

Written by Molly Rutt, Juliet Eichorn
and Emma Chambers
Photos by Emma Chambers, Mohona
Sengupta
Layout and design by Mohona
Sengupta and Minette Payne.



The interior of the keep



1066
A motte and bailey castle was built at Canterbury.

1070
Mamo, son of Vitalis was put in charge of the castle.

1085
Work began on the stone castle.

1087
Part of the castle was used as a prison

1100-1125
The stone keep was built

1193-4
15 knights with 20 horses and 40 soldiers guarded the castle for periods of 50 days

1216
A French army led by Prince Louis captured the castle without a fight

1221
A barbican was built to protect a new entrance to the basement which was being used as a prison. Other parts of the castle were repaired.

1274
More repairs were carried out at the castle

1277
Canterbury's Jews were imprisoned in the castle before they were expelled from the country

1381
During the Peasants' Revolt the castle was attacked. The castle records were burnt and many prisoners set free.

1539
During the Dissolution of the Monasteries, Archbishop Cranmer imprisoned two Catholic priests in the castle.

1555-57
In July 1555, during Mary Tudor's reign, three local churchmen were imprisoned in the castle before they were burned for heresy. In 1556 15 Protestants were imprisoned in the castle and either starved to death or burnt at the stake. In total, 42 Protestants were imprisoned and burnt to death at this time.

1609
During King James I's reign the castle was reported to be in a ruinous state. King James I sold the castle to Sir Anthony Weldon of Swanscombe.

1648
Following riots on Christmas Day 1647, the trial of the protesters was held in the castle. They were found guilty and imprisoned in Leeds Castle.

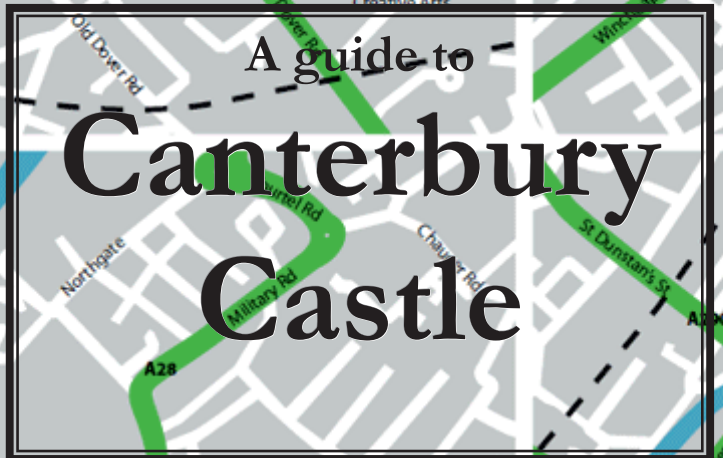
1770-95
Most of the curtain wall was demolished and the ditch filled up so that new houses could be built.

1817
An attempt to demolish the keep failed, but the second floor was destroyed.

1825
The keep was bought by the Gas, Light and Coke Company and used as a coke and coal store. The interior cross-walls were destroyed.

1928
Canterbury City Council bought the keep.

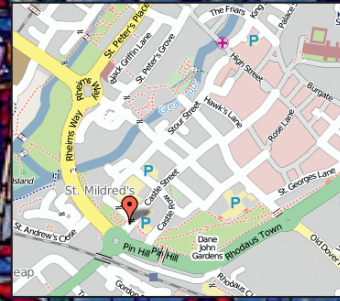
1992
The keep was repaired and opened to the public.



Produced by Year 7 pupils of
Simon Langton Girls' Grammar
School, 2012, in association with
English Heritage, the Historical
Association, Canterbury
Christ Church University and
Canterbury Museums.

Introduction

Where is Canterbury Castle?



Canterbury Castle Today

Step inside Canterbury castle, discover its past and hear the secrets. Did you know that a Motte and Bailey castle was once in Canterbury? Or that the stone castle was once used as a prison? And did you know that in Mary Tudor's reign 42 Protestants were imprisoned in the castle before either being burnt at stake or starved to death?

The year is 1066, the Normans build a Motte and Bailey in Canterbury. 19 years later work begins on the stone castle, which you can see today. It is made from flint, limestone and Roman brick. But its life as a royal castle would soon come to an end. During the 13th century part of the castle was used as a prison. The Sheriff lived on the two upper floors with the prisoners below him. Later on the castle would be captured, without a fight, by a French army, led by Prince Louis in 1216. Then in 1381, after many more repairs, the



castle was attacked during the Peasants' Revolt. Many files were burnt and many prisoners freed.

The year is now 1609. King James I has sold the castle to Sir Anthony Weldon of Swanscombe. It was reported to be in a ruinous state. There was an attempt to destroy the keep but only the second floor was destroyed.

In 1825 the keep was bought and used as a coke and coal store. That was when the interior cross-walls were destroyed. And finally, the keep was bought by Canterbury City Council in 1928 and, in 1992, it was repaired and opened to the public.



Today, all that is left of Canterbury castle is a square stone ruin of the keep and a bailey wall, from the 12th century. It is very popular with tourists from all over the world, schools, and locals too! The beautiful, historic building holds many interesting secrets! There is a winding stone tower that you can still climb up today! So come and explore it today!

