half brother of the Cardington benefactors. This family lived there until 1921 when it was sold to Captain Denis Wigan. The 20th century has seen a number of owners.

To find out more, please visit the Pettistree website.

Loudham Hall, whilst not on any of the routes due to its location, is worthy of mention as it is a significant residence in the parish.



## Loudham Hall



# The Great Mount Route

(approx 1¼ miles)

**1. Village Hall** The green corrugated iron clad hall was built in 1928 for the Women's Institute. The WI hut, as it was known, was donated to the village in 1993.

**2. Pettistree Lodge** Views across The Park westwards towards the Listed Pettistree Lodge; thought to be a medieval hunting lodge owned by the Hovill family. Ivo Francis Walter Bligh, 8th Lord Darnley, lived here in 1901. He was captain of the England cricket team which went to Australia after the reported 'Death of English Cricket' in 1882. Whilst there he met his future wife Florence who was the reputed creator of 'The Ashes'.

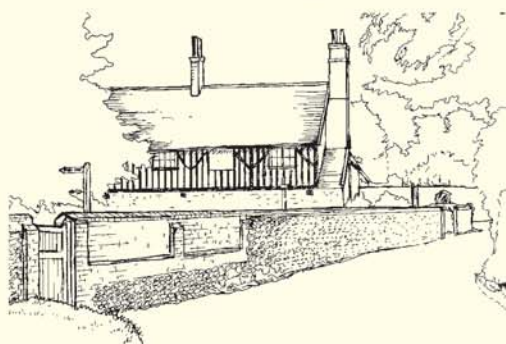
**3. Rogues Cottage** 16th century Listed Grade II reed-thatched cottage, formerly two, part of the Lodge estate. Extended in 20th century eastwards along Rogues Lane, so named, it is thought, because tramps used to bury any valuables in the 'banks' in the lane prior to walking into Wickham Market to avail themselves of the Plomesgate Workhouse in Chapel Lane.



**4. Parish Room** A late Victorian brick building built on Glebe land in 1892.

**5. Church Cottage** Mentioned in Eric Sandon's book on Suffolk houses, having a typical floor plan of many 16th century cottages. Listed Grade II.

**6. Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul** Listed Grade II\* this 13th century church has a flint tower with castellated parapet and buttresses. See church guide.



**7. The Greyhound** Thought to have been a Guildhall, the meeting place for the village, where inquests and sales were held. Originally thatched, now listed Grade II. Possibly one of the oldest pubs in Suffolk.

**Turn left at The Greyhound to continue the route (optional detour)**

**8. Church Farm** Listed Grade II medieval farm of similar age to The Greyhound. Note the decorative 'Tudor' chimney stacks, ornate barge boards and three porches, dating from the Victorian period, altered to three cottages when The Grange was built (then part of that estate). Now one dwelling with a listed timber barn and outbuildings still in use for farm animals.

**9. The Grange** A Listed early 19th century white brick house with sash windows and shutters. It became the new farmhouse for Church Farm.

**10. White House** Once thatched and formerly three dwellings in an L shape; frontage altered in Georgian era. Thought to be property of Jay family (junction called Jay's Corner in 18th century) and John Whitmore of Whitmore & Binyon ironworks in Wickham Market. The house was separated from its farm in 1947.

**11. Three Tuns** Victorian coaching inn on the site of an earlier building. Being on the Ipswich to Great Yarmouth turnpike a variety of modes of transport called here, including horses and carriages, charabancs and coaches. The modern extension (2001) provides bed and breakfast accommodation.

**Retrace your steps to The Greyhound to continue the route**

**12. Pettistree Cottage** Once part of Pettistree Lodge estate, older core but altered in Georgian times. Note the unusual window frames. Fully restored and re-thatched in 2009.

**13. The Laurels** Listed 16th century timber framed house with render and slate roof at the front, tiled at the back; probably originally thatched.

**14. Strawtop** Formerly the gardener's cottage to Pettistree Lodge, previously known as Lodge Cottage.

**15. Moats** Note the remnants of an early moated system for the common land of The Green, which is believed to have extended from near The Grange in the east, through Strawtop and Green Farm, in front of the water tower, passing between Home Farm and Pettistree Lodge and thence through the woodland area of the latter to join the church grounds behind Church Farm.

**16. Clock House** Originally the stable block and coach-house to Pettistree Lodge, believed to have been built in the 19th century. Note the cupola with bell and clock, together with a dovecote in the roof in the form of a gabled dormer. Converted to a dwelling in the 1950's.

**17. Green Farm** On the SE side of The Green is the Listed 16th century Green Farm. It is timber framed and plastered; part formerly thatched. Home of Thomas Mills in the late 17th century. A local benefactor, he left much property in trust; the High School in Framlingham is named after him.

**To extend your route to take in further houses, or to walk the longer country routes, turn left at The Green to go past the water tower. Details in the Byng & Java Lodge routes.**

**18. Home Farm** The earliest deeds are dated 1583, although the present brick and tiled house is late Victorian. Originally the Home Farm to Pettistree Lodge and once part of Lord Rendlesham's Estate. In the middle of the meadow, to the east of the farmhouse, is a Listed 19th century Dovecote.



**19. The Great Mount & Canal** An early 18th century garden feature, originally in the grounds of Pettistree Lodge, with a spiral walkway leading to its summit. The canal is likely to have been dug first and the resultant soil made into a viewing mount, possibly with a small structure on top.

**Return to the Village Hall by way of the field footpath where evidence of ancient hedgerows can be found.**

