

This circular walk starts and ends at The Crown pub in Market Street, Old Harlow. CM17 0AQ. It can take up to half an hour.

● = location of a blue plaque C. = Century c. = circa (approximately)

A.The Crown Public House C15th Century Hall House. Features rare wall paintings in snug, dating to around 1700 and avoiding wallpaper tax of 1712 - 1836.

Turn right out of The Crown to

B.Dial House, 48 Market St C18th house. Sun dial from 1759 but house may be older. Once occupied by Thurgood family who ran a bakery next door and milled at Latton Mill in 1898.

C.Nunns, 60 Market St Behind an C18th facade are two late C17th timber framed cottages.

Continue in the same direction to

D.Oddfellows Terrace, 16 - 26 Market St 6 brick cottages built by Manchester Unity Society of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in 1910. This friendly society made payments to members when sickness, injury or unemployment hit.

Cross the same road which has now become Park Hill to ...

E.Hemsford, 9 Park Hill Built in 1867 as a pair of semi-detached houses for the manager of Chaplin's Brewery. In early 1930s building was occupied by a doctor who combined houses into one dwelling and built a timber building in the garden to act as a surgery.

Cross the same road which has now become Park Hill to ...



Lillian Fish outside H.F. Fish Greengrocer, 42 Market Street. Courtesy Harlow Museum

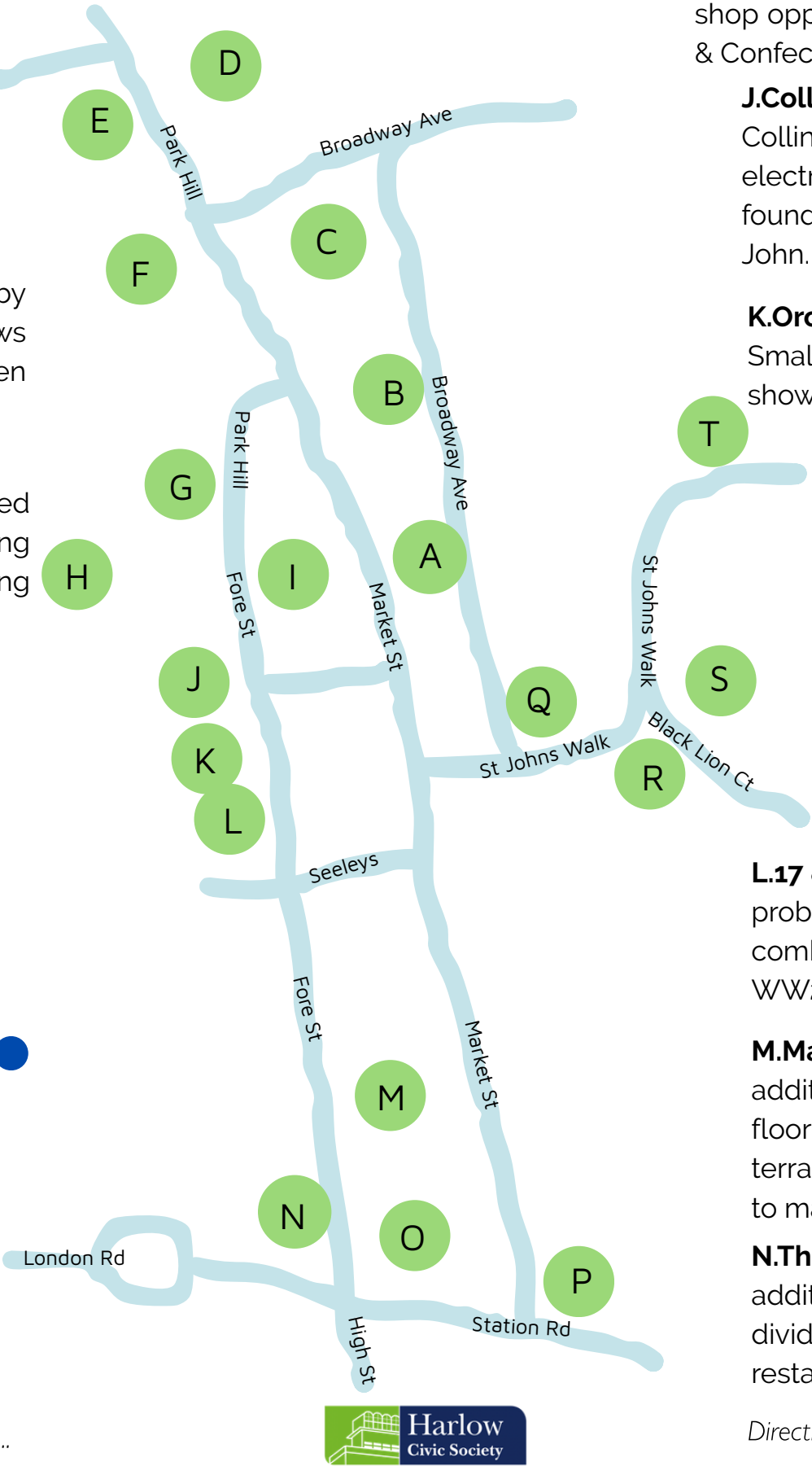
F.West House, 7 Park Hill Early C19th house, though sash windows are in Georgian style. c. 1875 - 1900. Dr Richard Grubb Medical Officer of Health, Surgeon & Vaccinator lived here. Note blue plaque to Sam Deards - inventor and local philanthropist.

G.1 & 3 Park Hill Early C17th or earlier, extended in C18th to C19th which is now 3 Park Hill. Refronted in C19th. Formerly the manse. Developer Basil Scruby lived in No. 1 and had his short-lived doll factory here. He also aspired to build Harlow Garden Village Estate which was never completed but the start of his scheme can be seen in St. John's Ave & Manor Rd

Continue straight ahead, slightly veering to right, which has now become Fore St, to ...

Old Harlow

Heritage Trail 1: Market St & Fore St



H.Old Harlow Baptist Church The original church which was erected in 1764 was pulled down and the present church was built in Romanesque style in 1865. Rear of church bordered Mark Hall Park.

I.Middle Row Cottages These C18th shops were converted into cottages in 1970s when Harlow Development Corporation restructured Market St. Front doors of today's cottages would have been rear of shops. End of C19th, miller Robert Alpin ran a bakery in shop opp. church. By 1910 bakery was taken over by Seeley's Bakery & Confectionery with Boulevard Chemists adjacent.

J.Collins Bicycle Shop, 23 & 25 Fore St Accommodated both Collins' shop and home in 1835. First house in Harlow to run electricity, from a gasoline-powered generator. Family business founded 1896 by 3 generations of Collins' - Reginald, William, John. Closed in 1979

K.Orchard Cottage C15th timber framed & plastered cottage. Small original window to left of door. Note level of door sill which shows how the level of Fore St has risen over the years.



Junction Fore St & Market St,1931. Courtesy Harlow Museum

L.17 & 19 Fore St c. 1840 house & shop. Large shop front window probably original. Originally two cottages it has at times been combined into one residence. It was a saddlery until just before WW2. To the left you will see ...

M.Marquis of Granby Pub Grade II listed c1519 with later additions. 1st floor was originally jettied (stuck out over ground floor). Had present name by 1769. Formerly neighboured by terraces of small cottages which were demolished 1950s- 1960s to make way for carpark.

N.The Gables Grade II listed. c. 1500 Medieval Hall House with additions. Building 'Georganised' C18th - roof raised, interior divided. 1905 occupied by Herts & Essex Water Works. Became restaurant 1933.

Directions continue overleaf

O.The George Grade II listed. First mentioned as pub in 1598. In 1602, publican Richard Staines, was charged with buying, selling and keeping beer on the Sabbath. In Georgian period it was a coaching inn. 'The Great George'. 'George Yard' for stabling horses was in Station Rd - current site of Evans Motors.

At this point in the walk you can head straight ahead down the High Street for a further 1 hour's exploration of Old Harlow's heritage buildings as seen in Walk 2. If you are ready to head back to The Crown, turn left and walk towards The Chequers.

P.The Chequers Grade II listed. Originally a dwelling house in gardens of the George Hotel. Possibly a public house since early 1800s but not identified as such until mid C20th. May have been a beer house.

With The Chequers on your right, continue along Market St until you reach St John's Walk. Turn right into this road, and on your left you will see ...

Q.St. John's Cottage (Cabot House) Grade II listed. Dated variously as 1650 - 1850. In the early 1960s 3 cottages were converted into 1 private house. Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) acquired in 1997 & renamed Cabot House for student accommodation. The porch over the front door made from a recycled bed. *To your right ...*

R.The Maltings There were maltings in Fore St by 1780 - malting barley for the London market. The main building here in St John's Walk dates to the late 1870s. During WWII it was converted to a machine shop by the De Havilland Aircraft Corporation. Having been derelict for many years, it was acquired by the MUN in 1969, along with the nearby Victorian school house and masters' cottages. Local architect John Graham designed the

Maltings' conversion into student accommodation. Extension on north side was added in 1988. The MUN sent students to Harlow Campus from January 1969 to July 2026 during which time they learnt from and contributed to the local community. *St John's ARC is to the right*

S.St. John's Arts & Recreation Centre (ARC) Grade II listed. St John the Baptist Church was built in the early Gothic Revival style in 1839 with later additions. Over time the congregation dwindled and the church was declared redundant in 1979. After much fundraising the St Johns Arts & Recreation Association was formed and opened the ARC in 1986 as a community centre for Old Harlow. F E McWilliam's sculpture Help! (1976) is located to the front of the building. *Step back through church gate & turn right to ...*

T.Crabb's Cottages Passing former Victorian School, now St John's House, you will find 3 alms houses built in 1844 with £100 'by will of Sarah Crabb, formerly of Harlow.' Land was provided by the vicar and endowed with £1 annual rent from adjoining land. They were modernised in 1956 and sold to a private owner in 1975.

Now retrace your steps to Market St, turn right and you will find yourself back at The Crown pub - where you began.

Acknowledgements. This walk has been compiled from:, walks researched by Sylvia Evans the 1999 booklet Harlow's Hidden Heritage by the Old Harlow Environmental Group, www.mun.ca/harlow/welcome/history
Various local history books available at Harlow Museum
Thanks to Jean Wright, Sylvia Evans & Pauline Hockley

Heritage in Harlow

There are many ways to learn more about Harlow's rich and varied history.

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With thanks to Affinia Old Harlow for print sponsorship

Old Harlow Heritage Trail 1

Harlow, best known as a post-war New Town has a rich and deep history. The area now known as Old Harlow was one of the five parishes that became the New Town in 1947 but it retains a wide variety of heritage buildings dating back to the 12th century.

These self-led walks have been developed to introduce just a sample of the heritage buildings that can still be seen. There is a long story to be told about every building but space constraints have meant choosing the highlights and summarising what information is known. For more detail visit Harlow Museum (details on back).

The Market Street area contains a great concentration of buildings dating from the 15th to 20th centuries. We encourage you to look up to notice features of the buildings, and to imagine what the area might once have looked like, when most of the buildings had commercial uses with people 'living above the shop.'



Detail from 1616 Altham Map.
Image courtesy Harlow Museum

This circular walk starts and ends at the top of Old Harlow High Street. It can be enjoyed in conjunction with Heritage Walk 1 - Market St. It will take 1 - 2 hours

 = location of a blue plaque C. = Century c. = circa (approximately)

A.2 High St Grade II listed. Early C18th facade to older timber-framed building. Classical relief on the panel above fanlight. Once home of Eliza Flower and Sarah Flower Adams – political radicals, composers of poetry and music, best known for Nearer My God to Thee – lyrics by Sarah, music by Eliza. They are buried at Foster St Baptist Cemetery. Find out more about their radical lives at Harlow Museum.

Continue down the High Street to the bottom, noticing Betty Rea's bronze statue 'Kore' (1963) to your left. At bottom of shopping street, cross the road, walk ahead until pedestrian crossing to your right and cross to view ...

B.The Wayre Grade II listed. Built early C19th on site of 'The Snows'. Housed wounded soldiers during WWI. More recently used as sheltered housing for elderly people.

C.Marigolds Grade II listed. Late C18th. Once home of Charles Barnard (1807 - 1872) who removed central doorway, adding bay window and porch with new main entrance. Later Charles lived at Harlowbury Manor which he also modernised.

D.Chestnut Cottage, 71 High St Grade II listed. The sole survivor of 4 thatched cottages along this stretch of High St. Late C18th timber framed house (frame possibly earlier). Note pargeting decoration on external plaster - particularly common in East Anglia where there was no good building stone.

Follow High St ahead, noticing the range of weatherboard cottages to your left. Follow the bend to the right until you come to ...

E.Fire Station After an earlier brigade lapsed, the Harlow Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded in about 1870 with the station built soon after by John Perry Watlington, Conservative MP. It is now an on-call fire station, which means firefighters living and working within 5 minutes of the fire station are on standby to respond to incidents.

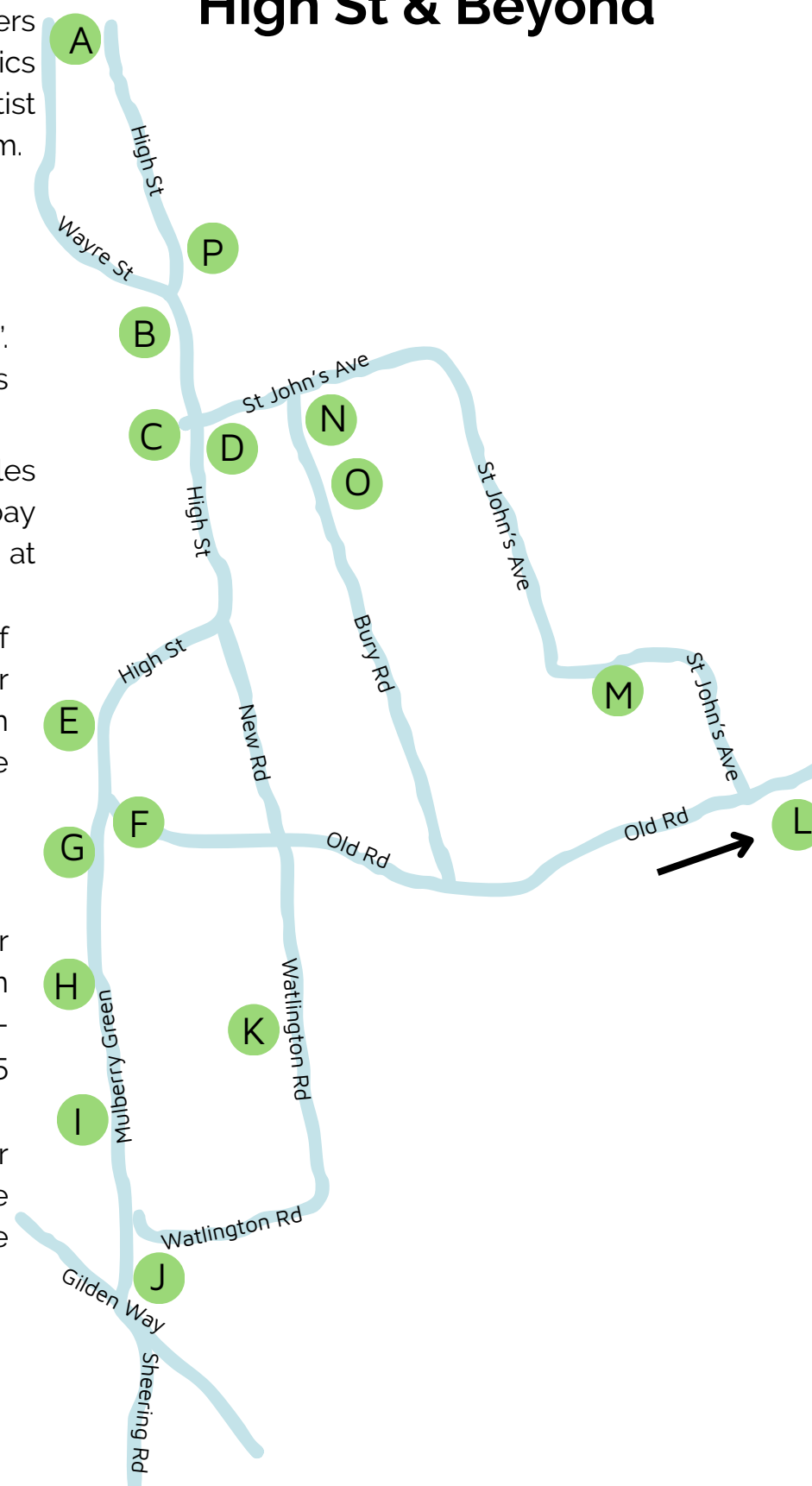
F.The British Oak A nice spot to pause and consider your surroundings. The oak was planted in commemoration of the coronation of King Edward VII by voluntary subscription in 1902. The bench was installed for the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935.

