

4 January 2026

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Highway Records & Definitive Map Modification Orders
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Reference: Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) application (GCC ref. 573/11/99(10).
Hempsted, Gloucester

Response: 'Support'

Gloucester Ramblers, with Gloucestershire Ramblers, supports the addition of this path to the Definitive Map.

Page 2 shows the Order Map with some annotated reference points.
Point R is a hedge gap with a level bridge over a drainage ditch.
Point S is the location of a relatively new standard metal kissing gate.
Point T is the location of a relatively old concrete bridge over a drainage ditch

Point Z on footpath (ZGL64) is the location of a footpath gate which until recently was at times impassable due to failing drainage and deep mud churned up by cows.
(ZGL64) is denoted in parenthesis to distinguish it from another section of ZGL64 already indicated on the Order Map. ZGL64 forms part of the Severn Way.
(ZGL64) from Rectory Lane forms part of the Glevum Way, Gloucester Circular Path.

It may be useful to review the numbering of two sections of ZGL64 and (ZGL64) where they meet a footbridge off the Order Map to the south and where the Glevum Way and Severn Way cross a brook and continue southwards along Rea Lane.

Page 5 aerial images show that the claimed route A-B has been in use for at least 25 years.
The route has been used by Glevum Way walkers as an alternative when (ZGL64) point Z has become impassable due to deep mud.
The route has been used by Ramblers Members and affiliated Clubs on walks.
The path has been in use 'as of right'. There was never believed any need to seek permission.

It may be worth noting that a path is sometimes referred to as 'permissive' when it is in use without restriction but not shown on the OS map.
However a true permissive path is one where a permissive agreement is in place. Here the path has been in use 'as of right' rather than as permissive.

Page 3 shows that since the arrival, in late 2023, of a new landowner, the path has become progressively blocked. In 2024 access to the kissing gate at point S was restricted with a make shift barbed wire fence. By 2025 fencing and a locked field gate appeared at point A (where Rectory lane becomes a grass track) preventing use across the field to the hedge gap at point R and onwards to the kissing gate at point S. Access from point B to the other end of the concrete bridge at point T is still possible.

Page 2 contains first edition OS maps which show Rectory Lane reaching the River Severn. Rivers are considered a type of highway which a traveller can use to continue their journey.

Regarding path width, it is proposed that the path should be generally the width of Rectory Lane and only limited by the width of the concrete bridge at point T.

Ramblers campaigns to defend footpaths and protect the places people like to walk, promoting the positive benefits of being outdoors and close to nature.

Gloucester Ramblers Group
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Gloucestershire Ramblers Area
GR-DMMO-Hempsted_2026-01-04

Rectory Lane to River Severn on 1st edition OS map circa 1805



[Old series Ordnance Survey maps of England and Wales] / engraved at the Drawing Room in the Tower ... by Benjn. Baker & Assistants ; printed by Ramshaw

Creator
Great Britain. Ordnance Survey

Call Number
MAP RM 2734

Created/Published
London : Published by Lt. Col. Mudge, Tower [and later] by Lieu M. Colonel Colby of the Royal Engineers; Sold by Jas. Gardner, Agent for the sale of the Ordnance maps, 163 Regent St., April 18th 1805-[1880?]

Extent
91 maps : mounted on linen ; sheets 69 x 98 cm., or smaller + index.

Edition
1st edition.

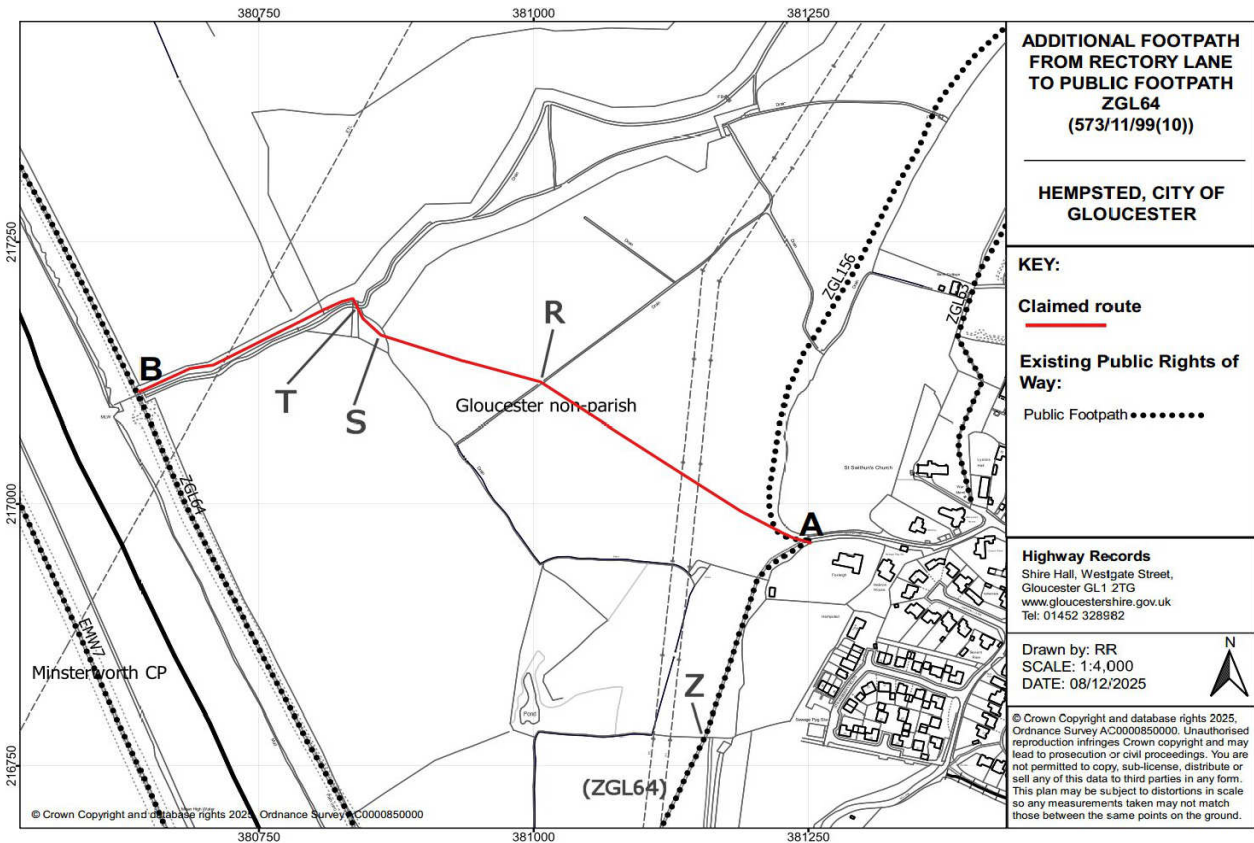
[View Catalogue](#)

