

A busy pedestrianised lane with striking views of civic, college and university buildings.

St Mary's Passage's history is inextricably linked to that of Great St Mary's Church, the 'University Church' which was the venue for degree ceremonies before the Senate House was built in 1730. The church is also important in the history of 'the town and gown' disturbances, the most notable of which was the Peasants' Revolt of 1381 when the Mayor and townspeople burnt

the contents of the University Chest which was held in the Church. More recently, in 1891, the first public electricity supply started in the cellar of no 2 St Mary's Passage and supplied a small area around the passage, King's Parade and Peas Hill. Today, the street is an exceptionally well-used route linking the market square with King's Parade.



View east along St Mary's Passage

SIGNIFICANCE • VERY HIGH

General Overview

St Mary's Passage is one of the most popular streets with tourists and is an exceptionally popular pedestrian route with cycle parking. In addition to the church, there are shops, a restaurant and a bank with student residential over.



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1 : 1,250

Townscape Elements

- > Boundary of north side former by church set-back behind good cast-iron railings.
- > South side of street effectively a concave curve so street widest outside no1 and narrowest at east end.
- > