

St Michael's Church Brent Knoll

Write a description for your map.

Legend

- Churchyard boundary
- Feature 1
- Feature 2



St Michael's churchyard

There are three points to enter the churchyard, the church steps on Church Lane, the lychgate on Church Lane and from the foot path that goes up the Knoll. Please feel free to wander around the churchyard to look at the graves / monuments and its natural features. There are seats in a number of places for you to sit and enjoy the yard and its surrounding countryside. From most of these you will get a wonderful view across Bridgwater Bay to the Quantock Hills

Graves and monuments

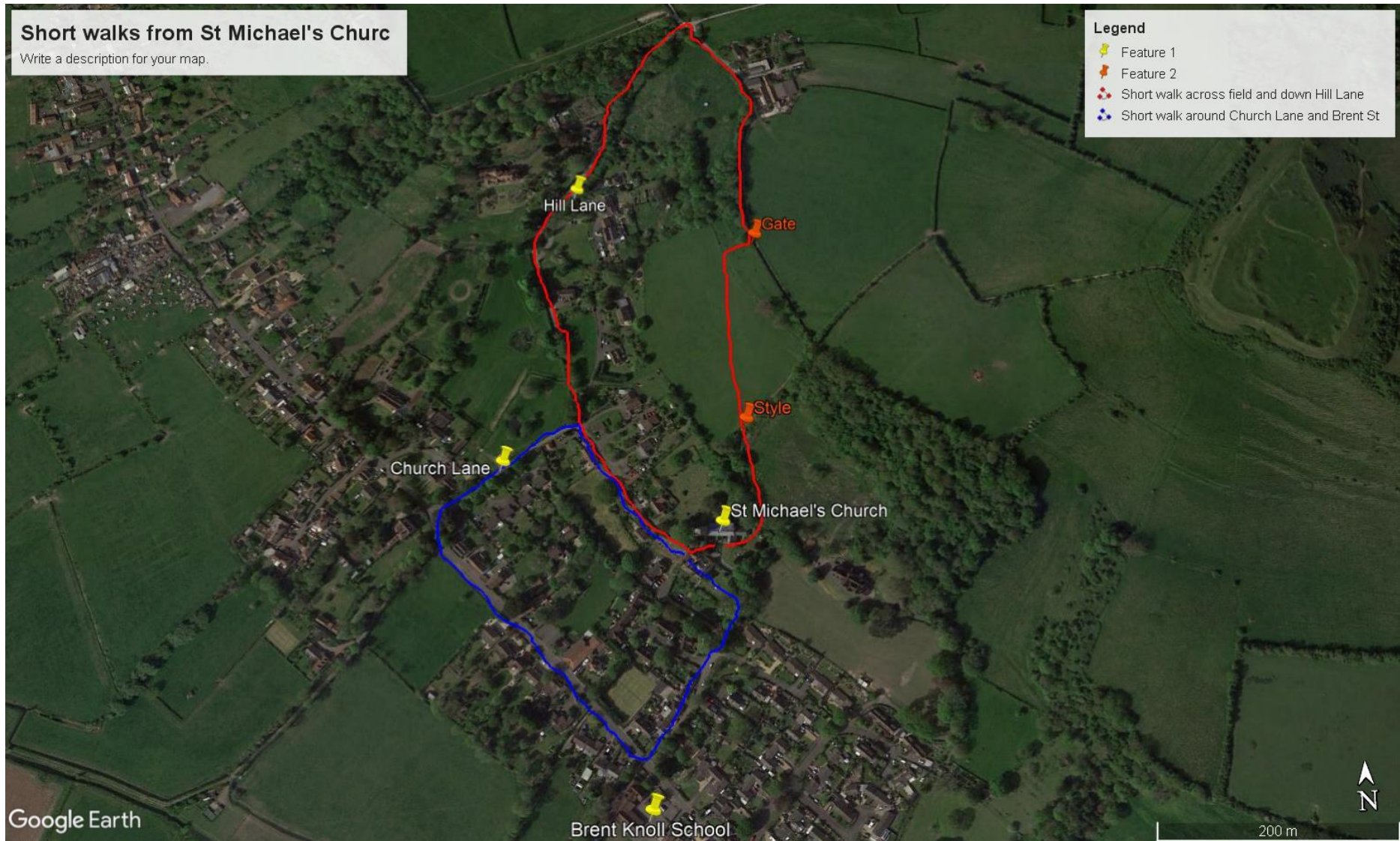
The old graves and monuments are situated to the south of the church on the right of the church steps. There is a permissive path that runs around the chancel and past the Brent Knoll war memorial that leads up to a gate which takes you onto a foot path that leads up to the top of the Knoll. If you turn right at the top of the church steps you can explore the newer part of the graveyard which has been in use since the 19th century. There is a large oak tree on the far side of this part of the yard. Above this there is a Remembrance Garden where memorials are placed after the interment of ashes following cremation.

Natural features

There is a wide variety of trees and shrubs in the churchyard. Pride of place must go to the magnificent beech tree that dominates the west end of the yard. Other trees of note include some yew trees and non-native conifers that were planted in the 19th C. Ash and sycamore trees form a copse to the north of the church. In the early part of the 21st C a species rich hedge was planted on the NW boundary of the yard. This has now matured to a point at which it has been possible to lay the hedge. Growth is now kept in check with an annual trim.

Apart from some small gardened areas next to the steps and around the church the rest of the churchyard is grassland. There are no particularly rare plants present but some areas have a greater range of wildflowers present. The south bank in front of the church is one area that is worth looking, at particularly in spring. During the summer it is mown regularly but, like a badly kept lawn, there are flowers ready to bloom as soon they are allowed to. In most areas of the churchyard you can also wild flowers blooming around the gravestones. The north bank is not mown during the summer and has the largest concentration of wildflowers in the churchyard. In spring the area behind the chancel is covered with a magnificent display of primroses.

Other wildlife can be seen regularly in the churchyard, and there are sections of the website devoted to the full range of biodiversity to be found. Lichens are a particular form of our biodiverse habitat that can be studied all year round.



Red walk takes you across local field and back down Hill Lane. Blue walk takes you around Church Lane and back via Brent St