

Opposite The Guildhall to the South is The Ship Inn, which dates from the 16th century. It is where Elizabeth I is said to have stayed. The 16th century houses in Hugh Place alongside The Ship were once a second Fleur de Lis Inn. Shakespeare and his players are said to have performed here. Read about the murder plotted here in 1551.

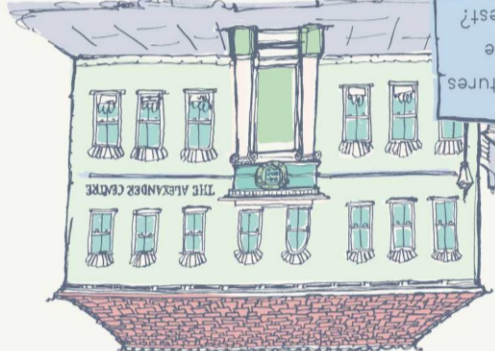
QUEST: Can you tell the time on the sundial?

Faversham's market has existed at least since Domesday - 1086; it is the oldest in Kent. The Guildhall has wooden Elizabethan pillars from c.1574, but the upper floor had to be rebuilt in 1814 after a fire when an apprentice party got out of hand.



2 Market Square

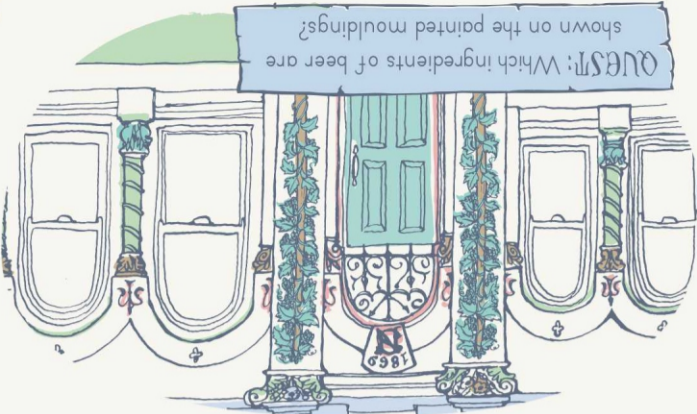
Gatefield House was the 1860s mansion of Henry Barnes, local brick baron, who made his fortune making Faversham bricks for London - especially for the new sewers after London's 'Great Stink'. Later this became home to local doctor Sir Sidney Alexander, Faversham Mayor throughout the First World War, after whom The Alexander Centre is named.



QUEST: Which creatures can you see on the Faversham Town Crest?

1 Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre & The Alexander Centre

The Fleur de Lis was a medieval inn. It's now a Heritage Centre and Visitor Information Centre. Close by is The Alexander Centre at Gatefield House.



QUEST: Which ingredients of beer are shown on the painted mouldings?

Shepherd Neame Brewery is said to be the oldest continuously working brewery in the UK; founded in 1698, using water from its own naturally filtered well. On some days you can smell the malt.

QUEST: Elizabeth I was entertained much did the feasting cost? How

The old fire station, built in 1819, originally housed a manually operated, horse drawn fire engine. This remained Faversham's Fire Station until 1939.

3 The Old Fire Station



To the East of the Market Square is Faversham's cinema. It has a spiral Gunpowder Mill & Ore Gunpowder Works.

From the bottom of West Street you can explore Faversham's gunpowder heritage by taking the Gunpowder Trail to Chart Gunpowder Mill & Ore Gunpowder Works.

West Street's medieval buildings house a wide range of shops and the Sun Inn.

The Medieval Old Pharmacy of 1240 would have been stocked with herbs grown by monks in its garden.

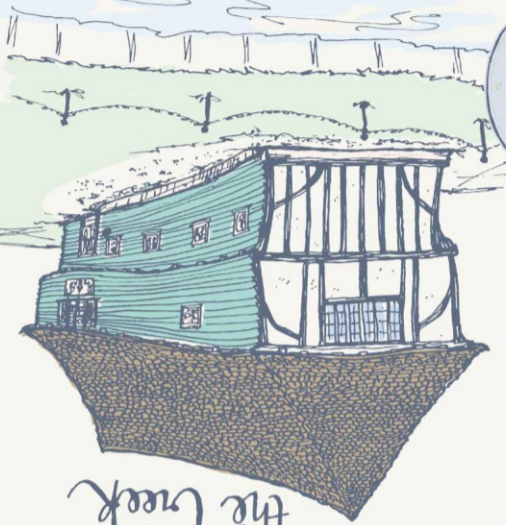
QUEST: Can you find the Market Square Pump from 1854?

Look at the large gold pestle & mortar sign on the front of the Pharmacy which advertised to people what it sold.



Faversham Creek; the whole reason Faversham is here. On the opposite bank is the site of Faversham's first brickworks.

QUEST: How much did the feasting cost? At an old Guildhall on this site in 1573.



The beamed medieval building is the old Town Warehouse, built in 1475 for local merchants. Today it's called TS Hazard & is used by the Sea Cadets.

4 Quay Lane, TS Hazard and the Creek

At 25 Court Street, the Tudor owners chose elaborate close studded oak beams to display their wealth at the front of the house, with far less ornate beams to the rear.

QUEST: How long was he detained in this house?

Continue North to 18 Court Street, where James II was held under house arrest during the Protestant uprising of 1688 after his attempt to escape to France.

FAVERSHAM Town Walk

This town walk has been designed to give you a 'flavour of Faversham', the oldest market town in Kent and mentioned in Domesday Book.

The walk begins at the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre, and before setting off, you may choose to explore this fascinating museum full of surprises and delights from Faversham's rich history.

Map Key

- Look for the silver circular wall mounted commemorative plaques highlighted in this leaflet.
- QUEST: Young walkers may have fun answering the 'Quest' set of challenges.
- Faversham Town Trail Route
- 8 Places of Interest
- Footpath
- Chart Gunpowder Mills Loop

Chart Gunpowder Mills

If you have time, take the circular loop and browse the independent shops along West Street en route to the Chart Gunpowder Mills, oldest of their kind in the world. Open 2-5pm Sat, Sun & Bk Hol, Apr-Oct.

Shrine of Saint Jude

On your return, you are welcome to visit the National Shrine of St Jude, the Catholic patron saint of hope and impossible causes located beside the church of Our Lady of Carmel on Tanners Street.

Explore Faversham

Faversham Markets take place on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, with 'Best of Faversham, Arts, Crafts and Food Market' on the first and third Saturday of the month and 'Faversham Antiques and Vintage Market' on the first Sunday of the month. www.favershammarket.org



Shepherd Neame Visitor Centre located on Court Street offers award-winning tours of Britain's oldest brewer and Creek Creative Studios, 1 Abbey Street, features frequently changing exhibitions by local artists.

Faversham Food Trails

The countryside and coastal area surrounding Faversham is a rich and varied landscape of downland, woods, orchards, and the coastal saltmarshes with a wealth of wildlife and an internationally important bird sanctuary. The long distance Saxon Shore Way, taking its name from a series of fortifications built in the latter years of the Roman occupation, forms part of the coastal trail running from Hastings to Gravesend.

A series of eight circular walks known as the 'Faversham Food Trails' of varying distance showcase en route the best of local Kent produce together with the history of each area.

These walks can be downloaded by visiting visitfaversham.com

Guided Town Walks

Led by volunteers from The Faversham Society, each guide brings their own knowledge, background and expertise to the walk which lasts approx. 1.5 hrs. Walks start at the Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre For current costs and timings, see www.favershamtownwalks.org or www.favershamsociety.org.

faevershamtownwalks.org

For further information on Faversham and the surrounding area, including accommodation, visit our website visitfaversham.com or telephone the Visitor Information Centre on 01795 534542

This leaflet has been published by Faversham Town Council with the support of the Magna Carta Committee and Swale Borough Council. All information correct at time of going to print.

