

"My yesterdays walk with me. They keep step, they are gray faces that peer over my shoulder."
William Golding



River Exe

Bonhay Road

Howell Road

Thornton Hill

Pennsylvania Rd

New North Road

Blackall Road



20

Queen Street



19

Northernhay



4

Longbrook St



3

Sidwell Street



2

York Road

Old Tiverton Road

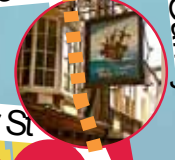
Bartholomew Street

15

Mary Arches St

16

North Street



18

Paul Street

Gandy St

7

17

Waterbeer St

6

High Street

5

Paris Street

Fore Street

9

8

Cathedral Close

7

6

5

Bedford Square

21

Exe Bridges



Western Way



14

Palace Gate



11

Southernhay



12

13

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

10

Magdalen Street

Denmark Rd

Barnfield Hill

Western Way

Barnfield Rd



1

Belmont Park

Belmont Rd

Blackboy Road

Western Way

Summerland Street

Heavitree Road

Telling our Stories,
 Finding our Roots:
 Exeter's Multi-Coloured History

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view... until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it."
Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird

Another Point of View: Your Self-Guided Tour through Exeter's Multi-Coloured History

- 1. Belmont Park:** Site of the annual Respect Festival – Exeter's celebration of diversity. Ironically, it was also the site of a rally by the British Union of Fascists addressed by Oswald Mosley in the mid 1930s.
- 2. Exeter Mosque:** Islamic Centre in Exeter opened in 1977, the new mosque opened in 2011. There are around 500 regular worshippers, speaking about 45 different languages.
- 3. St Sidwell bas-relief mural** above NHS walk-in centre. St Sidwell was a local Saxon girl, murdered with a scythe outside the city walls. A well sprang up at the site, which became a place of pilgrimage. Sidwell Street also has a wide range of multi-cultural food shops and restaurants.
- 4. London Inn Square** (between Boots and Next). American Abolitionist & escaped slave Frederick Douglass addressed two public meetings at Congdon's Royal Subscription Rooms on this site in 1846.
- 5. Bampfylde Street.** John Codrington Bampfylde wrote a poem about the inhumanity of the slave trade in 1778.
- 6. St Stephen's Church,** High Street. When Henry VIII ordered his 'Alien Survey' of 1522, five French and Dutch residents were recorded in the parish of St Stephens (out of 30 recorded in the city overall).
- 7. High Street** (end of Martin's Lane). A thriving Jewish community existed in Exeter for nearly 200 years in the Medieval period. As moneylenders they were vital to the economic expansion of the city where men and women were involved in the business. Comtesse was one such woman recorded as having a house on the High Street in the 13th Century.
- 8. Ship Inn,** St Martin's Lane. Sea Dogs and Slavers: Legend has it that Sir Frances Drake, his cousin Sir John Hawkins and Sir Walter Raleigh frequented the Ship Inn. They were all pioneers in exploration and expanding global trade. In 1562 Devonian Hawkins was the first recorded Englishman to trade in African people.
- 9. Royal Clarence Hotel.** Well known Black British singer Leslie Hutchinson (Hutch) visited the city during WWII, and was not allowed to stay in the Royal Clarence Hotel.

- 10. Cathedral Green** (outside West Front). As you stand looking at the magnificent West Door of the cathedral, beneath your feet lie the remains of the Roman Legionary Baths built by the second Augustan Legion who came to Exeter around AD55.

The parish records of St Mary Major church (demolished 1971) list the burial of "Thomas, sonne of a blackmore" in 1631, the earliest record of a Black person in Exeter

During WWII Polish pilots of 307 Squadron defended Exeter against night raids on the city. In 1942 the Bishop of Exeter received the Polish flag in a ceremony outside the Cathedral to recognise their service.
- 11. Cathedral interior.** Commemorative plaques, statues and headstones in the Cathedral show how Exeter's community was linked to Canada (1806), India (1857) and the Caribbean (1812).

