

Welcome to the historic town of Ottery St Mary. We hope that you will enjoy a walk through history on this Heritage Trail which will take approximately one hour to complete. This does not include viewing the interior of the church.

1 The King's Arms Hotel. Built in 1756, this hotel takes its name from the Royal Arms of George II. It used to be a posting house where travellers could change their horses for the next stage of their journey.

2. The London Inn. Built early in the eighteenth century and originally known as the London Tavern.

3. Silver Street. Barclays Bank, once a chemist's shop. Georgian House and The Lodge are all examples of early Georgian Architecture.

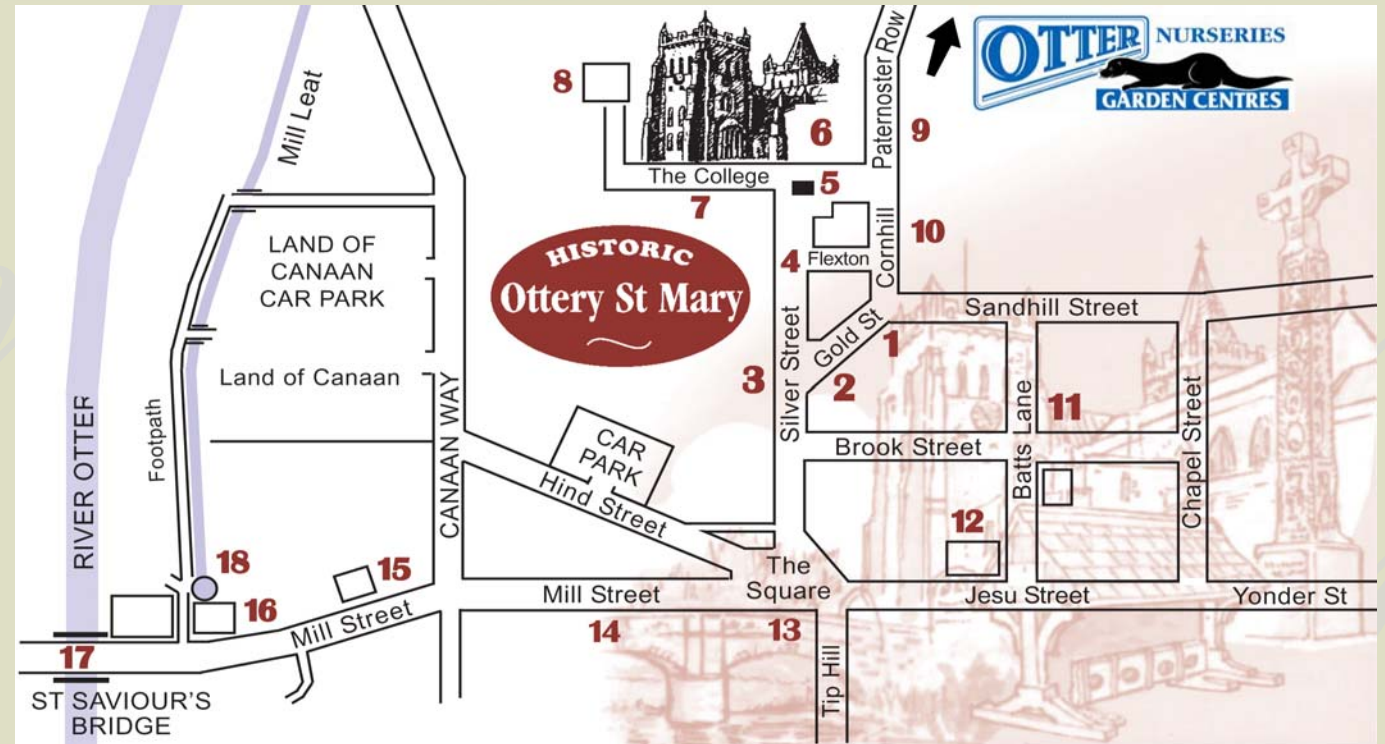
4. The Flexton. In 1226, a Charter was granted by King Henry III conferring the right to hold a market and fair here



5. The Monument. Erected to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, this monument is a copy of one of the gateposts at Kensington Palace. It now stands on the site originally occupied by the town stocks, now to be found in the churchyard.