FAVERSHAM Town Walk

A History Trail



A fascinating past is revealed

5 Abbey Street

Medieval merchants' houses dating from 1538 line the original processional route to Faversham Abbey, built in 1147 by King Stephen & Queen Matilda. Many of these medieval houses now have Georgian facades.

Arden's House, 80 Abbey St was the Abbey's outer gateway and guest house and is named after Thomas Arden, Mayor of Faversham in 1548. In 1551 Arden's wife and her lover plotted and murdered him. The play *Arden of Faversham*, which some speculate may have been written by Shakespeare, recounts the sorry tale.

QUEST: At no.83, find King Stephen and Queen Matilda.

QUEST: Do you remember the name of the inn in the Market Place where the murder was plotted?

QUEST: Which animals are carved at no.19?



What happened to the sailor who lived at no.89 in 1748?

Globe House, opposite Arden's House is thought to have been the Abbey Steward's house and may have housed guests not important enough to stay in the gatehouse.

6 Upper Abbey Street

You are now in the Abbey precincts. The inner gate was where no. 63 Abbey Street stands today and just past no. 63 is Abbey Green. The front façade of Faversham Abbey faced the Creek here. It was destroyed by order of Henry VIII during the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538.

At no. 63 Abbey Street read how the Abbey masonry was re-used

Opposite, at no. 42 Abbey Street learn which explosive person once lived here.



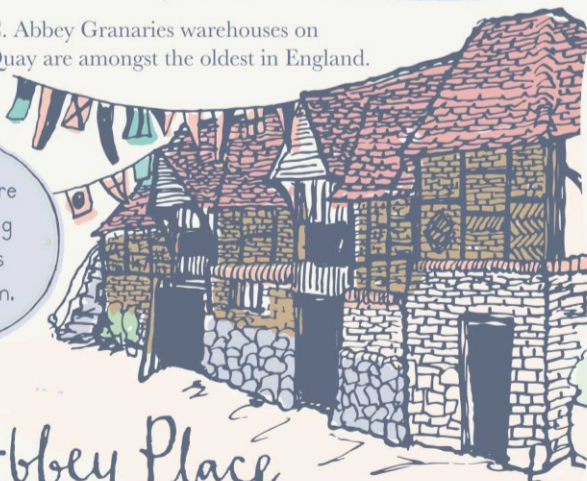
7 Standard Quay Station

On the opposite bank of the Creek, where the new houses stand today is the site of Pollocks' shipyard. Between 1916 and 1969 1,200 ships were built and launched in Faversham. Thames' barges, built at Standard Quay until the 1950s, are maintained here today.

QUEST: Are there any berthed up here for you to see?

The 17th C. Abbey Granaries warehouses on Standard Quay are amongst the oldest in England.

Read where the building materials came from.



8 Abbey Place

At the far end of Abbey Place is a cottage; beside the footpath entrance next to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School.

QUEST: What is the cottage called? Which medieval activity took place in the pit in the garden?

50m along the footpath you can look across the playing fields to see the raised mound of the footprint and foundations of Faversham Abbey.

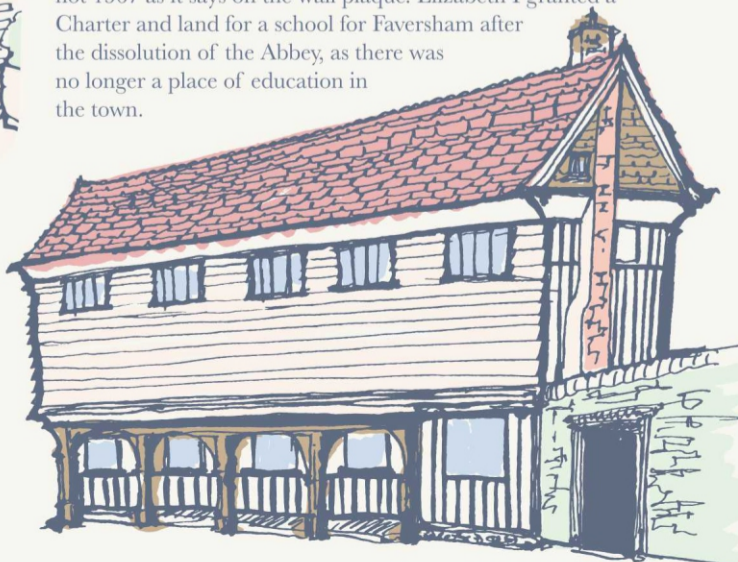
Look at the two very large barns behind the playing fields. They were built in the 1400s & belonged to the Abbey. The remains of a Roman Villa has also been found on the land by the barns.

