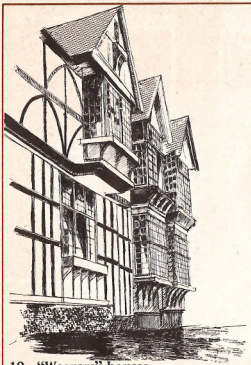


Now turn the sheet over to follow the rest of the trail.



#### 19. "Weavers" houses

At the King's Bridge (c.1180) there are the picturesque, much restored, half-timbered "Weavers" houses whose gables overhang a branch of the River Stour. Only the fabric of the houses on the street is c. 1400, altered c. 1570; the half-timbering effect on the outside is a fairly recent addition. The rest of the building, comprising the two end gables over the river, dates from the 1930s. The houses are open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and reproduction looms can be seen in action between 11 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. The replica of a ducking stool hangs over the river. There are river trips on the "Weavers" ferries in the summer months - tickets for the boats are sold in the shop.

#### 18. All Saint's Lane

Before you reach the King's Bridge, take a short detour into All Saint's Lane. This is a narrow cul-de-sac leading to All Saint's Court, a restored late 15th century half-timbered building.



#### 17. Cogan House

Opposite The Friars is Cogan House (no. 53/53a), one of the finest examples of a stone and timber-framed house in Canterbury. The house is older than it appears and dates from c. 1160. By 1520 it had been considerably modified; of interest inside is the renaissance panelling and carved plaster ceilings. Timber-framed gables dating from c. 1590 are behind the 19th century parapet of the facade. This house is a private residence and is not open to visitors.

#### 16. Dominican Priory Gate

A plaque on the souvenir shop at the corner of The Friars marks the site of the old Dominican Priory Gate. The gate was erected c. 1350 and demolished in 1787.



#### 15. Methodist Church

Further along St. Peter's Street, and set back from the road, is the Methodist Church with perfectly scaled portico. It is a Classical Revival building dating from 1811.



The shrine of St. Thomas Becket became a centre of medieval pilgrimage bringing considerable fame and prosperity to Canterbury. Geoffrey Chaucer visited Canterbury many times in his official capacity, and had property in Staplegate. Following Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales" the pilgrimages reached their height in the 14th century. The "Tales" described the journey made c. 1397 by a company of "wel nyne and twenty", who each pledged to tell two tales to while away the time on the long road to Canterbury.

#### Key

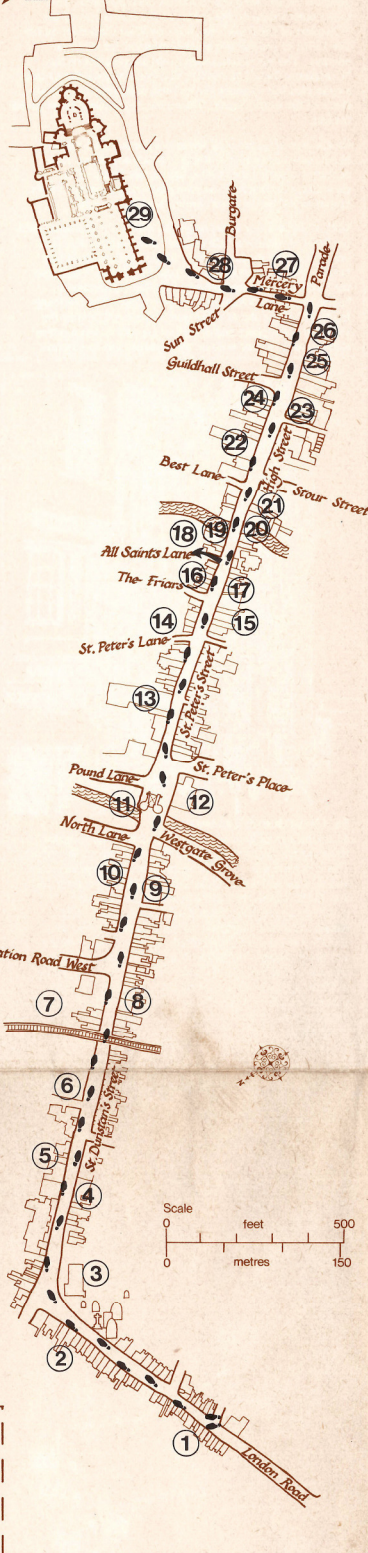
Main route

Detour

Trail text number ①

Continuation of text

It is much easier to read, and follow the trail, in the correctly numbered sequence.



