

# VIEWS OVER YAVERLAND MANOR



UPDATED BY  
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## **WALK THREE**

Leave Brading Station through the exit gate and cross the car park towards the footpath sign "3, 4 and 5", on the left, follow this path to a 'T' junction and turn left. On approaching a stile, turn left again over the railway line (beware of the trains). The path follows the chain-link fence of the railway track on the right and the river Yar on the left, before rising to a road bridge.

This is "Yarbridge" a causeway and sluice," built by Sir William Russell of Yaverland in 1338, providing a "secure and permanent route between Yaverland and Brading". Prior to 1338 the sea and the river Yar completely cut off the the high ground of Bembridge and Yaverland – which was known as "Yar Island". A bridge incorporated in the causeway allowed the free flow of sea and fresh water to flow as before. Centuries later, the sea wall at Sandham (Sandown) was built and the marshes of Sandown level were gradually drained and brought into agricultural use as "rough pasture suitable for cattle grazing" – a purpose for which the land is still used today.

Turn left at the road bridge and, after crossing the river, take the footpath to the right. The road is very narrow and traffic on the bridge may make it a slightly hazardous if you are accompanying children! Once in the fields however, the footpath does not follow the river, it cuts through cattle-grazed fields, via three stiles, until it rises towards Yaverland. To the left are fine views of Yaverland Manor (this is not open to members of the public) and further on, a view of the white cliffs of Culver.

On reaching the road at Yaverland, you can either retrace your steps; those keen enough, can have a closer view of the Manor and Church (containing some fine pre-Raphaelite stained glass windows), or, by turning right along this road, you come onto the sea front at Yaverland. The return walk, retracing your steps across the fields, opens up fine views of Brading Down.

This walk takes about an hour.