PLEASE ALLOW ABOUT 50 MINUTES FOR THIS WALK

WALK TO YOUR RIGHT FROM OUTSIDE THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE. through Market Square until you reach Potter Street [1] on your right.



[1] Potter Street (c. 1900)

- 1. OPPOSITE MARKET SQUARE is an 1889 Italianate building (now a building society), which contained the town's first purpose-built Post Office.
- 2. TO THE RIGHT ARE STEPS to Devoil's Lane; further along, Jackson Square marks a major 1960s town redevelopment: the River Stort was diverted, the Link Road bypassed the old town centre and many Victorian buildings along Potter Street were replaced.
- 3. DOWN THE STEPS (or return to the traffic lights and turn right down Bridge Street), on Devoil's Lane (originally Dunghill Lane), the Black Lion (16th Cent) [2] is another mediaeval survival; a black lion was the heraldic symbol of Queen Phillipa, wife of Edward III.
- 4. IN BRIDGE STREET [3], almost opposite is The Star (16th Cent, with 16th/17th Cent outbuildings). Further down, the Town Mill stood near the present entrance to Jackson Square (find the moss-covered stone plaque to the left); the Stort River (since diverted) flowed on the route of Old River Lane under a bridge here [4].



[3] Bridge Street (c 1900)

TURN RIGHT OUT OF COOPERS into Water Lane, part of the ancient town that once had tanneries and a brewery [5].

- 6. TO THE RIGHT IS THE Guild House. c.1740, now an Estate Agents, one of an array of buildings whose back gardens ran down to the River Stort (since diverted).
- 7. TO THE LEFT is the United Reformed Church (1860), in the Italianate style; it replaced an earlier, smaller Congregational chapel.



[5] Hawkes Brewery looking towards its Water Lane entrance



[2] Black Lion Inn (16th Cent.)

5. OPPOSITE IS AN OLD Maltings building (note the chimneys); further up Bridge Street, this building once housed Bishop Bonner (c.1555), Queen Mary's persecutor of the Protestants. Inside Coopers, to the right of the entrance next Water Lane, are decorated plaster panels on the ceiling.



[4] The Town Mill sluice looking towards the Bridge Street Maltings (c. 1960)

8. ALONG WATER LANE by the bend are several buildings, parts of the former Hawkes Brewery [5]. Looking east across the car park, behind the trees, are the Norman Waytemore Castle mound, Hockerill and All Saints Church beyond.

TURN RIGHT DOWN THE PATH

beside the Supermarket car park, across the car park is the Link Road (a 1960s development); use the pedestrian crossing over the Link Road to enter Castle Gardens.

9. BY THE PATH

is a granite Water Fountain donated to the town in 1872 by Edwin & Eliza Eyre in memory of George **Bramston Archer** Houblon (born George Bramston Eyre) of Hallingbury Place. It was in the Hockerill Crossroads until 1920.



[6] Reconstruction: Waytemore Castle in the time of King John (c.1150)



13. AT THE

CROSSROADS were

four coaching inns:

this was the turnpike

(17th/18th Cent) that

superseded the old

way through Market

Square. On the west

corner of Stansted

Road was the **Red**

Lion (c.1660 – now

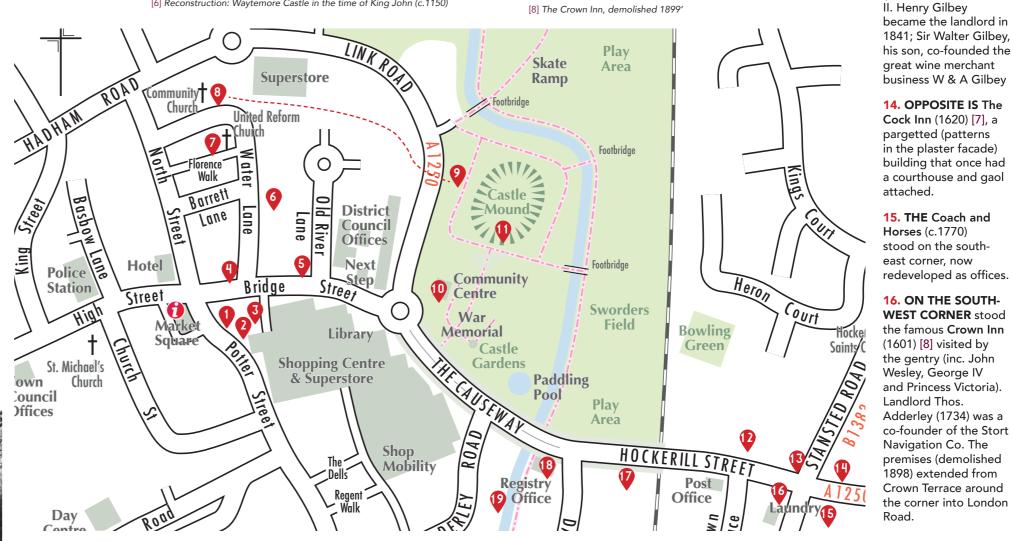
a restaurant) which

played host to Charles

16. ON THE SOUTH-

1898) extended from

[8] The Crown Inn, demolished 1899'



- 10. FURTHER AROUND the path is a bungalow which marks the position of the notorious Castle gaol and dungeons demolished in 1649, replaced by the Cherry Tree Inn.
- 11. THE MOUND bears the remains of Waytemore Castle (c.1086) [6], held by the Bishops of London for 600 years. The key from the Tourist Information Centre allows access to the steps up the mound and an interesting view of the town.

LEAVE CASTLE GARDENS:

pass the War Memorial, cross the bridge over the moat, turn left into the Causeway and proceed past the park up the hill (Hockerill Street).

12. IN HOCKERILL STREET [7] notice the remnants of several Maltings behind the shops on the left.



[7] Hockerill Street and the Cock Inn (built 1620

WALK BACK DOWN HOCKERILL STREET

- 17. NO 18 HOCKERILL STREET is a converted remnant of a large Match Factory that stood behind; No 14 has a fine mansard roof, both buildings saved from demolition in the 1970s.
- 18. AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL, across Dane Street, the mock-Tudor building (c.1920s) is now the Town's Registry Office: it has the clock from a former wharf building and once provided offices for the Union Workhouse (now renovated for housing in the Herts & Essex Hospital grounds).
- 19. FROM THE CAUSEWAY river bridge, walk a few yards along the river towpath; this represents the end of the Stort Navigation opened in 1769; see the rare riverside crane on the right used for loading barge traffic.

RETURN TO THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE for Routes 1 & 3 and to return the Castle Mound key.

Photo acknowledgements: Bishop's Stortford Museum (cover, 1-2, 4-5, 7); Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies (3, 6, 8)



TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE 2 Market Square, CM23 3UU Tel 01279 715001

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CM23 2EN

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East Herts Council Offices
Charringtons House. CM23 2EN

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SURROUNDING OTHER PLACES **BISHOP'S** OF INTEREST IN AND **STORTFORD**

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD

THE RIVER STORT AND NAVIGATION
Malting was the town's major industry for around five centuries but in 1602 a law was introduced which restricted movement of malt to packhorses rather than carts. This led eventually to an initiative by George Jackson and others to create the Stort Navigation. This received Royal Assent in 1766 and the work was complete by 1769, stretching about ten miles south to join the River Lea Saffron Walden, CB11 4JF
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This castle mound is the remnant of what

WAYTEMORE CASTLE

opened in 1963.

The Museum opened in 1938 but was rebuilt as the Rhodes Memorial Museum and

alth Centre which was officially

of St Michael's.

Memorial Museum, dedicated to Cecil Rhodes, born in Nettleswell House, the home of his father, Rev Francis Rhodes, vicar

www.rhodesbishopsstortford.org.uk
This complex started life as the Rhodes

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was certainly a Norman castle, and possibly even Saxon. A wooden structure at first, it was likely converted to a traditional motte and bailey masonry structure soon after 1086, and surrounded by a moat. www.nationaltrust.org.uk
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aesthetic improvements saw river diversion, the roads to ease traffic, and housing development.



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