The walk starts in London Road at the entrance to St. Dunstan's Terrace.

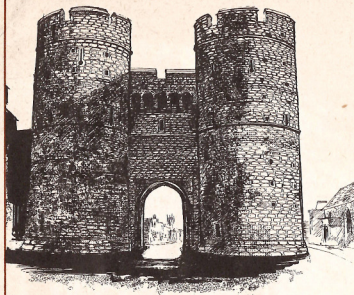
#### 1. Eight Bells Public House

On the opposite side of the road is the Eight Bells Public House. The inn sign pictures the Canterbury Bells. Pilgrims often stitched bells to the reins and trappings of their horses.



#### 2. Nos. 1-5 London Road

Nos. 1-5 London Road are 18th and early 19th century houses - this group illustrates the development of domestic architecture from Georgian to Regency.



#### 11. Westgate

The end of the street is dominated by the Westgate, built over one branch of the River Stour. It is the only remaining example of the eight gates of the medieval city. The gate was possibly designed by Henry Yevele (who may have been the architect of the nave of the Cathedral) and was built by Archbishop Simon of Sudbury c. 1380 on the site of an earlier structure. It is made of Kentish ragstone and incorporates some bricks in its structure. Until 1829 the Westgate was used as the city prison. It was opened as a museum in 1906. A newel staircase leads to the roof of the gate from which there is a splendid view of Canterbury.

#### 12. Holy Cross Church

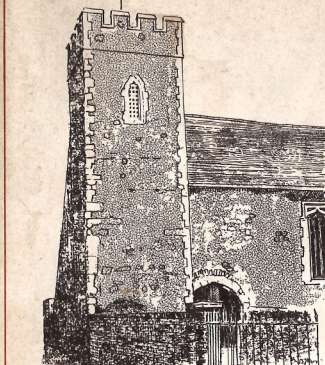
Holy Cross Church was originally situated over the earlier Westgate but was rebuilt on its present site by Archbishop Simon of Sudbury c. 1380, when the new Westgate was built. The building is no longer used as a church and is awaiting future use as a council chamber.

Cross St. Peter's Place by means of the pedestrian crossing and enter St. Peter's Street - a mixture of building styles and frontages, where windows and overhanging upper storeys jut out over the pavements.



#### 13. Sidney Cooper Building

On the left hand side of the street, opposite Black Griffin Lane, is the entrance to the Sidney Cooper Building. This building, formerly Canterbury College of Art, was founded as a school by the artist T. Sidney Cooper (1803-1902) who was born in the existing cottage on the site.

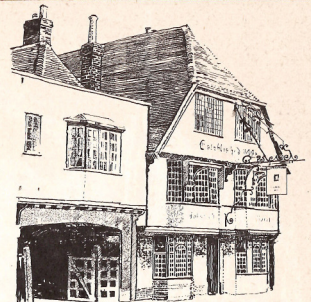
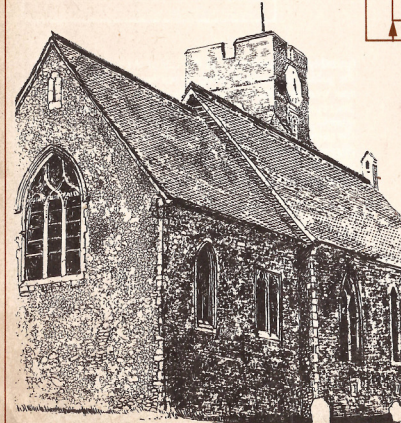


#### 14. St. Peter's Church

On the same side, a little further on, is St. Peter's Church, a three-aisled hall church dating from the early Norman period. Incorporated in the small tower are a number of red tile fragments. The interior has kept its pre-19th century character - there is a fine Norman font and a late 17th century sounding-board.

