Towntrail

Willis Museum and Jane Austen sculpture Market Place
George Willis' Shop Laarsens Pub Lesser Market Haymarket Theatre
The Church Stone Barclays Bank Zizzi Natwest bank 13 London Street
United Reformed Church Mark Lane 26 and 28 to 30 London Street
Thomas Burberry Deane's Almshouses The Triumphal Gates
Pages Old Almshouses Goldings and the War Memorial Park
War Memorial and bandstand All Saints' Church Fairfields School
May's Bounty Cricket Ground The Wheatsheaf Pub Innovation Court
Joices Yard London Street / Winchester Street 21 Upper Church Street
Carved panels Blue Coat Boy Statue Church Street Methodist Chapel
St Michael's Church Church Cottage 8 Lower Church Street
Chute House Entry to Festival Place The Anvil Holy Ghost Chapel Ruins
South View Cemetery Cemetery Lodge Sailing by Stars Railway Station
L'arc sculpture Festival Place and Eastrop Link Eastrop Park

Basingstoke Heritage Society
Caring for our town – past, present and future

#Love Basingstoke

supported by Basingstoke and Deane

Introduction

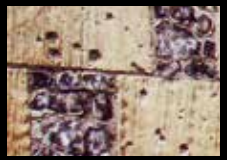
Welcome to the Basingstoke Town trail - a self-guided walk of the town centre starting in Basingstoke's 800 year-old Market Place. As you follow the trail you will discover more about the town's history, from Domesday through to the modern day.

Explore the architectural features of many of the town's buildings - and look behind the facades. Discover some of the town's more famous residents and find out about some of those who passed through. Take the opportunity to learn more about Basingstoke's town centre and how it has developed.

The full walk lasts approximately 90 minutes, although this can be followed in smaller sections.

The trail has been researched and written by the Basingstoke Heritage Society, with support from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Find out more about the society at www.bas-herit-soc.org/



Images 2, 5, 6, 18, 22, 27, 34, 40 © It's My Day Photography. 8 & 31 © HCCMAS, 13 © Hampshire Records Office, 15, 26 & 39 © Willis Museum. 23 © Robert Brown.

Contents

1) Willis Museum and Jane Austen sculpture
2) Market Place
3) George Willis' Shop
4) Laarsens Pub
5) Lesser Market
6) Haymarket Theatre
7) The Church Stone
8) Barclays Bank
9) Zizzi
10) Natwest bank
11) 13 London Street
12) United Reformed Church
13) Mark Lane
14) 26 and 28 to 30 London Street
15) Thomas Burberry
16) Deane's Almshouses
17) The Triumphal Gates
18) Pages Old Almshouses
19) Goldings and the War Memorial Park
20) War Memorial and bandstand
21) All Saints' Church
22) Fairfields School
23) May's Bounty Cricket Ground
24) The Wheatsheaf Pub
25) Innovation Court
26) Joices Yard
27) London Street / Winchester Street
28) 21 Upper Church Street
29) Carved panels
30) Blue Coat Boy Statue
31) Church Street Methodist Chapel
32) St Michael's Church
33) Church Cottage
34) 8 Lower Church Street
35) Chute House
36) Entry to Festival Place
37) The Anvil
38) Holy Ghost Chapel Ruins
39) South View Cemetery
40) Cemetery Lodge
41) Sailing by Stars
42) Railway Station
43) L'arc sculpture
44) Festival Place and Eastrop Link
45) Eastrop Park

Willis Museum
(former Town Hall)
and Jane Austen sculpture

Since the 14th century a Mote Hall has been sited in Market Place. It was rebuilt in 1657 and the present building dates from 1832. This has served as the Town Hall, Corn Exchange and Market House. The town's magistrates used to sit here and dances were held in the large room upstairs. It ceased to be the Town Hall in 1981 and since 1984 it has been home to the Willis Museum. The building had a clock tower, the latest one being erected in 1887. It was donated by John May (Mayor and local brewer) to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, and was removed in 1961.

Adam Roud's sculpture was unveiled on the 200th anniversary of the writer's death in 2017. Jane was born in Steventon in 1775 and lived the greater part of her life there. Dances in the Town Hall Assembly Room were attended by many including Jane and her sister, Cassandra. Austen is captured walking in the town she knew well, perhaps while her mother rested after the long journey from Kent.

1

1

Market Place

A market has been held here since at least the 13th century – probably earlier, as one is mentioned in the Domesday Book. In 1214 King John ordered that the market should be held on a Wednesday and it has been so ever since. The ground floor of the former Town Hall (now the Willis Museum) was open to the front with pillars, which are still visible. This provided a covered area, which would have been used by people selling cheese, milk or meat. It was enclosed after 1864.

George Willis' shop

George Willis (1878 to 1970) had a watch repair, clock and jewellery business on this site. He had a keen academic interest in botany and archaeology and his collection formed the basis of the museum bearing his name. He was Honorary Curator of the museum for many years and became the first Freeman of the borough in 1954. Milestones Museum has a replica of Willis' shop, with the original frontage, as shown above.

3 Wote Street

Laarsens pub

Known as ‘The Feathers’ since at least 1800, this was one of the town’s many coaching inns, dating in part from the 16th century. It is of timber-framed jettied construction with restorations. A china punch bowl (shown below), believed to have been used by a Jacobite club that met here, is on display in the Willis Museum.

Lesser Market

Erected in 1864, it has a highly decorated scheme of stucco moulded fruit to link the newly built Corn Exchange with the contemporary enclosing of the open front of the Town Hall. A drinking fountain, set into the facade here, was moved from the alley linking Wote Street with Church Street.

Wote Street

Haymarket Theatre

This was built in 1864 to re-house the town's Corn Market, which was previously held beneath the Town Hall for local farmers to buy and sell crops. In 1951, the building became the Haymarket Theatre, having once housed the town's first cinema. Cast iron pillars by Wallis and Steevens can be seen in the lower ground floor. Wote Street was known as 'Mote Street,' but by the 18th and early 19th centuries was called 'Oat Street'. The stained glass canopy over the main entrance was commissioned from artists Sasha Ward and Alan Dawson and installed in 1993.

(formerly the Corn Exchange), Wote Street

The Church Stone

This sculpture by Michael Pegler commemorates the site of the church of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, (Emmanuel Church), which stood here from 1802 until 1969.

Wote Street

Barclays Bank

A plaque on Barclays Bank, opposite the Willis Museum, notes the site of the Assembly Rooms where Jane Austen (1775 to 1817) may possibly have attended dances when she lived at Steventon.

Market Place, site of the former Angel Inn

Zizzi

One of the town's coaching inns, the Exeter Post coach stopped here at 11 o'clock each night. The return was at 3 o'clock in the morning. It dates from the 15th century and was known as the 'Hole in the Wall'. It had its own well and extensive cellars. For many years the building was known as 'The George' as shown below.

Formerly 'The George' Pub, 1 London Street

Natwest bank

Designed by F. Chancellor in 1864, in the Italian palazzo style, this rather grand design is typical of bank buildings of the period.

3 London Street

13 London Street

The plaque on this building notes the site of the Falcon Inn. Oliver Cromwell stayed here during the final days of the siege of Basing House, which fell on 14 October 1645. Basing House was a royalist stronghold and had been under a long siege. After the surrender, John Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, was stripped of his finery and held prisoner in the Bell Inn cellars (on the site of 6 and 8 London Street) before being sent to the Tower of London. Architect Inigo Jones was also held prisoner here after the siege.

11

Marquis of Winchester

12

United Reformed Church

This building dates from 1800. A plaque notes that John Curwen (who devised the tonic sol-fa method of teaching music - doh, ray, me etc) was minister here from 1838 to 1841. It is said that his efforts to teach children to sing and read music inspired him to develop this method. By this means, many were able to learn to sight read music accurately. A sculpture in front of the church, by Mike Smith, is titled ‘The Family’.

London Street

Mark Lane

Almost opposite the Red Lion, this small lane was the site of a forge and smithy. From 1890 to 1967 the town's police station was here.

Off London Street

26 London Street and 28 to 30 London Street

The first floor of number 26 contains substantial remains of a three-bay timber-framed dwelling of about 1500, but the original jetty is missing. A property opposite of similar date still retains its jetty and has unusual mathematical tiles added to give the impression of brickwork. Number 28 to 30 has significant remains of a building of the 14th century and is the earliest surviving timber framing in the town.

Thomas Burberry

This building, which dates from 1892, was the showroom fronting one of several Burberry workshops in the town.

Burberry established his business in Basingstoke in 1856 in Winchester Street, using a revolutionary technique to make garments. He had previously been apprenticed to a small country draper and noticed that the linen smocks worn by the shepherds and farmers were, as a result of the lanolin absorbed from handling the sheep, windproof and waterproof. They were also cool in summer and warm in winter. He patented his cloth in 1888. The cloth was used to make army uniforms as well as worn by explorers. One tent made of gabardine was left at the South Pole by Amundsen. King Edward VII referred to his 'Burberry', which made the product as well known as it is today.

Deane's Almshouses

A plaque in the centre of these eight almshouses explains that they were endowed in 1608 as the gift of Sir James Deane. A pig market used to take place in front of the houses, which are still managed to this day by a group of Trustees.

29/41 London Street

The Triumphal Gates

This eye-catching modern sculpture by Peter Parkinson and Richard Quinnell has stood at the entrance to the old town since 1992. The 16 decorative panels depicting local stories were cast at the Morris Singer Foundry.

London Street

Pages Old Almshouses

These former almshouses were built in 1930. The original almshouses were erected in 1802 in Hackwood Road by Joseph Page. They provided housing for poor men and women belonging to “the congregation of protestant dissenters of the independent persuasion of Calvinistical principles, meeting at the chapel or meeting-house in London Street.”

Corner of New Road/London Road

Goldings and The War Memorial Park

This house, together with the houses next to it – numbers 3 and 5 London Road - date from about 1600 and were modernised in the 18th century. The two Venetian windows on London Road were added at this time. In about 1800, the main entrance was moved to its present location. A form of imitation brickwork, called ‘mathematical tiles’, was used to save money. By tapping the ‘bricks’ around the former London Road entrance, the mathematical tiles can be identified, as they sound hollow. Goldings contains some classical painted panels in the style of Robert Adam. In 1919 Thomas Burberry bought the house and park and held it for the town as a war memorial. The park contains a concealed ditch or ‘ha-ha’, which allowed the landscape to be enjoyed without the need for fences to keep animals away from the house. The Register Office now uses this house for marriage and civil ceremonies.

London Road

War Memorial and bandstand

A winged Victory tops this fine war memorial by L F Roslyn which was erected in 1923 near the London Road entrance, on a plinth of Portland stone. Go through the park gateway and follow the path round to the right. The bandstand was a gift to the town in 1902 from brewer John May and was previously in Fairfields Recreation Ground. In 1921 it was moved to the park where it stood alongside tennis courts. In 2001 the parkland was restored to recall its 18th century appearance and the bandstand moved to the Festival of Britain Gates entrance in Hackwood Road. Leave the park by these gates, cross the road and continue along Southern Road.

←

The War Memorial and bandstand, London Road

All Saints' Church

This fine building of Bath stone was designed in 1915 by Temple Moore (1856 to 1920), the last great architect of the Victorian Gothic period. He was articled to architect George Gilbert Scott Junior and influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement. The bells were donated by John May - nine instead of the customary eight. A tenth bell was added in 2015 to mark the centenary of the church. The church houses a 'Head of Christ' in bronze, by Dame Elisabeth Frink, which was installed in 1986 as well as stained glass.

Victoria Street

Fairfields School

The Education Act of 1870 called for the provision of free elementary education for all children. This was the town's elementary school from 1888, managed by a board of elected members. George Willis was among its first pupils. John Arlott attended this school from 1919 to 1925.

Council Road

Cricket Ground

Known as ‘The Folly’, the first recorded game by a Basingstoke side was played here in 1817. John May, of the town’s brewing family, bought the ground in 1880 and later built the pavilion. The ground became known as May’s Bounty and is the home of the Basingstoke and North Hants Cricket Club. County matches were played here until 2000. This image shows the ground in the 1960s.

Bounty Road

The Wheatsheaf pub

The Wheatsheaf was a coaching inn. In an adjacent field, the town’s Michaelmas hiring fair was held where men and women sought employment for the coming season. A connection with the Officers’ Mess of the 1st Airlanding Brigade and D-Day is explained in a blue plaque on the building. Winton House opposite is a fine example of a restored late Georgian town house of five bays, with an impressive portico of two pairs of Tuscan columns. Brinkletts farmhouse survives at 15 Winchester Road.

Winton Square

Innovation Court

The life size bronze sculpture entitled ‘Father and Child’ by Diana Thomson was commissioned during the 1981 Year of the Family.

New Street

Joices Yard

This was originally the coaching entrance to the Old Crown Inn. George Whitefield (1714 to 1770), a dissenting Anglican like John and Charles Wesley, is known to have preached here in 1739. The name derives from John Joice, who started a carriage works here in 1880, which later built and repaired car bodies.

Winchester Street

London Street / Winchester Street

Narrow, roofed alleyways were ancient pedestrian ways in and out of the town. Jacobs and Castons Alley are examples, as is that next to number 17 Winchester Street, which is on the route of an ancient path from St Michael's Church to Winslade (about two miles away). An inn called 'The Maidenhead' stood here in the 16th century. In the 19th century it became a bank and the town's crest can be seen in the gable. On or near here stood the house of Mr Kingsmill, where Catherine of Aragon lodged overnight on her way to meet her future husband, Prince Arthur, at Dogmersfield Park in November 1501. She was betrothed to Arthur, who died the following year. In 1509 she married his younger brother to become the first of Henry VIII's six wives.

➔

21 Upper Church Street

This former inn, in existence by the early 18th century, still shows internal evidence of its original timber framing. It was formerly known as ‘The Black Boy’ and later ‘The Hop Leaf’. The Black Boy sign was removed from the pub when the name was changed and can be seen in the Willis Museum.

formerly the ‘Hop Leaf’ Pub

28

29

Carved panels in the pavement

This work of Richard Kindersley dates from 1992 and refers to Basingstoke’s twin towns in Europe. One of the panels contains an analammetic dial. In this type of interactive dial the person reading the time acts as the gnomon. The person stands at a particular place to read the time dependent on the month of the year.

Cross Street

Blue Coat Boy statue

The representation of a Blue Coat scholar was put here by the Basingstoke Heritage Society in 1994. It is on the site of the Blue Coat School, founded by Richard Aldworth in 1646. He left money to the town, his mother's birthplace, which is still used today to benefit those in need.

Cross Street

Church Street Methodist Chapel

A plaque in the floor on the pavement near the entrance to Festival Place marks the site of this church. It was damaged by bombs in the Second World War, rebuilt, and finally demolished in the 1960s' town development, as shown above.

St Michael's Church

According to the Domesday survey of 1086, the church was held by Walter, Bishop of Hereford, before the Norman Conquest. Afterwards it was given to the Abbey of Mont St-Michel in Normandy. The chancel is the oldest part of the building and was largely rebuilt in 1464. The late perpendicular style nave and aisles were completed around 1520, and the porch added in 1539. A recess above this door contains the remains of a sculptured group of the Annunciation, damaged either at the Reformation or during the Civil War. During the siege of Basing House, horses were stabled in the church. The Memorial Chapel, to the north of the chancel, was added after the First World War. Damage caused by bombs dropped on 16 August 1940, can be seen on the eastern exterior wall. Sir James Lancaster, a founder of the East India Company, left money in his will of 1618 to provide for the maintenance and cost of a master of the Petty School, which was adjacent to the church. A Petty School provided a very basic education, probably just enough for people to learn to read their Bible, and possibly write their name.

Lower Church Street

Church Cottage

Opposite the west door of St Michael's Church is the town's most important surviving timber-framed house. The aisled hall, known as the 'barn', shows evidence of former agricultural or industrial use, possibly dyeing or brewing. Excavations have shown that water was diverted from the River Loddon to pass underneath. From 1865 the building housed the infant children of the National School, a charity school run by the Church of England before schooling became compulsory after the 1870 Education Act. On the wall outside can be seen the marks made by the slate pencils of children as they sharpened them against the brickwork. (Shown here)

8 Lower Church Street

Going north down Church Street this house dates from the reign of James I (1603 to 1625). The north gable end shows rare decorated brickwork. This was the home of John Ring, Cabinet Maker and Auctioneer. In 1794 the Reverend George Austen bought from John Ring 'a small mahogany writing desk with a long drawer and glass ink stand compleat' as a gift for his daughter, Jane.

← Church Square

Chute House

The gatepost of Chute House (the former Rectory) has a plaque to poet Thomas Warton, (1728 to 1790). He grew up here, and became Poet Laureate in 1785. His father, the Reverend Thomas Warton, was Rector of Basingstoke from 1723 to 1745 and had been an Oxford Professor of poetry – a chair to which both father and son were appointed. The River Loddon runs through the rectory gardens, under Church Street, and emerges to the east in Eastrop Park. In 1777 Warton wrote a poem to the River Loddon, describing it as his 'sweet native stream'. Chute House is named after the Venerable Anthony W Chute, Vicar from 1936 to 1958, whose brother Charles Chute lived at The Vyne, Sherborne St John.

Lower Church Street

→

Entry to Festival Place

Across the road, near the steps leading up to Festival Place, is a plaque to Walter de Merton, a native of Basingstoke. Walter founded the hospital of St Mary and St John near this site, between 1240 and 1250, ‘for the support of the ministers of the altar of God, whose strength is failing, and the wayfaring poor of Christ’. Until the 1960s the site housed St John’s Church of England School. Walter de Merton became Bishop of Rochester and was virtual regent for King Henry III when the King was out of England. He was educated at Merton Priory and founded Merton College, Oxford (1262 to 1274). He is buried in Rochester Cathedral and his tomb is shown here.

Lower Church Street ↓

The Anvil

Basingstoke's international concert hall designed by architects Renton Howard Wood Levin LLP was completed in 1994. At the entrance to the shopping area is a sculpted figure of a ballet dancer (1996) by Tom Merrifield, known as 'Poppy'. Ahead are the railway bridges. Head for the right hand arch, go under the bridge and up the steps to the right as you come out from the bridge. A step-free entrance to the cemetery is a little further up Vyne Road.

Churchill Way, Alençon Link

Holy Ghost Chapel Ruins

The ruined remains of two chapels are to be found in the cemetery off Chapel Hill. During an Interdict imposed by the Pope on King John in 1208, no church services could be held, so burials had to take place here. The first chapel was built during the 13th century. In 1524, Lord Sandys of The Vyne added a beautiful side chapel, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, as a burial place for his family. A Guild of the Holy Ghost had been established under a charter from Henry VIII, which was suppressed by his son, Edward VI, and the properties sold. A school continued in the buildings, confirmed in 1556 by a charter from Philip and Mary - the foundation of Queen Mary's Grammar School. In 1855 the school moved to the north side of Worting Road, where BCOT stands, and then in 1940 to Vyne Road, into buildings now occupied by The Vyne School. The name and foundation lives on in Queen Mary's College in Cliddesden Road.

South View Cemetery, Chapel Hill

38

39

South View Cemetery

A plaque on the northern entrance to South View Cemetery describes the burial alive in 1674 of Mrs Blunden, wife of a local maltster. She was reputed to have taken poppy-water (opium) and, “being insensible”, was taken for dead and buried. Schoolboys heard noises from her grave and she was exhumed, but it was too late! The town was fined £200 by Parliament for this negligence - a very large sum of money for the time. Another plaque records that Gilbert White (1720 to 1793), author of the ‘Natural History of Selborne’ (1789), played here during his schooldays. He wrote how the schoolboys plotted to blow up the ruins, setting an explosive charge, which brought down some masonry. He may have attended the grammar school here or, more probably, have taken his lessons at the Rectory with Thomas Warton and his brother Joseph. First World War Victoria Cross holder, Aidan Liddell is buried here.

←

Cemetery Lodge

Cemetery Lodge, built in Victorian Gothic style at the Chapel Hill entrance, was the birthplace of John Arlott, (1914 to 1991), cricket commentator, poet and broadcaster. His father was the cemetery keeper here. Re-trace your steps across the graveyard and go under the railway bridge or through the subway to the station entrance.

Chapel Hill

‘Sailing by Stars’

Just below the station you can see this sculpture of figures in a boat. Sculpted by Sarah Tombs, this was installed in 1990.

Station Approach

Railway Station

Opened in 1839, the line ran from London and from 1840 on to Southampton. There was a junction with a line from Reading in the broad-gauge of Brunel's Great Western Railway of 1848. A plaque in the information point on platforms two to three notes the centenary anniversary of the Basingstoke to Alton Light Railway (the first authorised under the Light Railways Act of 1896). This was unique in that the lines were re-laid after the First World War, having been removed to France. Two films were made on the line – 'The Wrecker,' near Lasham in 1929, and 'Oh Mr Porter', starring Will Hay, at Cliddesden Station in 1937. Branch lines ran into Park Prewett hospital, used as a military hospital in the First World War and to Thornycroft's factory in Worting Road.

Station Approach →

‘L’arc’ sculpture

To the left, near the landmark Crown Heights building, is ‘L’arc’, by David Annand. This work of 1999 seems to evoke the town’s industrial past, much of which was located nearby. Pass through Crown Heights Plaza, cross the pedestrian bridge over Churchill Way and descend into the bus station. Keep straight ahead for Festival Square. The entrance to the shopping area is on your right.

Alençon Link

Festival Place and Eastrop Link

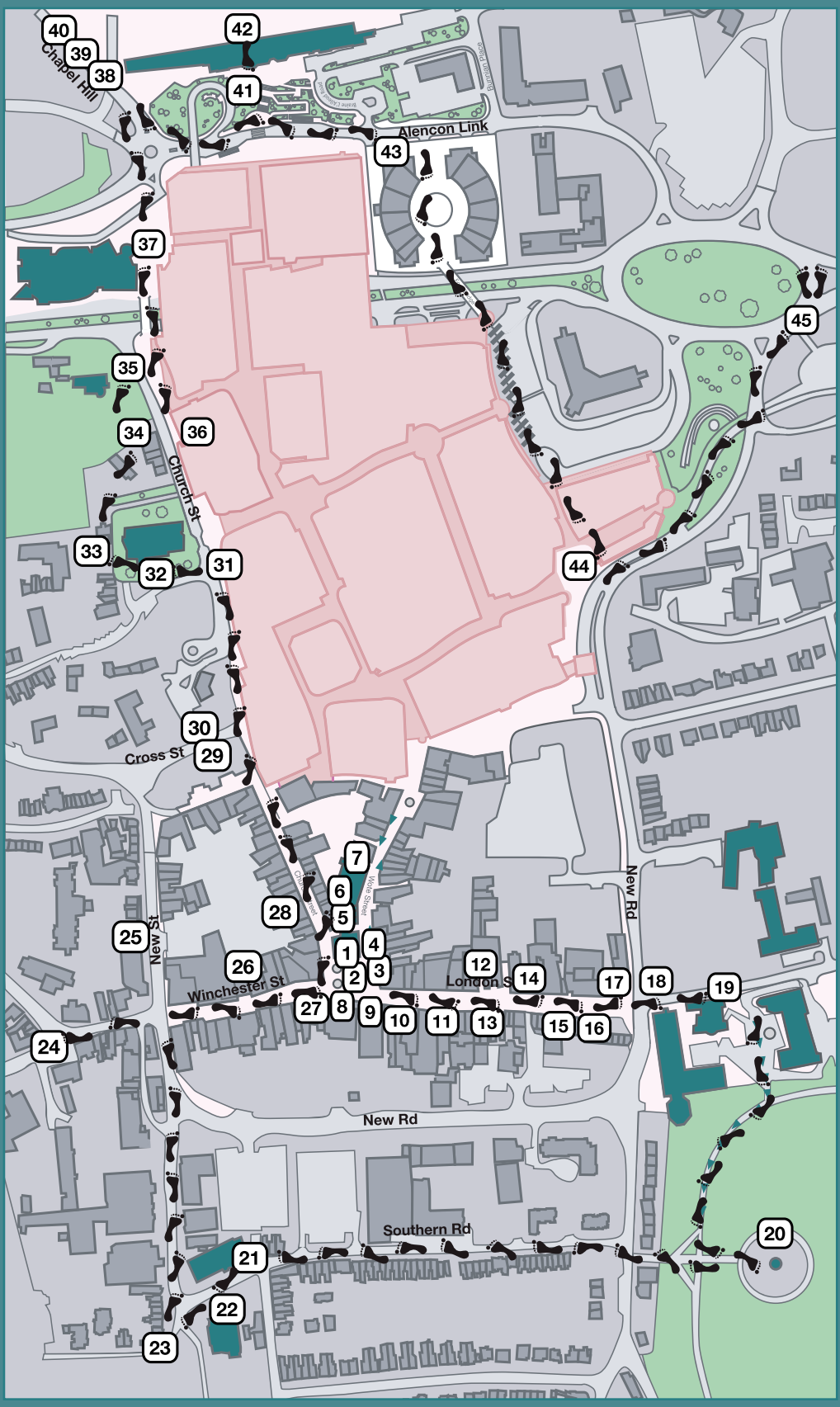
Opened in 2002, Festival Place covers land once occupied by the wharf of the Basingstoke Canal. Art work includes representations in ceramic tiles of the Loddon Lily, light effects in neon and other designed works by various artists. Head towards the cinema, past the amphitheatre, and under the road to Eastrop Link, where the fountains are. The Basingstoke Canal passed close by here and this is commemorated with a plaque. There are also representations of tokens that were paid to navvies when coin was in short supply during the Napoleonic Wars. The park is ahead where the River Loddon re-emerges.

Eastrop Park

This park was provided for the town during the 1960s re-development. The River Loddon runs through it and the route of the Basingstoke Canal can be seen as the canal hedgerow survives. There is a footpath tracing the approximate line of the canal to Old Basing.

Eastrop Park

Town trail map



1) Willis Museum and Jane Austen sculpture
2) Market Place
3) George Willis' Shop
4) Laarsens Pub
5) Lesser Market
6) Haymarket Theatre
7) The Church Stone
8) Barclays Bank
9) Zizzi
10) Natwest bank
11) 13 London Street
12) United Reformed Church
13) Mark Lane
14) 26 and 28 to 30 London Street
15) Thomas Burberry
16) Deane's Almshouses
17) The Triumphal Gates
18) Pages Old Almshouses
19) Goldings and the War Memorial Park
20) War Memorial and bandstand
21) All Saints' Church
22) Fairfields School
23) May's Bounty Cricket Ground
24) The Wheatsheaf Pub
25) Innovation Court
26) Joices Yard
27) London Street / Winchester Street
28) 21 Upper Church Street
29) Carved panels
30) Blue Coat Boy Statue
31) Church Street Methodist Chapel
32) St Michael's Church
33) Church Cottage
34) 8 Lower Church Street
35) Chute House
36) Entry to Festival Place
37) The Anvil
38) Holy Ghost Chapel Ruins
39) South View Cemetery
40) Cemetery Lodge
41) Sailing by Stars
42) Railway Station
43) L'arc sculpture
44) Festival Place and Eastrop Link
45) Eastrop Park

Timeline

Edward the Confessor (1043 to 66)

THE NORMANS

1066 William I (The Conqueror)
1087 William II
1100 Henry I
1135 Stephen
1141 Matilda

St Michael's held by Walter, Bishop of Hereford
1086 Basingstoke recorded in Domesday Book.
St Michael's given to Mont St-Michel

THE PLANTAGANETS

1154 Henry II
1189 Richard I (Lionheart)
1199 John
1272 Edward I
1307 Edward II
1327 Edward III
1377 Richard II

1208 Interdict imposed on King John by the Pope
1214 Market day fixed as Wednesday
13th Century - Chapel of Holy Ghost built
1215 Magna Carta
1216 Henry III

1240-50 Walter de Merton founds hospital of St Mary and St John

HOUSE OF LANCASTER

1399 Henry IV
1413 Henry V
1422 Henry VI

HOUSE OF YORK

1461 Edward IV
1483 Edward V
1483 Richard III

1464 St Michael's Church chancel rebuilt

TUDORS

1485 Henry VII
1509 Henry VIII
1547 Edward VI
1553 Mary I (with Philip)
1558 Elizabeth I

1501 Catherine of Aragon spends night in the town on her way to meet Arthur, Prince of Wales
1520 St Michael's rebuilt
1524 Sandys Chapel of the Holy Trinity built at South View
1539 St Michael's porch added
1556 Charter for Queen Mary's School

STUARTS

1603 James I (James VI of Scotland)
1625 Charles I

COMMONWEALTH

1660 Charles II Restoration
1685 James II (VII of Scotland)

The Glorious Revolution

1689 William III and Mary
1702 Anne

1603 Lower Church Street – gable end at number 8
1608 Deane's Almshouses
1618 Sir James Lancaster's will endows a schoolmaster
1645 Civil War. Fall of Basing House, Cromwell at the Falcon Inn, London Street
1646 Richard Aldworth's will leaves money to found Blue Coat School
1657 New Mote Hall built
1674 Mrs Blunden buried alive

HOUSE OF HANOVER

1714	George I
1727	George II
1760	George III
1820	George IV
1830	William IV
1837	Victoria
1901	Edward VII

1723 to 1745 Thomas Warton senior, Vicar of Basingstoke
1739 George Whitefield preaches in the town
mid 18th century – Turnpike Acts – growth of coaching trade
1775 Jane Austen born at Steventon
1777 Thomas Warton, Poet Laureate, writes poem 'To the River Lodon'
1778 Basingstoke Canal Act
1789 Gilbert White (1720-93) publishes 'Natural History of Selborne'
1794 Basingstoke Canal opens
1800 'Venetian' windows added to Goldings
1800 Congregational Church built
1802 Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion Church built
1802 Pages Almshouses founded
1817 Cricket played at The Folly
1832 Town Hall (Willis Museum) built
1838/41 John Curwen at Congregational Church
1839 London – Basingstoke railway line opens
1840 Railway line extended to Southampton
1848 GWR line from Reading
1855 Queen Mary's Grammar School moves to Worting Road
1864 Corn Exchange and Lesser Market built
1864 National Westminster Bank built
1865 National School (Infants) in Church Cottage
1880 Joice's Carriage Builders
1887 Clocktower on Town Hall erected
1888 Burberry's material patented
1888 Fairfields School
1892 Burberry's shop opened
1902 Bandstand presented by John May

HOUSE OF WINDSOR

1910	George V
1936	Edward VIII (Abdication)
1936	George VI
1952	Elizabeth II

1910 Last barge to Basingstoke
1914 Birth of John Arlott, Cemetery Lodge
1915 All Saints' Church
1919 The War Memorial Park acquired for town
1926 Fieldways, Russell Road, by William Henry Mussellwhite
1929 Film 'The Wrecker' made near Lasham
1930 Pages Almshouses re-built
1937 'Oh, Mr Porter' made at Cliddesden Station
1940 Queen Mary's School moves to Vyne Road
1940 Bomb in Church Square damages church and houses
1951 Haymarket Theatre
1954 George Willis made Freeman of the Borough
1991 John Arlott dies
1992 Triumphal Gates sculpture
1994 Anvil completed
2002 Festival Place opens

www.basingstoke.gov.uk | 01256 844844
customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk
@BasingstokeGov

If you need this information in a different format, for example large print, CD or braille, please contact the council.

©Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council 2022

recycle

41507_1221