

ROUTE 3 (APPROXIMATELY 2 HOURS)

THIS ROUTE TAKES IN THE SITES OF THE TOWN AS WELL AS AN EXPLORATION OF THE ENVIRONS. THIS ROUTE HAS MORE VARIATION OF TERRAIN AND STEEPER GRADATIONS AS THE TOWN GIVES WAY TO COUNTRYSIDE.



MARKET SQUARE

MARKET SQUARE PROBABLY GOT ITS NAME FROM THE ANNUAL ST. MARTIN'S FAIR ESTABLISHED ABOUT 1160. THE CHURCH ST MARTIN-LE-GRANDE STOOD ON THE WESTERN SIDE. THE BLESSED ST. PETER'S CHURCH STOOD ON THE NORTHERN SIDE AND PROBABLY DATED FROM THE 11TH CENTURY. IT WAS THE OFFICIAL CHURCH OF THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION AND FROM 1367 UNTIL 1581 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND MAYORS OF DOVER WERE ELECTED THERE. IN 1584 THE CHURCH WAS DEMOLISHED AND IN 1605 THE CORPORATION BUILT A GUILDHALL IN THE MARKET SQUARE.



DICKENS CORNER TEA ROOM OCCUPIES THE SITE OF THE OLD ESTABLISHED BAKERS, IGGLEDSEN AND GRAVES, MENTIONED BY CHARLES DICKENS IN DAVID COPPERFIELD.



THE DOVER MUSEUM IS ONE OF THE OLDEST MUSEUMS IN KENT, FOUNDED OVER 150 YEARS AGO IN 1836. IN 1991 THE MUSEUM WAS RE-HOUSED IN A NEW THREE-STOREY BUILDING BEHIND ITS ORIGINAL VICTORIAN FACADE.

THE DOVER MUSEUM IS PRIVILEGED TO HOST ITS FAMOUS BRONZE AGE BOAT IN THE ACCLAIMED BRONZE AGE BOAT GALLERY.

THE WOODEN PREHISTORIC BOAT, DISCOVERED IN SEPTEMBER 1992, IS THOUGHT TO BE SOME 3,000 YEARS OLD. THE BOAT'S EXCAVATION WAS AN INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY. AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION, THE DOVER BOAT IS BACK IN DOVER AND PROUDLY ON DISPLAY AT THE DOVER MUSEUM.



THE MILLENNIUM PLAQUE ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE MUSEUM COMMEMORATES THE RAID ON THE GERMAN OCCUPIED BELGIUM PORT OF ZEEBRUGGE BY THE BRITISH ON ST. GEORGE'S DAY 1918. THE ROYAL NAVY BROUGHT BACK THE BODIES OF SAILORS AND ROYAL MARINES WHICH WERE PLACE IN A TEMPORARY MORTUARY IN WHAT WAS A COVERED MARKET (NOW THE MUSEUM) BEFORE HONOURABLE BURIAL AT ST. JAMES CEMETERY, DOVER (MARKET HALL, ZEEBRUGGE RAID 1918).

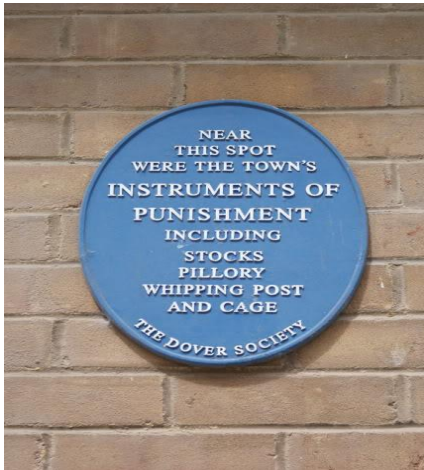


TO THE LEFT OF THE MUSEUM, THE SILVER SCREEN CINEMA SHOWS THE LATEST IN DIGITALISED FILMS.



THE BUILDING WHICH HOUSES THE DOVER DISCOVERY CENTRE AND LIBRARY STARTED LIFE AS THE WHITE CLIFFS EXPERIENCE, A VISITOR CENTRE TRACING THE HISTORY OF DOVER.

MANY OF THE ORIGINAL AUDIOVISUALS AND DIORAMAS ARE STILL ON DISPLAY TODAY.



WHILE IN THE MARKET SQUARE TAKE A LOOK AT THE MILLENNIUM PLAQUE ON THE SIDE WALL OF BARCLAY'S BANK. THE TOWN'S STOCKS AND PILLORY STOOD NEARBY RECALLING THE CRUEL PUNISHMENTS GIVEN TO MINOR CRIMINALS.

CANNON STREET

IN ANCIENT DOCUMENTS, CANNON STREET IS REFERRED TO AS THE KING'S HIGHWAY. THE STREET WAS WIDENED IN 1858 AND AGAIN IN 1893. IT WAS PEDESTRIANISED IN 1981.



PAST



PRESENT

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN IS A NORMAN CHURCH BUILT BETWEEN 1066 AND 1086. IT WAS RESTORED IN VICTORIA'S REIGN BETWEEN 1843-1844. ST MARY'S WAS PROBABLY BUILT ON THE SITE OF A SAXON CHURCH, BUT WAS CERTAINLY BUILT ON TOP OF AN EVEN EARLIER ROMAN STRUCTURE. THE 'LADY CHAPEL' IS IN THE RIGHT-HAND AISLE, THE ORGAN IN THE LEFT. THE GRAVEYARD (CHURCHYARD, CEMETERY) WAS CLOSED FOR BURIALS IN 1854.

FOLKESTONE ROAD



PAST



PRESENT

DOVER PRIORY RAILWAY STATION, RAIL TRAVEL, TAXI RANK

TRAM SHELTER



ELMS VALE ROAD

ELMS VALE ROAD IS OFF FOLKESTONE ROAD. THE ELMS VALLEY AND LANE LEADING TO HOUGHAM WAS RENOWNED FOR ITS ELM TREES. ORIGINALLY CALLED ELMS ROAD. BY 1906 IT WAS ONLY BUILT UPON UP TO THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE.



PAST



PRESENT

EATON ROAD

EATON ROAD RUNS FROM ELMS VALE ROAD TO ASTOR AVENUE. THE EATONS WERE MERCHANTS IN THE TOWN AND THREE OF THEM WERE MAYOR IN THE 17TH CENTURY. THERE ARE MONUMENTS TO THEM IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH. THE LAST OF THE MALE LINE, PETER EATON, DIED IN 1769.

WHINLESS DOWN

WHINLESS DOWN HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A SITE OF CONSERVATION INTEREST (SNCI) BY KENT WILDLIFE TRUST, IS PART OF THE KENT DOWNS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (ANOB) AND HAS ALSO ACHIEVED LOCAL NATURE RESERVE (LNR) STATUS.

SEVERAL RARE PLANT AND INVERTEBRATE SPECIES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SITE. RARE PLANTS FOUND AT WHINLESS DOWN ARE CYPRESS SPURGE, HORSESHOE VETCH AND CROWN VETCH; YOU CAN ALSO FIND THE RARE BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS ADONIS BLUE, CHALKHILL BLUE, SCARCE FORESTER MOTH OR THE SILVER SPOTTED SKIPPER.





HIGH MEADOW

DOVER'S NEWEST LOCAL NATURE RESERVE. A NUMBER OF ORCHIDS THRIVE HERE INCLUDING FRAGRANT, COMMON SPOT AND PYRAMIDAL. THE SITE IS GRAZED BY A HERD OF KONIK HORSE WHICH ARE OWNED BY THE WILDWOOD TRUST. THE HERD GRAZE THIS SITE FOR SOME OF THE YEAR AND NEIGHBOURING WHINLESS DOWN THE REST OF THE TIME. GRAZING HELPS TO GIVE A GREATER VARIETY OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS TO SURVIVE - WITHOUT IT ONE OR TWO SPECIES WOULD BE LIKELY TO DOMINATE.



EDGAR ROAD

EDGAR ROAD RUNS FROM COOMBE VALLEY ROAD TO PROSPECT PLACE. EDGAR, KING OF THE ENGLISH, REIGNED FROM 959 TO 975. BY ONE OF HIS LAWS THE BOROUGH COURT WAS HELD THREE TIMES A WEEK UNTIL THE 19TH CENTURY WHEN QUARTER SESSIONS REPLACED IT. PRIOR TO 1875 THE ROAD WAS CALLED EDGAR PLACE.

LONDON ROAD

OFF LONDON ROAD, WAS A LAND OF MILLS, EVEN WHEN THE NORMANS DREW UP THEIR DOMESDAY BOOK? THE MILLERS USED THE RIVER, WITH DAMS IN PLACES, TO PROVIDE THE POWER TO DRIVE THE MACHINERY. SOME OF THE MILLS WERE BUILT TO GRIND CORN TO MAKE BREAD, SOME WERE CONVERTED TO BREWERIES, AND OTHERS MANUFACTURED PAPER

AT ONE STAGE THESE MILL LANDS WERE IN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE MAISON DIEU BUT AFTER THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES BY HENRY VIII THEY PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS, SOME OF WHOM WERE ALREADY MILLERS. BY 1777 INGRAM HORN, A PAPER MANUFACTURER OWNED ONE OF THE BIGGER MILLS AND LATER DOVER BANKERS SAMUEL LATHAM AND PETER FECTOR HAD FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN ONE OR MORE MILLS AT BUCKLAND. THE LAST LARGE FLOUR MILL MAKING USE OF DOUR WATERS WAS CHITTY'S MILL AT CHARLTON GREEN WHICH, WRECKED BY ENEMY ACTION TOWARDS THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, CAUGHT FIRE AND WAS NEVER RE-OPENED. TODAY THE SITE IS OCCUPIED BY HOUSES AND A BRANCH OF HALFORDS.



CHERRY TREE AVENUE

CHERRY TREE AVENUE WAS NAMED AFTER THE LARGE CHERRY TREE THAT ONCE STOOD IN THE GARDEN OF THE CHERRY TREE INN ON LONDON ROAD. THE LANE WAS WIDENED AND PLANTED WITH TREES (NOT CHERRY TREES) IN 1895, AT A COST OF £1129. AFTER THE WIDENING IT WAS RENAMED CHERRY TREE AVENUE.



PAST



PRESENT

BARTON PATH



BARTON PATH RUNS BESIDE THE RIVER FROM CHARLTON GREEN TO CHERRY TREE AVENUE, WHICH WAS PART OF THE ANCIENT MANOR OF BARTON.

THE RIVER DOUR



THE RIVER DOUR IS ROUGHLY 4 KM LONG. IT ORIGINALLY HAD A WIDE ESTUARY ON THE SITE OF MODERN DOVER, ALTHOUGH TODAY IT FLOWS INTO THE DOVER HARBOUR THROUGH A CULVERT. THE ESTUARY WAS A NATURAL HARBOUR FOR THE BRONZE AGE SETTLERS AND TRADERS IN THE AREA. THE REMAINS OF A BRONZE AGE SEAGOING BOAT (FROM 3,500 YEARS AGO), WAS FOUND IN 1992, AND IT CAN BE SEEN IN DOVER MUSEUM. THE DOUR ESTUARY WAS THEN USED AS A PORT FOR THE ROMAN TOWN, AS A NATURAL HARBOUR FOR THE ROMAN FLEET. BUT THIS WAS SILTED UP IN THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD, NECESSITATING THE CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS ARTIFICIAL HARBOURS FOR DOVER INSTEAD. THE RIVER HAS BEEN USED SINCE AD 762 TO POWER VARIOUS WATERMILLS ALONG ITS ROUTE.

BRIDGE STREET

BRIDGE STREET RUNS FROM LONDON ROAD TO CHARLTON GREEN. THE BRIDGE OVER THE DOUR WAS BUILT IN 1829, REPLACING A FORD AND THE STRETCH OF THE ANCIENT LANE WAS THEN NAMED BRIDGE STREET. THERE HAD BEEN SOME HOUSES FOR SOME 200 YEARS AND LAND ON THE NORTH SIDE WAS SOLD FOR BUILDING IN 1828. IN THE EARLY 1900S THE HOUSES ON THE NORTH SIDE WERE REBUILT AS MATTHEW'S PLACE, PAUL'S PLACE AND HARVEIAN PLACE. THE FIRST TWO WERE NAMED AFTER SAINTS AND THE THIRD AFTER THE ADMIRAL HARVEY PUB.