9 Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School

On return to Fighting Cocks' Cottage take the footpath along the front perimeter of Queen Elizabeth's School. On your right is an old wall with a gate. This leads to the garden of Arden's House. His murderers dragged his body through it.

Next door is the Abbey Physic Garden, where herbs and medicinal plants were grown for the Abbey. The garden is still looked after by the people of Faversham. If the gate is open you can go in.

The original Queen Elizabeth School was founded in 1576 – not 1567 as it says on the wall plaque. Elizabeth I granted a Charter and land for a school for Faversham after the dissolution of the Abbey, as there was no longer a place of education in the town.

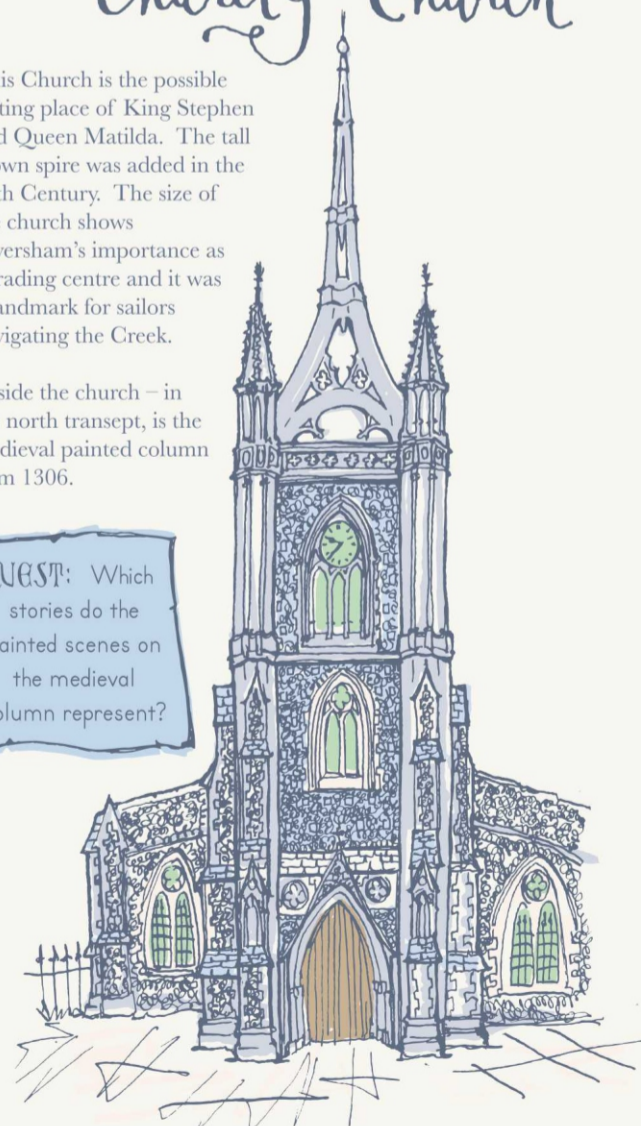


10 St Mary of Charity Church

This Church is the possible resting place of King Stephen and Queen Matilda. The tall crown spire was added in the 18th Century. The size of the church shows Faversham's importance as a trading centre and it was a landmark for sailors navigating the Creek.

Inside the church – in the north transept, is the medieval painted column from 1306.

QUEST: Which stories do the painted scenes on the medieval column represent?



In the choir stalls are the misericords; tip up small ledge seats, where 12th Century monks could perch, yet appear to be standing, during long hours of prayer.

Return to the town centre via Church Street.