G.Green Man public house Grade II listed. C17th, possibly on site of C14th inn. Originally a coaching inn, located where the Cambridge Road once was. In its prime handled 5 coaches every Tuesday to and from London. Often the meeting point for community events.

The Essex Hunt Meet at The Green Man, 1900



Old Harlow Heritage Trail 2: High St & Beyond



H.Mulberry Green It is easy to visualise this area as a Georgian village, though in fact many of the buildings have older origins. The Grade II listed Old Forge (4 Mulberry Green) dates from the C16th as does Hill House (28 Mulberry Green).

Divert across the road from Old Forge to read the council Heritage panel about the area. Then continue further along Mulberry Green to ...

I.Granary Cottage, 30 Mulberry Green Grade II listed, late C18th barn like building. Blue Plaque to Douglas Hayter (1914 - 2000) pioneering designer of rotary mowers & founder of Hayter Ltd in 1946 which continues to this day.

Continue along Mulberry Green to the end of the road, crossing over to see ...

J.Old Police Station The Old Police House built by John Perry-Watlington for the town in 1852. It was converted to a private residence after the new police station was built in London Road in 1908.

At this point you can turn around and, remaining on the same side of the road as the Old Police Station, turn right into Watlington Rd to continue this trail, or cross over Gilden Way at the lights and follow Sheering Rd to explore the heritage delights of Churchgate Street.

K.Watlington Road Turn left as Watlington Rd continues and reveals a collection of diverse Edwardian and earlier homes.

At the bottom of Watlington Rd turn right onto Old Rd until you reach the Marigolds Green space on your right. This features a raised path - a remnant of a deserted medieval village. In front of you behind hedges are Harlowbury Manor to the right and Harlowbury Chapel to the left.

L.Harlowbury Chapel The 12th Century Chapel is the oldest building in Harlow and on private land. For a better view continue along to the corner of Old Rd and Curteys.



Harlowbury Chapel

Retrace your steps on Old Rd until you reach St John's Ave on your right. Directions continue overleaf.

M.St John's Ave is the beginning of developer Basil Scruby's Harlow Garden Village. Designed to follow Garden Suburb principles, houses were on larger plots of land with more substantial gardens. The development was marketed in the 1920s, begun in the 1930s but not fully realised.



Poster promoting Harlow Garden Village.
Courtesy Harlow Museum



Victoria Hall

Follow St John's Ave, always bearing and turning left until you reach the Victoria Hall on the corner of Bury Rd.

N.Victoria Hall was built in 1888 as a community centre and has, over the years, served as a concert hall, library, dance hall, wartime canteen, and a youth club. Land girls stationed at Mark Hall manor used to come here for meals during WWII. Note the plaque to Winston Churchill who was the local MP when Harlow was part of the Epping constituency. ●

Your walk will continue straight ahead along St John's Ave but first of all you can wander a little way down Bury Rd to your left.

O.Bury Rd Is evidence of the expansion of Old Harlow during the Victorian and Edwardian periods, after the opening of the Great Eastern Railway in 1842. Many older local people remember visiting Dr Booth's home and surgery at **No 1 Bury Road** during WWII..

Return to St John's Ave, turn left and continue to the end of St John's Ave. Now turn right to retrace your steps up High Street.

P.High St In the 1970s, Sir Frederick Gibberd's practice, namely architect John Graham, redeveloped the bottom end of the shopping High Street in the 1970s, winning a Civic Trust Award in 1971 and in 1975 one of only 20 European Architecture Heritage Awards. Note the blue plaque to Graham at the top right hand side of the High Street. ●

This is the end of Old Harlow Heritage Trail 2. If you have combined this walk with Old Harlow Heritage Trail 1, you can now rejoin that walk by crossing over Station Rd, then turning right and left into Market Rd.

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Beyond Market Street, the parish has produced evidence of visitation and occupation since the Neolithic Period. While much of this evidence remains beneath the soil, Harlowbury Chapel survives indicating Early Medieval settlement and the cluster of listed buildings at Mulberry Green stretch from the 16th to 19th centuries.



Detail from 1616 Altham Map.
Image courtesy Harlow Museum