

EVIDENCE FROM CYCLING GUIDES, BARCOMBE MILLS BRIDLEWAY RWO 213
25/6/20

Further to my collection of evidence from walking guides, I subsequently examined my cycle ride guides. I found further evidence of use.

There are fewer cycling guides than there are walking guides. This may be because there are fewer cyclists and may also be because only a small proportion of cyclists are touring cyclists.

As these are cycling guides they offer evidence of use as a bridleway.

So far as I am aware there has only been one similar guide to equestrian routes in Sussex and this is now out of print. So the absence of mentions in such guides below should not be taken to mean that there is no equestrian use.

Except where noted the guide authors do not claim that the routes they describe are rights of way. However as a guide writer myself I am aware that authors would not include in a guide a route where it was necessary to ask for individual permission, or where someone might be turned back or find an obstruction. I would expect a comment if the route were, for example, closed on one day a year. Nor is there any mention anywhere of "permissive route" or similar signs, which a guide writer might mention.

On the basis that people would probably have used the guides, the provision of a guide is also some evidence of use, although of course it is not possible to say how many people used the routes and when.

People may enter or exit the claimed routes at the following points

- 1) From the west on Barcombe Mills Road.
- 2) At the junction of footpath 26/byway 25a to the north
- 3) (Footpath only)
- 4) At or near the junction with Ringmer footpath 4 (including Barcombe Mills Road to the East or the car park.)

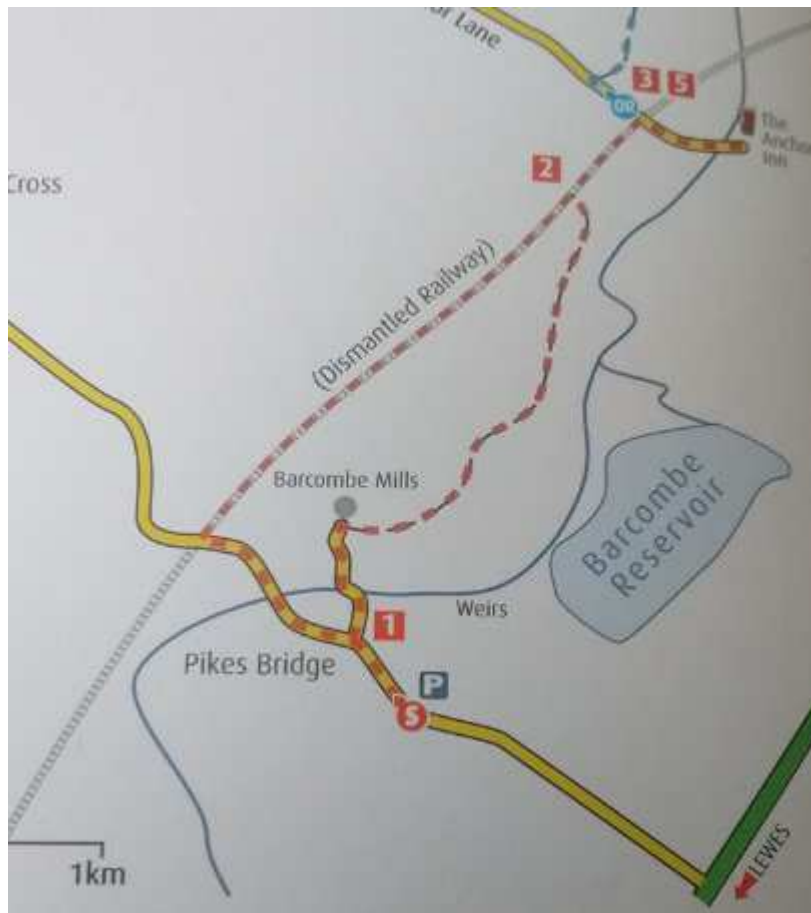
I have described the route used by each entry.

Cycling In Sussex, a guide at easy leisure cyclists including those with Children by Huston and Bullivant. Published 2008 ISBN 978-1-906148-07-2 uses 4-2

Extracts:

**The Open Spaces Society 25a Bell Street Henley-on-Thames RG9
2BA**

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Starting point: Driving from Barcombe Cross, sweep painlessly down the hill in your car and cross the bridge. There's a car park on the left, just after the Environment Agency sign at the entrance to Barcombe Mills. Alternatively, if you're driving from Lewes/Uckfield on the A26, turn off near Clayhill Nurseries towards Barcombe Mills. The car park is on your right before the bridge.

Alternative Starting Point – Isfield Post Office:

See **Optional Route** (Instruction 4).

Turn **R** out of the car park.

E At the Environment Agency sign, turn **R** where it says **Weak Bridge**. This is the access road to Barcombe Mills. Take the time to have a look around if you can. It's a little bit different. After the weir by the old toll bridge, go **SA**.

Cycle up the unmade road through the houses until just past the converted barn, where you must turn **R**. Cycle round the metal gate and continue **SA**. Cross a small bridge over the River Ouse, continuing along this easy bridleway until you see a red-tiled bungalow with a slate roof ahead. There's a choice of footpaths here. You need to take the one to the far **L**. The waymarker is next to the telegraph pole with the yellow warning triangle. Follow the track that leads beside the red bungalow. **Please dismount and push your bike on this very short stretch through the trees.**

R= right, SA = straight ahead.

Note that where the route goes onto a footpath later on, riders are advised to dismount. There is no such advice for the application route.

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Alternative Starting Point - Isfield Post Office:

See **Optional Route** (Instruction 4).

Turn **R** out of the car park.

I At the Environment Agency sign, turn **R** where it says Weir Bridge. This is the access road to Barcombe Mills. Take the time to have a look around if you can. It's a little bit different. After the weir by the old toll bridge, go **SA**.

Cycle up the unmade road through the houses until just past the converted barn, where you must turn **R**. Cycle round the metal gate and continue **SA**. Cross a small bridge over the River Ouse, continuing along this easy bridleway until you see a red-tiled bungalow with a slate roof ahead. There's a choice of footpaths here. You need to take the one to the far **L**. The waymarker is next to the telegraph pole with the yellow warning triangle. Follow

INTERNET

Travel Log Lewes Cycle rides

<http://www.travelloglewes.co.uk/wp/cycling/691-2/> Uses 4-1

This is my own web site. I put the ride up in 2014 based on my personal use in the period before that (see my evidence form). Since the ride has been on the web site no one has contacted me to say that they had any trouble riding it. I have received comments from people which say how much they enjoyed it.

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4). Turn right just after a car park, on a little lane which wanders over a number of bridges. This is scenic Barcombe Mills. Come to a junction. Turn left on a slightly rough track. Continue straight ahead on the track to re-join the main road. Bear right and follow the road into Barcombe village, ignoring a number of turnings on the left.

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