DOUR STREET

DOUR STREET RUNS FROM PARK STREET TO CRAFFORD STREET. RUNNING PARALLEL TO THE RIVER DOUR, THIS ATTRACTIVE TERRACED STREET WAS BUILT ON WOOD'S MEADOW IN 1859. A PROPOSAL TO CALL IT GORE STREET AFTER THE GORLEYS WHO LIVED AT LADYWELL FARM FOR MANY YEARS DID NOT SUCCEED. INSTEAD IT WAS APPARENTLY NAMED AFTER JOHN CRAFFORD, MASTER OF THE MAISON DIEU IN HENRY VIII'S REIGN. IT WAS ADOPTED IN 1868.

LADYWELL



1900



2014

LADYWELL JOINS HIGH STREET TO PARK PLACE AND PARK STREET. THE WELL OF OUR LADY WAS IN THIS LANE AND ITS WATERS APPARENTLY CURED SICKNESSES. 'PURE LADYWELL WATER' WAS APPARENTLY SOLD IN THE STREETS. THE WELL BECAME THE TOWN'S FIRST DRINKING FOUNTAIN WHEN A PUMP WAS ADDED AROUND 1834. A REMNANT OF THE WELL WAS UNEARTHED IN THE 1970S. THE LANE WAS 14 FEET WIDE IN 1839 AND LITTLE MORE THAN A FARM TRACK, BUT IT BECAME A COBBLED STREET AS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MAISON DIEU LANDS. IT WAS WIDENED IN 1903 BY REMOVING THE NORTH SIDE.

PENCESTER ROAD

PENCESTER ROAD RUNS FROM MAISON DIEU ROAD TO BIGGIN STREET. STEPHEN DE PENCESTER HELPED HUBERT DE BURGH DEFEND DOVER CASTLE AGAINST THE FRENCH IN 1216 AND BECAME CONSTABLE OF THE CASTLE. HE IS BURIED IN THE CHURCH AT PENSHURST, HIS COUNTRY SEAT. THE ROAD WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1860 AND ITS BRIDGE IN 1863 TO CONNECT THE TOWN CENTRE WITH THE NEWLY DEVELOPED MAISON DIEU ROAD. GUNMAN'S MANSION WAS DEMOLISHED TO PROVIDE ENTRY TO BIGGIN STREET.

BUS INTERCHANGE LOCATION

BIGGIN STREET

THE REASON FOR THIS NAME HAS BEEN HOTLY DISPUTED. THE EARLIER NAME WAS BEKYN STREET AND FROM AT LEAST 1286 THERE WAS A MEDIEVAL TOWN WARD OF BEKYN AROUND ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN THE MARKET PLACE (WHERE LLOYDS TSB BANK NOW STANDS). BAVINGTON JONES ASSERTED THAT THE WORD HAS A SAXON ROOT MEANING TO BUILD; ALTERNATIVELY A MEDIEVAL WORD FOR A CAP. PERHAPS IT SIMPLY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE TOWN OR COUNTRYSIDE! BIGGIN GATE STOOD HERE UNTIL 1762. THE ROAD WAS WIDENED IN 1894 AND PEDESTRIANISED IN 1981.

1900





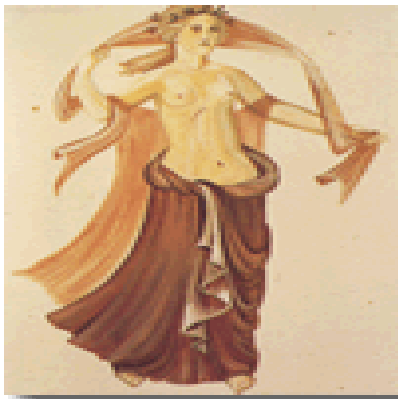
BIGGIN STREET 1920



2012

WHEN FOLLOWING BIGGIN STREET, TO JOIN CANNON STREET, IF YOU WANTED TO POP INTO THE ROMAN PAINTED HOUSE, PLEASE GO DOWN NEW STREET, ON YOUR RIGHT, IF NOT JUST FOLLOW CANNON STREET DOWN TO THE MARKET SQUARE.

THE ROMAN PAINTED HOUSE



THE DOVER ROMAN PAINTED HOUSE IS A UNIQUE TOURIST ATTRACTION AND WELL PRESERVED MUSEUM IN THE HEART OF DOVER TOWN SHOWING WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE IN THE DOVER, DEAL AND SANDWICH AREA IN ROMAN TIMES. EXCAVATED AND RESTORED IN THE 1970'S, THE HOUSE WAS BUILT AROUND AD 200 AND PROBABLY SERVED AS AN INN FOR TRAVELLERS.