Image: 44

Up a level

Down a level

Order Map - Additionally annotated with R, S, T, Z and (ZGL64)



The Land Registry shows a change in ownership from 15 December 2023.

Oct 2024 at point A. Rectory Lane becomes grass and the Glevum Way turns left (ZGL64). In the distance can be seen the hedge gap at point R just to the left of the electricity poles.



October 2024 kissing gate at point S. Although horizontal barbed wire has been placed in front of the kissing gate, walkers might still squeeze through. The kissing gate behind is somewhat redundant as it can be bypassed. Footfall can be seen in the grass leading to the kissing gate.



October 2024 Concrete footbridge at point T viewed from the direction of point B and showing path from point B to T. Kissing gate at point S is away in the shrubbery to the right.



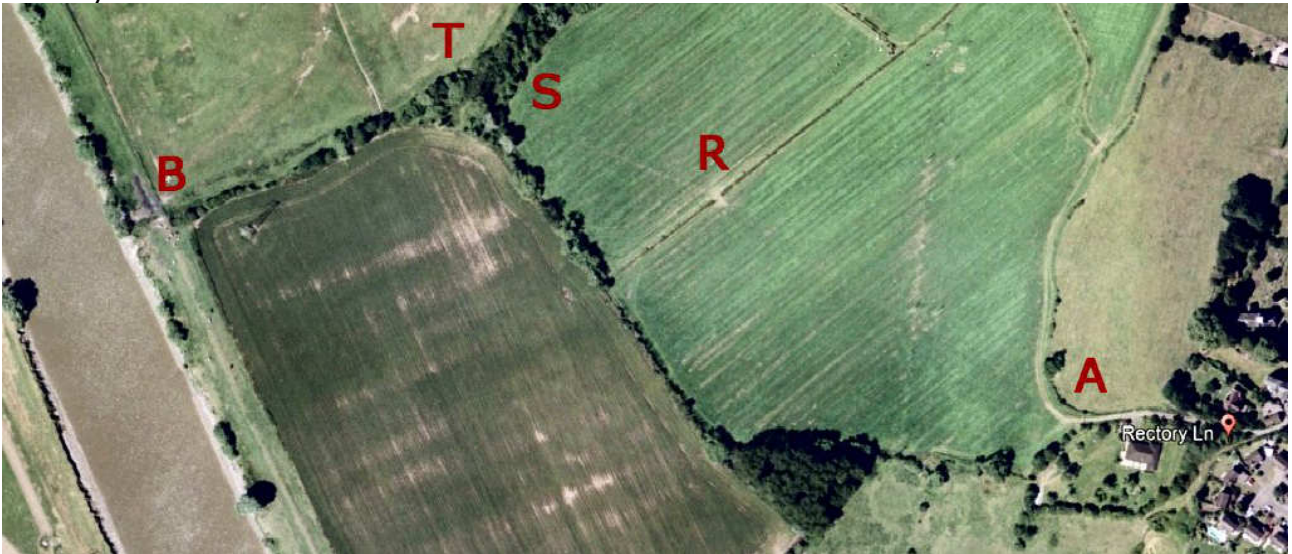
October 2024 ZGL64 Severn Way passes left to right the other side of this gate (with the River Severn just visible ahead) The waymarks on the gate post at point B are only visible to walkers heading from the concrete bridge at point T and illustrate that the claimed path A-B would have been known to be in use when ZGL64 was waymarked.



October 2025 point A where Rectory Lane becomes grass. A locked field gate and fencing has been installed. The line of the claimed route can still be seen in the grass to the hedge gap at point R, left of the poles. The Glevum Way from Rectory Lane turns left (ZGL64) in front of the gate while ZGL156 can be seen heading right.



Google Earth Aerial images of the claimed route A-B via R, S, T.
demonstrating that the path has been in use for at least 25 years.
January 1999



April 2021



March 2023