Medieval craftsmen even represented an elephant in the choir stalls (13th century). One of the Christian martyrs shown on the pulpit is Devon missionary John Coleridge Patteson who campaigned against slavery and was first Bishop of Melanesia, murdered there in 1871.
- 12. Southernhay House.** Cecilia and Robert, mixed heritage children of Indian Dhoolaury Bibi and 'White Mughal' William Kirkpatrick, visited their father in this house between 1805-1812.
- 13. Magdalen Road, edge of Bull Meadow.** Land in Bull Meadow was leased to the Jews of Exeter in 1757 for a cemetery. The graveyard was positioned outside the city walls and can now be seen from Magdalen Street.
- 14. Bishop's Palace.** Henry Philpotts, Bishop of Exeter, received a share of £12,729 4s 4d, which was a portion of the £20 million paid to compensate slave owners for the loss of their human property, following the Abolition of Slavery Act of 1833.

The Bishop's Palace was also the site of one of Exeter's sugar processing factories linking Exeter to the plantation economies"
- 15. Synagogue,** Mary Arches. Exeter Synagogue was opened in 1763 and celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2013.
- 16. 13 North Street.** 'Rice Bowl', the first Chinese restaurant in Exeter, opened in 1958. Exeter's Chinese population is now around 2000 people (2011 census).

- 17. Turks Head.** The Turks Head has been a pub for 700 years. The name may be a reference to a type of knot used by sailors, or to a Turkish prisoner held there.
- 18. Guildhall.** Next to the Guildhall was the shop of the publisher of Joseph Pitts' 1704 book *A Faithful Account of the Religion and Manners of the Mahometans*. Exeter man Joseph Pitts was kidnapped by North African pirates and enslaved, and was the first Englishman to enter Mecca.
- 19. RAMM (Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery).** Founded in the 1860s at the height of Victorian colonialism and passion for collecting, RAMM houses objects found in Devon and gathered from many countries by local travellers. The totem pole in the World Cultures gallery, made in 1998 by Tim Paul, a Nuu-chah-nulth carver from Canada, is one example of the museum's ongoing contact with the rest of the world.

The world-famous *Portrait of an Unknown African* was long thought to be Abolitionist Olaudah Equiano, who came to Exeter in 1777. Recent research suggests it most likely depicts another Abolitionist, Ignatius Sancho (1729-80). Sitting comfortably in the RAMM is Ganesh, the revered deity of Exeter's Hindu community. For Hindus worldwide, Ganesh is the god who removes all obstacles, teaches us about practical wisdom and offers us a reminder for humility in life. He is worshipped first in any Hindu puja (worship). Collected during the British colonial period by Sir John Budd Phear of Exmouth between 1864-1876.
- 20. Victoria House** on Queen Street. This is the site of Victoria Hall, where the Fisk Jubilee singers performed in 1875 and 1877. 2000 Exeter people heard this African-American choir sing 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot'
- 21. Exe Bridges.** Just over the bridge is the site of Birdall's foundry which produced manillas in 17th century. These metal bracelets were used as currency in the slave trade. (You can see a mould from St Thomas in the RAMM).

In 1688 two hundred Black soldiers entered the city here as part of William of Orange's army. In World War II American military police did not allow Black soldiers to cross the bridge into the city, to segregate them from their White colleagues.

Telling our Stories, Finding our Roots

Another Point of View: Your Self-Guided Tour through Exeter's Multi-Coloured History

This self-guided tour of Exeter's multi-cultural history aims to show you some of the hidden aspects of Exeter's 2000-year history: the Romans, Saxons, Normans, Jews, 'Aliens', Africans, visitors and migrants who have enriched the city.

Time: one to two hours. Extension to Exe Bridges takes another half hour

This leaflet was produced by a community-led Heritage Lottery funded project *Telling our Stories, Finding our Roots: Exeter's Multi-Coloured History*. We welcome your feedback – please email us.

For further information, see our website or contact: Devon Development Education (TOSFOR) The Global Centre, Exeter Community Centre 17 St David's Hill, Exeter, EX4 3RG.

Tel. 01392 438811
E: dde@globalcentredevon.org.uk

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