#### 3. St. Dunstan's Church

St. Dunstan's Church, on the corner of London Road, contains flint masonry of the 11th century in the north wall. The tower, which contains a peal of six bells, and south aisle are 14th century. St. Nicholas' Chapel was founded by the Roper family in 1402-3 - the brickwork was rebuilt in the 16th century. The chapel contains the Thomas More window, put in on June 14th, 1973. The head of Saint Thomas More lies in the vault beneath the chapel.



#### 10. Falstaff Hotel

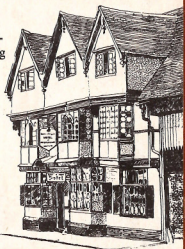
On the opposite side of the road is the Falstaff Hotel. It existed in 1403 as the "White Hart" for the accommodation of pilgrims who arrived at the City after the gates were shut. This was one of a number of inns which grew up in St. Dunstan's Street to accommodate pilgrims.

#### 9. Westgate House

Further along St. Dunstan's Street, on the corner of Linden Grove, is Westgate House (No. 87). This is a well-proportioned, four-square mid-Georgian house built about 1725. The rain water heads are 1760.

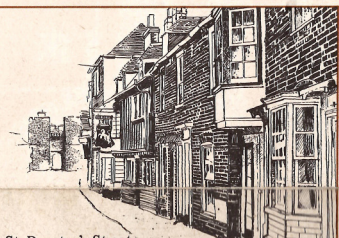
#### 8. "House of Agnes"

No. 71 St. Dunstan's Street is the "House of Agnes" (c. 1600-1620), a timber-framed building now used as an hotel and restaurant. The first floor bay windows date from the late 17th century, and part of the ground floor was modified in the 18th century.



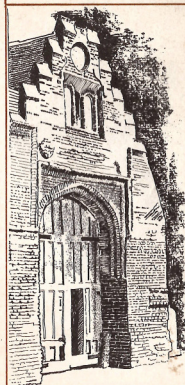
#### 7. Canterbury West Station

Canterbury West Station is next to the site of the terminus of the Canterbury-Whitstable railway. This railway, opened in 1830, was one of the earliest passenger railways in the world.



#### 6. St. Dunstan's Street

Continue walking along St. Dunstan's Street. The assortment of buildings on the right hand side of the street dates from many different periods and forms a richly textured pattern of shapes. Notice the slight irregularities in street alignment. Beyond the level crossing the variety of architectural styles is maintained and thirteen successive gables of buildings can be counted.



#### 5. Roper Gateway

On the opposite side of the street is the Roper Gateway, a 16th century Tudor red brick structure, which once led to the home of the Roper family. It was the home of Saint Thomas More's daughter, Margaret Roper, who brought her father's head to St. Dunstan's after his execution by Henry VIII. The Roper home was demolished to make way for a brewery, and the premises are now occupied by an industrial firm.

#### 4. St. Dunstan's House

Further along St. Dunstan's Street is St. Dunstan's House, a medieval house which has been given a Georgian facelift. Fragments of 15th century wall paintings survive in several rooms. The house has a date of 1750 on it.

BENEATH THE FLOOR  
IS THE VAULT OF THE  
ROPER FAMILY IN WHICH  
IS INTERRED THE HEAD OF  
SIR THOMAS MORE  
OF ILLUSTRIOUS MEMORY  
SOMETIME LORD CHANCELLOR  
OF ENGLAND WHO WAS  
BEHEADED ON TOWER HILL.  
6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1535  
ECCLESIA ANGLICANA LIBRARY  
AD 1932



## Canterbury City Trails No. 2

## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE CATHEDRAL

This walk follows the last half mile of the journey trod by dedicated pilgrims long ago visiting the shrine of St. Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral.