

## CHAS SCANS

Between 1977 and 2002 Canterbury Urban Studies Centre and Canterbury Environment Centre published around 30 guides and city trails describing various aspects of Canterbury's past. Both organisations were based in St Alphege church.

Between them they produced 14 titles in the 'Trails' series, and a further 16 titles outside the main series. All are now out of print and many are difficult (a few impossible) to find through normal second hand sources. Many contain information that is not readily available in other printed or on line sources.

CHAS (Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society) is scanning a selection of these publications for uploading to the CHAS website as PDFs. In this way a new generation of readers and researchers can have access to this unique resource.

A full list of these publications appears on the CHAS website:

<http://www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk>

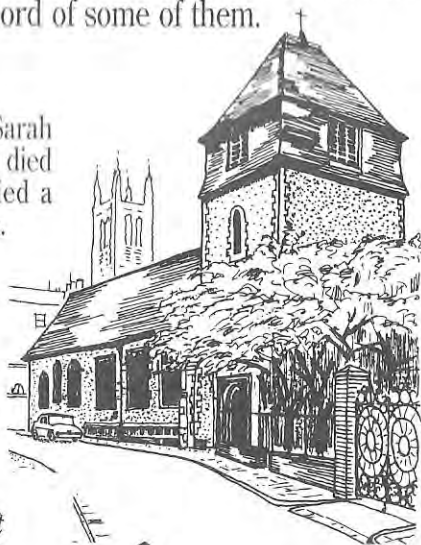


Canterbury, immortalised in legend and literature, is one of the great cities of Europe. Half-timbered and red roofed, its narrow streets twist towards the great majesty of the Cathedral. An ancient city, more than 2000 years old, it has always held the centre stage of English history. Canterbury Cathedral, perhaps the most beautiful and historic building in England, contains a thousand year record of English culture and achievement. Since Augustine, Canterbury has been the fountainhead of English Christianity and the murder of Thomas Becket made it one of Europe's main pilgrimage centres. From the 16th century, sons and daughters of Canterbury set out to be founding figures of America, and this trail is a record of some of them.

### 1. St Alphege Church

Here in 1606, Robert Cushman married Sarah Reder, the mother of Thomas Cushman. Sarah died soon after his birth, and Robert then married a Canterbury widow, Mrs Shingleton, in Leydon.

The church became redundant in 1983. It was restored and converted by the Canterbury Urban Studies Centre and is now known as The Canterbury Centre. It still plays an important role in the life of the community and is of particular use to children and visitors.



*Leave the Canterbury Centre, turning left, and left again at the little cross roads, and left again at the next cross roads into Orange Street. Look at the large building on the right opposite Woman's World.*

### 2. Georgian Theatre

In 1789, Mrs Baker's Theatre was built on the site of the Lovelace family home. Richard Lovelace was the famous Cavalier poet. Two other members of his family rose to high office in America, both as Royal Governors of New York. Francis Lovelace was the second Governor from 1663-74, and John Lovelace was the tenth, 1708-9. The Lovelaces moved to the Greyfriars in the late 17th century and the present theatre facade was built, "in the new Egyptian style" in 1815.



*Opposite the end of Orange Street is No 59 Palace Street.*

### 3. 59 Palace Street

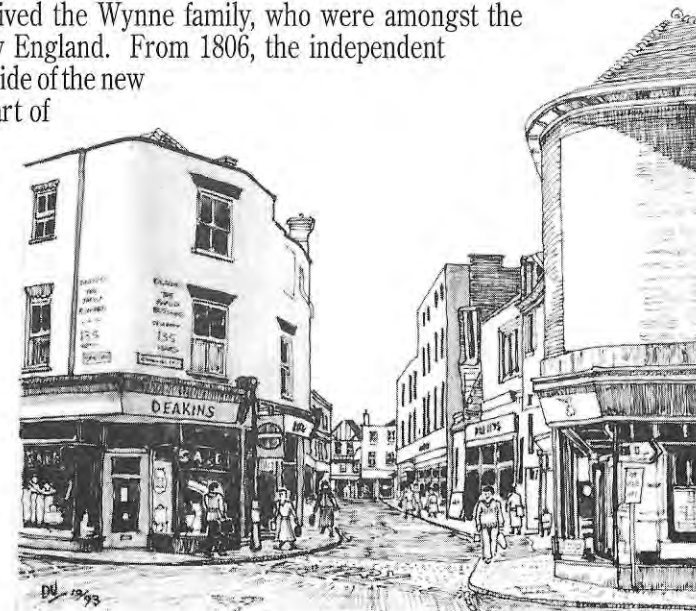
The building now hidden behind an 18th century facade is traditionally the Inn where Robert Cushman transacted the hire of the famous ship of the Pilgrim Fathers, the *Mayflower*.



*Turn and look down GuildHall Street.*

### 4. Guildhall Street

Also in this area lived the Wynne family, who were amongst the earliest settlers in New England. From 1806, the independent chapel was on the west side of the new street, and the upper part of its late 19th century facade still exists as part of Debenhams.



Cross the road and walk up  
Sun Street



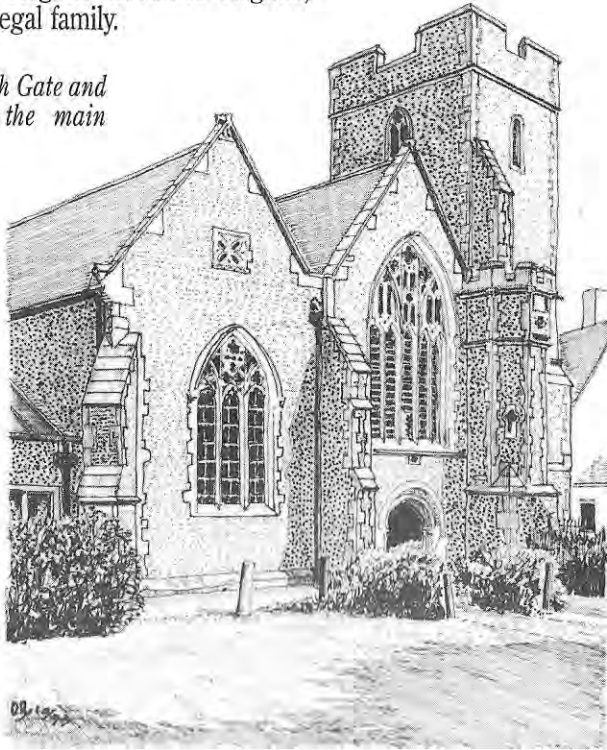
## 5. The Butter Market

Here Alderman Clagett had a hat shop in the 16th century. Early in the 17th century the Clagetts moved to Virginia, where they are still a thriving legal family.

Turn your back on the Christchurch Gate and walk down Mercery Lane. Cross the main street into St Margaret's Street.

## 6. St Margaret's Church

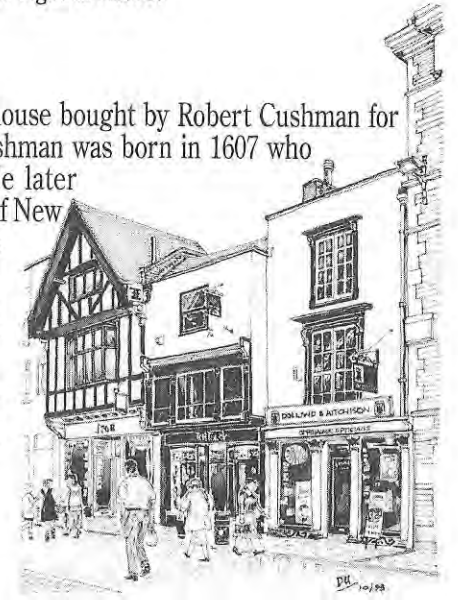
This was the scene of the trial of Robert Cushman by the Church Court in 1605. This led to his excommunication and imprisonment for failing to attend Anglican church services. The public proclamation of his excommunication was held at the end of Mercery Lane in front of Boots the Chemists.



Go back to the main street and turn right. On your right is No.13.

## 7. No.13 The Parade

The present facade of No.13 conceals the house bought by Robert Cushman for his own grocery business. Here Thomas Cushman was born in 1607 who sailed on the *Fortune* with his parents. He later became the Ruling Elder of the Congregation of New Plymouth, Mass. where he was "very solicitous for the peace and prosperity of his church." He is buried on Plymouth Hill. He married Mary Allerton who sailed on the *Mayflower* and was the first to disembark on Cape Cod. She was the last survivor of that voyage, dying in 1699. Her family were ancestors of General Robert E. Lee.

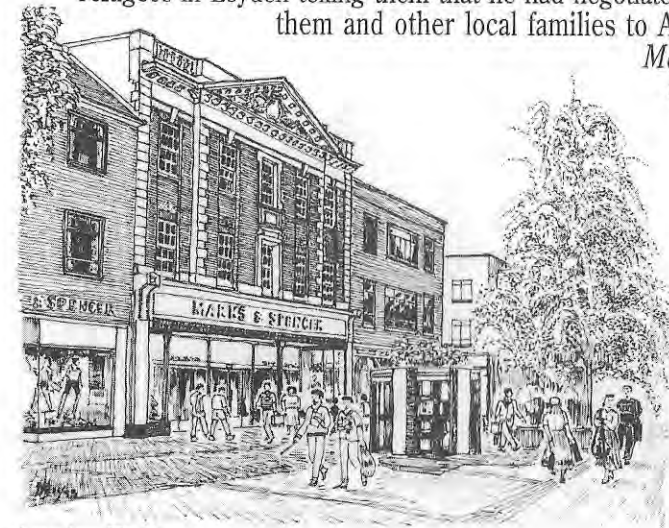


Walk on and on your right is Marks and Spencer.

## 8. Marks and Spencer

On this site in the late 16th century Robert Cushman worked in the grocer's shop of George Masters, next door to Christopher Marlowe's home. In 1605, Cushman, a leading Puritan, was tried by the Church Courts for failing to attend the services of the official Anglican Church. This led to his excommunication and a short term in prison. Later he left for Holland where he joined many other non-conformist refugees from Canterbury, returning to his native city in 1617, to his own shop in the Parade. In 1620, he wrote to the refugees in Leyden telling them that he had negotiated the hire of a ship to take them and other local families to America. The ship was the

*Mayflower*. Cushman, the organiser of the Pilgrim Fathers, sailed in the second ship, the *Speedwell*, which despite its name was forced to return to Plymouth. Cushman eventually arrived in America with his family on board the *Fortune* in 1621, but he returned to England alone in 1625, where he died.



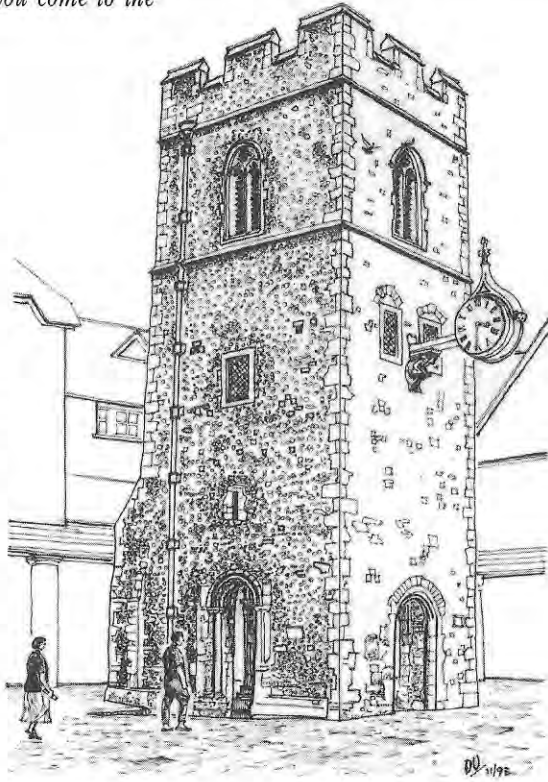


Continue along St George's Street until you come to the tower on your left.

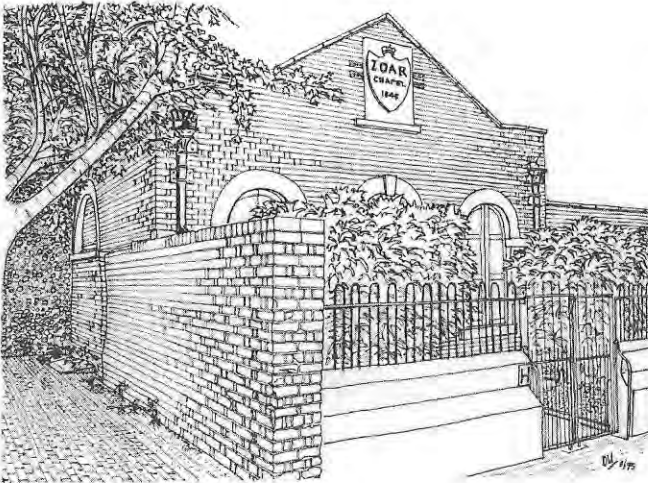
## 9. St George's Tower

Here lies buried Mrs Bird Gookin, mother of Daniel Gookin I, grandmother of Major General Daniel Gookin, and ancestor to many famous Gookins in America.

Christopher Marlowe, the Elizabethan poet and dramatist, was baptised in this church in 1564. Marlowe's father was a local shoemaker and the family lived close by. Marlowe is most famous for his plays which include *Dr Faustus*, *Tambulaine* and *The Jew of Malta*. Accused variously of spying, atheism and homosexuality, he was murdered in Deptford (near London) at the age of 29. Read City Trail No 8. "Christopher Marlowe's Canterbury" to learn more about the buildings and life of the late 16th century city he grew up in.



Walk to the end of the street and turn left by the city wall.



## 10. C&A and the Zoar Chapel

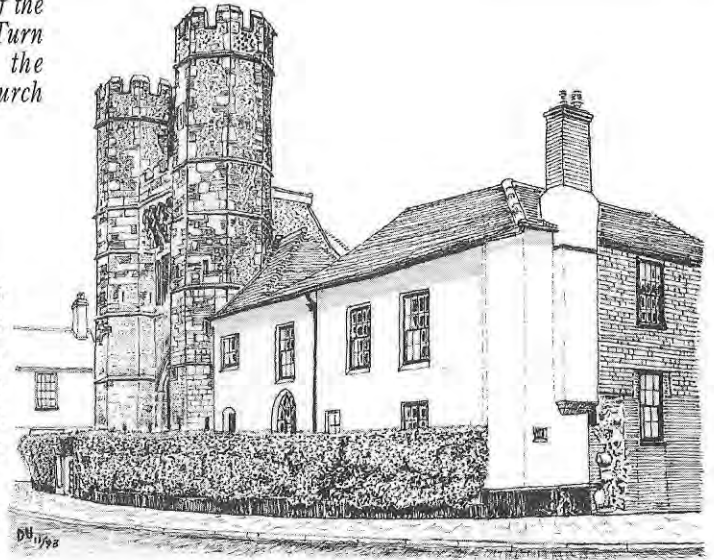
On the site of C&A stores until 1951 stood a great stone house built by Stephen Thornhurst about 1590. He was an ancestor of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, wife of John Churchill, the ancestors of Winston Churchill. The Thornhursts are commemorated in the Cathedral with three lavish monuments of the early 17th century in St Michael's Chapel.

Canterbury

Walk along the inside of the city wall to Burgate. Turn right and cross at the crossing. Walk up Church Street St Paul's.

## 11. Longport, Cemetery Gate

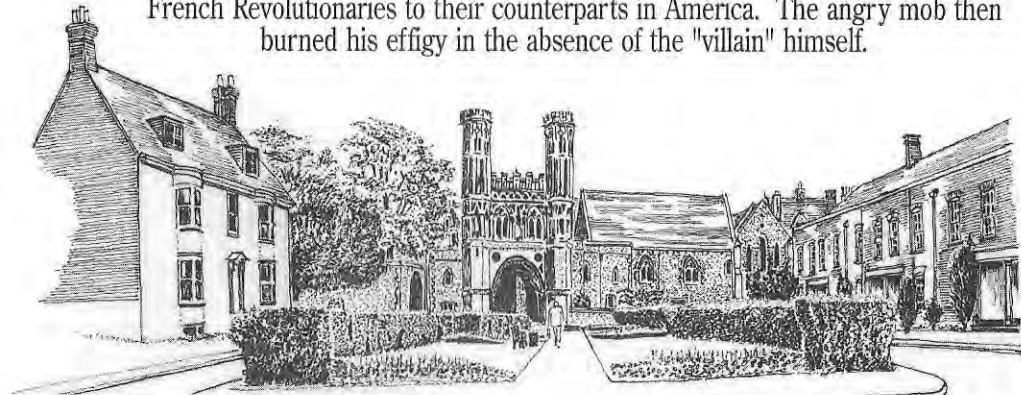
Here lived James Chilton a tailor, and his daughter Mary who were one of the Canterbury families who sailed on the *Mayflower* in 1620. Mary Chilton was buried in Boston, where a plaque commemorates her Canterbury origins. James was one of the signatories of the *Mayflower Compact*.



Turn left along Monastery Street and then left onto the Green.

## 12. Lady Wootton's Green

The original independent chapel was built here in 1696. The first minister was Comfort Starr, born and educated in America, and one of the first graduates of Harvard. His grandson born in 1789, died in Canterbury in 1810 and is buried in the east walk of the Cathedral Cloister. Tom Paine, the man whose writings inspired the American Revolution, was publicly condemned here in 1789, after he had carried the key from the Bastille as a gift from the French Revolutionaries to their counterparts in America. The angry mob then burned his effigy in the absence of the "villain" himself.



America Trail

Walk towards the city wall again. Cross by the crossing and enter the Precincts by the small gate in the City Wall up the steps. Go through the War Memorial Gardens and then across to the right.

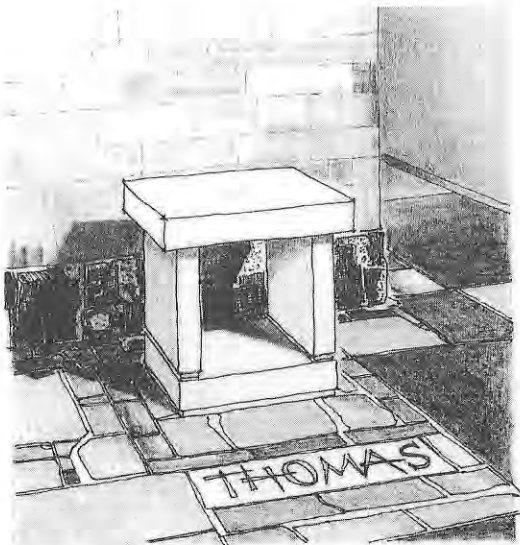
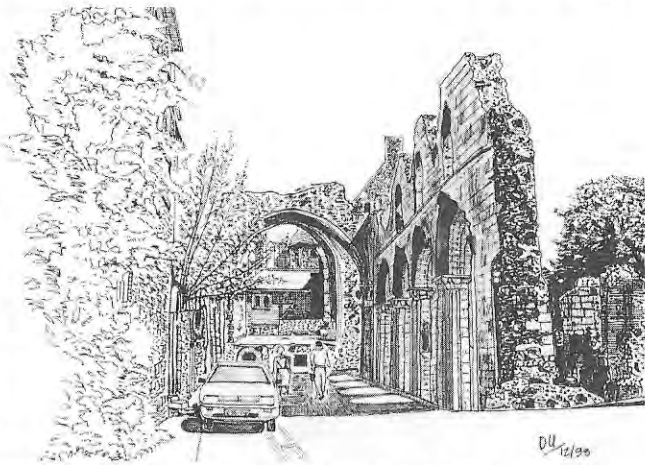
### 13. The Infirmary Chapel

In one of the houses that once stood inside the arches of the Infirmary lived Canon and Mrs Gookin. Their son Daniel I took cattle to Virginia in 1620, and their grandson Daniel II wrote the first History of New England in 1674. He became Major General of the Mass. Bay Colony in 1687, and is buried opposite Harvard University, where his grave is still to be seen. His sons included the Rev. Daniel Gookin, one of the earliest graduates of Harvard in 1673, who devoted his life to evangelising and educating the Native Americans. His grave still exists at Sherburne, and that of Colonel Charles Gookin, who was sent from Canterbury by William Penn to be Governor of Pennsylvania in 1708. Another Daniel Gookin son of the Rev. Daniel, wrote the famous Revolutionary Journal during the American War of Independence 1769-1776

Go round the east end of the Cathedral and enter the building by the main South door.

### 14. The Martyrdom

Near the spot where St Thomas fell is a monument to Thomas Piercy, Esquire a naval Captain who together with Sir Richard Pearson; "valiantly engaged a superior French force under command of Paul Jones," on the 23rd of September, 1769, when the French were assisting the American Revolution. The British merchant convoy was saved by Piercy's action, but both men were taken captive by Paul Jones. However, being Officers and Gentleman they were soon released and Piercy returned to England where he died in Canterbury in 1793. Adjoining his monument is one to his wife, Susannah; "United every other virtue that can adorn a Christian", and who died in 1804.



Canterbury

### 15. The Crypt, South aisle

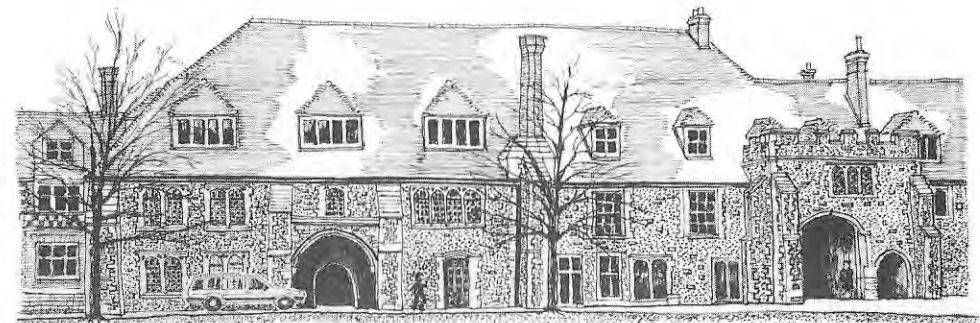
Near the entrance to St Gabriel's Chapel is a monument to Major Simon Willard, 1604-1676, who was; "an early pioneer in the settlement of the British Colony of New England" from 1634. He was made Commander in Chief of the British forces against "the hostile Indian tribes", as well as being "distinguished in the military legislature and judicial services of the American Commonwealth", until his death at the age of 72. He was one of the founders of both Concord and Lexington, and his descendants were involved in the famous Lexington incident, the shot heard across the Nation, the spark that set the American War of Independence alight. His descendants to the present day have held eminent positions in the U.S.



If possible leave the Cathedral from the North side of the Crypt. Then walk through to the King's School.

### 16. The King's School

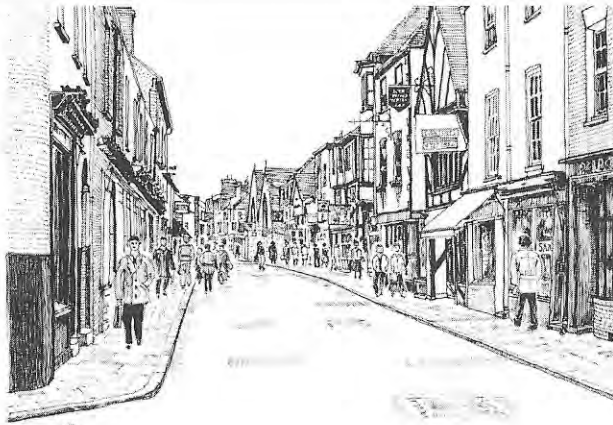
Apart from being the oldest school in England, King's is noted for its many famous pupils. When Christopher Marlowe was at school in the 1570's, one of his contemporaries was Henry Jacobs who was to be the Father of English Congregationalism. Later in life he settled in America where he founded the township of Jacobopolis in Virginia. Both Daniel Gookin I & II were educated here. (see 13. Infirmary Chapel).



America Trail



Turn left and walk round the Green Quad. The famous Norman Staircase is on your right before you walk under the first arch. Leave the Precincts and go out onto The Borough and turn left



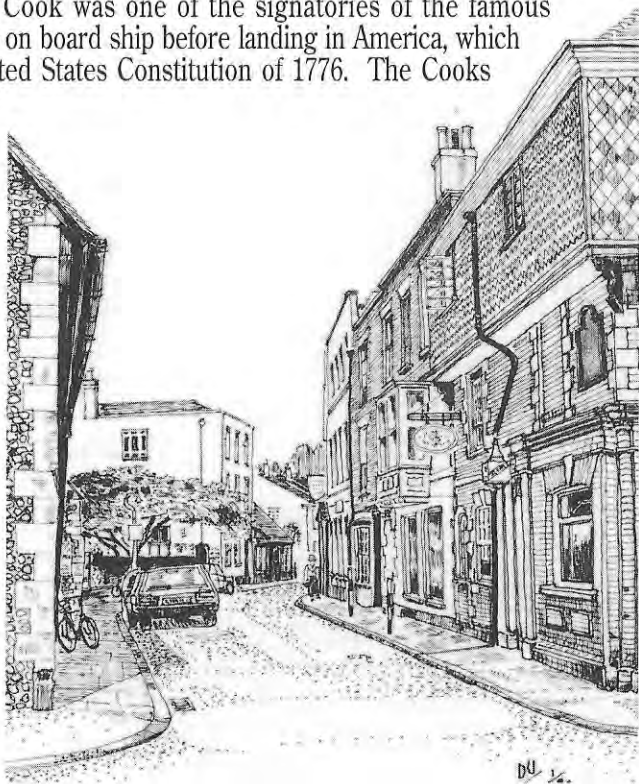
## 17. Palace Street

In Palace Street was the home of Phillipe De La Noye, who sailed with Robert Cushman to New England on the *Fortune* in 1621. He is named on the first tax roll of New Plymouth in 1632, and later changed his name to Delano. His most famous descendant was Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States. The Delanos married into another Canterbury family in New England, the Cooks, who also lived in this area. Francis Cook married Hester Mayhieu in Canterbury, and they too sailed on the *Mayflower* in 1620. Francis Cook was one of the signatories of the famous Mayflower Compact drawn up on board ship before landing in America, which formed the basis for the United States Constitution of 1776. The Cooks were also ancestors of Winston Churchill.

Walk along Palace Street and turn right to return to the Canterbury Centre.

## 18. St Alphege Lane

In this lane lived Dorothea Scott, who was married to Daniel Gotherson, once in Cromwell's army. About 1680 she founded the Oyster Bay Colony on Long Island, where her descendants still live. She was a leading Quaker in Canterbury, who like many others fled to America to find religious freedom. She was also a founder of the Singing Quaker movement in America.



## The Westgate

Rebuilt in 1380, the gate has had a turbulent history. Here languished St John Stone, martyred in 1535, and from the east window, the Royalist mob hanged the Cromwellian Governor in 1649. Some 40 years earlier, Robert Cushman was imprisoned here, an event that prompted him to leave Canterbury for Holland, which began his association with other nonconformists that culminated in the *Mayflower*.



The CANTERBURY URBAN STUDIES CENTRE is a registered educational charity run by an enthusiastic group of local people. Its aims are to encourage people to find out more about the forces which shape the city and help local people take an active part in its present and future development. In 1984 The Canterbury Centre opened in the newly converted 12th century church of St Alphege. This Centre has exhibitions all year on various aspects of Canterbury life, past, present and future. The building also houses a large resource collection of printed and illustrative material for schools and the general public. There is a small café for snacks and light lunches and it is the perfect place to find out more about this city in beautiful and friendly surroundings.

The Centre is open Wed - Sat 10.30am - 5.00pm and entrance is only 20p

This booklet is produced by the  
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# MAP AND ROUTE

