



King's Lynn u3a History Trails



Street Names Trail no 2

Street Names Trail no 2

This second route should take 1 ½ to 2 hrs, and continues from **Tuesday Market Place** to the North end of King’s Lynn and then back to the **Saturday Market Place**.

Saturday and Tuesday Markets. The oldest recorded instance of a market is to a **"Sand Market"** held on the Saturday Market Place in **1104**.

The first **"Charter Market"** is mentioned in a Charter from King John dated 6 September **1205**. Henry III took away the charter but in **1268** gave the Charter back to Lynn. On 7 July **1529**, **Henry VIII** granted a further Charter to the Tuesday Market.

Start in **Tuesday Market** north east corner.



1	St Nicholas Street
----------	---------------------------

formerly **Black Goose Street** named after a pub of the same name, and before that **Wool Pack Street**. Some researchers think the area was home to important buildings, such as the **Wool Hall**. The town was one of England’s busiest ports exporting wool and cloth. Note the plaques on Woolmarket House and Bennet’s Yard.

Walk to the end and turn left down.....

2	St Ann’s Street
----------	------------------------

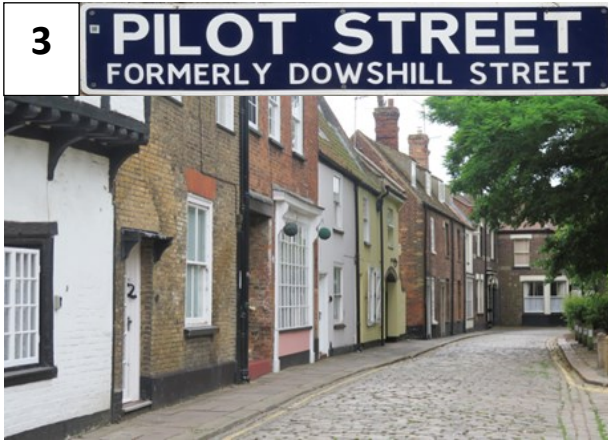


Cross to other side and turn right past **True’s Yard** - note the plaque.

Walk up **North Street** and.....

turn right into **John Kennedy Road** which is named after the 35th US President.
Continue until you reach a small path between two bollards on the right.....

At the top of the path go through a wrought iron gate. This is



(from **1809**) formerly called **Dowhill** or **Deucehill** which means Devil's Hill.

For centuries King's Lynn was one of the most important ports in England. The name **Pilot Street** probably came from piloting the boats into the docks. Pilot Street was originally much longer and went as far as the docks. Note St Nicholas Chapel to the right at the top of the road.

As you walk along in front is a little white house called **The Exorcists House** which is dated **1635**.



An Exorcist was a Catholic priest's job on the career ladder, and the house is reputed to be haunted as it seems a priest meddled in the 'dark arts'!

Walk left into **Chapel Lane** and then right along.....

Austin Street (named after the Augustinian Monks) and then left, to.....

4	CHAPEL STREET
----------	----------------------

Formerly **Black Horse Street** after a public house and before that **Listergate**. Lister is from the Middle English word Litster which is from the old Norse verb 'lita' meaning to dye. The name referring to the listers or dyers of the area.

Go across to the **15thC Lattice House** and pass.....

Market Lane formerly **Pillory Lane**.

A Pillory is a wooden framework with holes for the head and hands, in which offenders were imprisoned and exposed to public abuse.



Continue up **Chapel Street** where you will pass **Surrey Street**, previously known as **Jewes (or Gewys) Lane**. In Medieval times there was a flourishing community of Jewish people who lived here.

At the top of the street turn left into.....

5	Norfolk Street
----------	-----------------------

which was formerly **Damgate** at the east end, and **Grassmarket** at the west end. At the east end was the bridge over the **Gaywood River** and the **East Gate** itself.

Grassmarket refers to a type of cattle and horse market as there would have been a lot of hay laid down.

Walk along this street which is full of many small independent shops,

Turn right down.....

6	Paradise Lane
----------	----------------------



The word Paradise probably comes from the French word Paradis, which has roots in the Persian word for an enclosed garden or space. Ironically then this lane was home to a strange mixture of slaughter houses and prostitute houses!
The Lane was originally much longer and went forward through the car park opposite and around to Paradise Parade.

Turn right and walk towards (but not over) the flyover, cross over the road and walk down the footpath on the left then turn left into.....

Broad Street formerly **Webster’s Row**.

Webster is from the Anglo-Saxon word ‘webba’ and was an occupational name for a weaver.

Walk until you reach the large bronze globe which commemorates 100 years of “Cooper Roller Bearings” in the town, then veer to the right and then turn right down.....

7	NEW CONDUIT STREET
----------	---------------------------

The origin of the name **New Conduit Street** is based on the river and mill that used to supply water to King’s Lynn. During the **16thC** a piped water supply was created in King’s Lynn for those who could afford to be connected. Elm pipes carried water under the streets. Some of the tree pipes, dating from the early **19thC**, have been found in New Conduit Street.

<p>Notice the statue of King John who visited Bishop’s Lynn several times, including 1216 the year of his death.</p>	
--	--

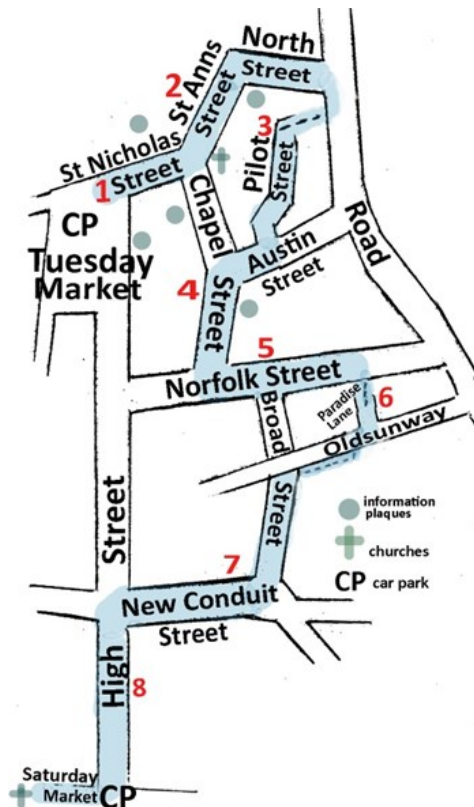
Take the next left to.....

8	High Street	
Previously Mercer's Row At the north end, and Briggate At the south end.		

Mercer is an occupational name, derived from the Old French word "mercier" or "merchier", meaning a merchant trading in textiles (mercery).

Briggate means 'road to the bridge'. **Stone Bridge** carried High Street (Briggate) across the **Purfleet** to connect **Tuesday Market Place** with the older **Saturday Market Place**.

Walk along **High Street** to the start of **Walk no 1** in the **Saturday Market Place**.



King's Lynn u3a History Trails

We hope you enjoyed this u3a Town Trail. This and other trails are available on the King's Lynn u3a website :

www.kingslynnu3a.org.uk

Then select 'Town Trails' from the menu.

