

# Start here

1

We begin at the church gates. The parish church of St Nicholas was founded in 1101 by the first Bishop of Norwich, Herbert de Losinga. The church was consecrated in 1119, and continued to be extended several times making it one of the three largest parish churches in the country. German bombs hit the church in 1942, rebuilding began in 1957 and it was reconsecrated in 1961. The church was designated a Minster in 2012.

2

As you exit the churchyard, to the right on the railings you will find a blue plaque that indicates the site of the Guild Hall. The original building was erected in 1207, replaced by a new building in 1723, then demolished in 1849.



3

Walking to the end of the terrace you'll find the site that was once a public house called the Cart & Horse in the 1820s. In the 1880s it was renamed the Saracens Head, a popular tavern sign generally believed to have originated when the Crusaders returned from the Holy Land. The head was that of a Turk, a symbol adopted by many medieval knights on their armorial bearings. The public house closed in 1968, and is now a solicitors.

4

Cross the road and head to the corner building. This was another public house called the Captain Harmer, after Samuel Harmer who was the Inspecting Commander of the local coastguard and a local hero. In the 1980s it was renamed the Crystal, a name that can still be seen in the mosaic tiles in the corner doorway. The Crystal closed in 2015.

Next, cross Fullers Hill. This area is recognised as the oldest inhabited part of the town, documented in 1291 as Le Howe, meaning hill. Today the hill has all but vanished due to road building and improvement. Only the Crystal and an adjacent shop remain from the original buildings that lined the once narrow Fullers Hill.

5

Head across the car park towards Palace Bingo which stands on the site of the Brewery. Founded by Jeffery Ward, the brewery passed by marriage to the Lacon family and became the Falcon Brewery. The Lacons owned over 300 public houses throughout East Anglia. The brewery closed in 1968 after being taken over by Whitbread, and the buildings were demolished in 1973.



6

On the corner of the narrow road leading south was the Wrestlers, a public house dating from the 17th century. In November 1800, Admiral Lord Nelson arrived in Yarmouth following his victory at the battle of the Nile. The Wrestlers hosted his official reception, and he received the Freedom of the Borough. Nelson visited the Wrestlers again, in February 1801, before the fleet sailed from Yarmouth for the battle of Copenhagen. Rebuilt in 1945 after war damage, the public house eventually closed and became an office building in November 2013.

7

Follow the car park to the corner of the Market Place. Here is a spice shop that stands on the site of a public house which opened in 1772 as the Buck, and later as Burroughs. The building was destroyed in a 1943 air raid, and rebuilt in the neo-Georgian style by Lacons in 1959, renamed the Gallon Pot. The pub sign, a large pot mounted on a post, still stands outside. The public house closed in 2019.

8

Cross the market place to the Fishermen's Hospital. Built in 1702 as almshouses to house 20 aged fishermen and their wives, they were restored and modernised in 1987 and now house 10 retired people, not necessarily connected with the sea. This Grade 1 listed building has been described as 'the gem of the East Coast'. The figure of the charity stands in the centre of the courtyard.



9

Cross the road and head back to Anna Sewell House, the birthplace of Anna Sewell in 1820. Dating from 1641, this is one of the oldest domestic properties in town. The front of the building was rebuilt in 1930, and today the building is cared for by Redwings, who use it as an information centre, and an important destination for Black Beauty fans.

10

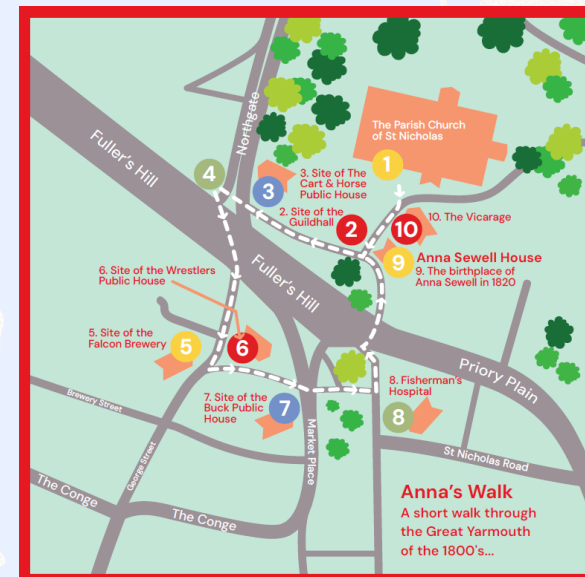
The large Georgian building adjacent to the churchyard was built in 1718 as the Vicarage. This is the finest example of Georgian architecture in town. Today the building houses several small businesses including Kirsty's Cakery, an ideal place for a cup of tea and a cake!

At the rear of the vicarage, visible from the churchyard, is the Great Hall, all that remains of the Benedictine Priory that was associated with the church. This was the first Priory in the town and both Richard II and Mary Tudor stayed here.

*Thank you to Colin Tooke, local historian, for compiling this information.*

## Anna's Walk

A short walk through the Great Yarmouth of the 1800s



When Isaac and Mary Sewell moved into what is now known as 26 Church Plain in 1819, the square and surrounding area looked very different to today! Some of the buildings that were around the square in the early 19th century can still be seen today in this short walk around one of the earliest inhabited parts of town.