6. The Parish Church. A new altar or chapel dedicated at the Church of Sancte Marie de Ottery in 1259 but it is likely that there was a church in existence long before that. In 1337 John de Grandisson, Bishop of Exeter, founded his College of Canons in Ottery St Mary and enlarged the small church modelling it upon Exeter Cathedral. The building was completed in 1342 and flourished

for the next two hundred years as a Collegiate Church. It was dissolved in 1545 during the reign of Henry VIII and became a parish church.



7. The College. The clergy buildings of the Collegiate Foundation were grouped on three sides of the churchyard, although many of them have now been demolished. The Chorister's House and the school for the choirboys were on the south side along the College. After the Dissolution in 1545, King Henry VIII ordained that this school should be known as the "Kynge's Newe Grammar Scole of Seynt Marie Otterie", forerunner of the present King's School which is on the west side of town.

Samuel Taylot Coleridge, the town's famous poet and philosopher was born on 21st October, 1772 at the Secondaries House. He was the youngest child of The Rev. John Coleridge, B.A., Master of the King's School and Vicar of Ottery St Mary. A plaque to the poet can be seen on the church wall opposite the monument. Sadly this house was pulled down in 1884 and the site now forms part of the garden of Grandisson Court.



Warden's House. The senior Canon and Warden of the College resided at the Warden's House which has been much altered over the years.

8. Chanter's House. Its was here that the Chanter or Precentor resided and as one of the senior canons he was responsible for leading the singing during Divine Service. In 1645, the Parliamentarian troops were quartered in the town and Sir Thomas Fairfax stayed at the Chanter's House. In the 'Great Convention Room' Cromwell and General Fairfax met to plan the next stage of the campaign in the West, during the Civil War. The house was bought by Colonel James Coleridge, an elder brother of the poet in 1796. Chanter's House is not open to the public and we ask that you respect the owners privacy.

9. Paternoster Row. Take note of the early rainwater heads which show the date when **The Priory** was built in 1719. Most houses had been thatched until this time so the introduction of guttering and fall pipes was a novelty and rainwater heads regarded as a status symbol.



OTTERY ST MARY heritage trail



10. Cornhill. This was named because of the flourishing corn-market which used to be held there. Cornhill House was built early in the 18th century and has a typical Georgian parapet which conceals the sloping slate roof. Stafford House, now a hotel and restaurant dates back to 1760 and was named after Henry, Lord Stafford,

Earl of Wiltshire, second husband of Cicely, Marchioness of Dorset who was responsible for the beautiful fan-vaulted Dorset aisle in the Church.

11. Batts Lane. Notice a small thatched cottage on the left called The Sanctuary which dates back to 1609.

The Lamb and Flag Inn. Here a horse-drawn omnibus once set off for Exeter at 8a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week.

12. Jesu Street. The United Reformed Church built about 1688 is one of the earliest non-conformist churches in England. Its first pastor, Robert Collins of Chanter's House put up a courageous fight for religious freedom and endured relentless persecution.

13. Broad Street - The Square. This forms the central hub of the town with roads leading into it from all directions like the spokes of a large wheel. This radial pattern was characteristic of the earliest Saxon settlements which developed at the meeting of two ways.



14. Mill Street. This is an old street name indicating the place to which it led - the Town Mill. Many of the cottages which were thatched and built of cob were destroyed by the Great Fire of 1866.

15. Raleigh House. Stands on the site of a house believed to have belonged to Sir Walter Raleigh.

16. The Town Mill. Recorded in the Domesday Book, this mill was used for the grinding of corn until 1937.

The Factory is next to the Mill and was built in 1789 to manufacture serges for the East India Factory. By 1823 it had become a silk factory making handkerchiefs and ribbands.

17. St Saviour's Bridge. The original hump-back bridge of four stone arches was swept away by a storm in 1849 and was replaced by the present iron structure. In 1355 Bishop John de Grandisson built a wayfarers chapel on the 'Bridge of Ottery' which he dedicated to Our Saviour. No trace of the chapel remains but the area is still known as St Saviours. Enter the small iron gate just before the bridge and walk past the factory car park and along the river to....



18. The Tumbling Weir. This unique weir or basin was constructed in 1790 to supply power from the mill leat to the newly built Georgian factory. Follow the footpath by the mill leat back to the Land of Canaan car park.

This Heritage Trail leaflet has been kindly sponsored by



Gosford Road, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1LZ
Telephone 01404 815815 www.otternurseries.co.uk



A walk through the historic town of Ottery St Mary

This leaflet has been kindly sponsored by

