



WARWICKSHIRE AND COVENTRY
HISTORIC CHURCHES
TRUST



Ride and Stride 2009

Saturday 12 September 2009

10.00 am - 6.00 pm

The Studley & Coughton Local Ride

The Ride around this group of churches in beautiful countryside is part of the annual sponsored ride organised by the Coventry and Warwickshire Historic Churches Trust.

Of the money you raise (calculated on the number of churches you visit), half will go to the local church of your choice, and half to the Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust.

The Studley Loop Ride is about 14 miles long, starting at **Studley**, and then going by Castle Road, High Street, Crooks Lane and Bromsgrove Road to **Spernall** (avoiding the worst of the busy A 435), and then on to **Morton Bagot**, **Oldberrow** up to **Mappleborough Green**, before returning to Studley.

The Coughton Spur adds a further 7 miles and takes in **Sambourne Mission** Church and the Catholic and Anglican churches at **Coughton**.

The recommended route avoids main roads where possible. You will find it helpful to have with you a copy of the relevant 1:25,000 OS map (Explorer 150). Take particular care when crossing the A 435. Before you set off, be sure to read carefully the safety recommendations on the Sponsorship Form. It is suggested that Studley would be a good starting point but you can begin and end anywhere you choose as it is a circular route. It is hoped that most churches will be open. Some may be closed, depending on the timing of your ride, but they still count as a visited church.

Studley church is of Norman origin with some of the original fabric of that date surviving including a lamb and flag carving. The decorative 13thC stone coffin lid is also impressive.

Spernall church is, by contrast, in neo-Norman style and mid 19thC. Now in the care of the Ancient Monuments Society but the churchyard can be visited.

Morton Bagot is a delightful boxy mediaeval church with bell turret, set on a small hill. It managed to escape the restorer's zeal.

Oldberrow is Victorian with some ancient reused fragments; similarly cell-like with turret and a carefully ecologically managed natural graveyard.

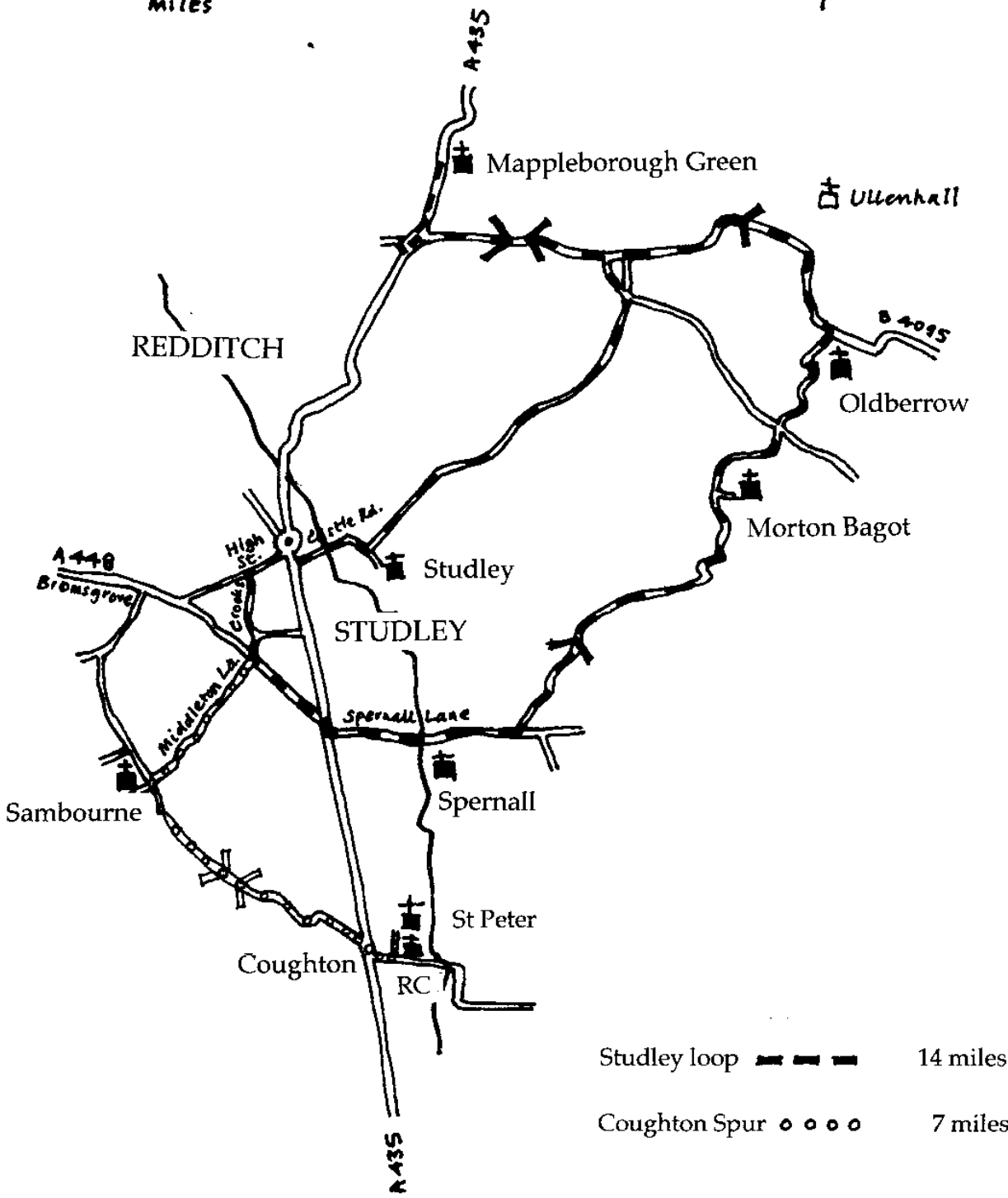
Mappleborough Green is late Victorian, convincing in scale and detailing.

Sambourne is a very simple late 19thC Mission church in brick.

St Peter's, Coughton is mostly late 15thC and the most richly steeped in history, lying next the the Throckmorton's Coughton Court. Look for their tombs in the church and the 18thC dole (bread) cupboard.

The Catholic church is spacious but much younger, being mid-Victorian and designed by JA Hansom (of cab fame).

Participants should obtain the official Sponsorship Forms and other details, which can be downloaded from the Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust website at HYPERLINK "<http://www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk>" www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk ; or can be obtained from David Laband or Will Hawkes, the Co-ordinators for this ride on 01789 764736 or 266415.



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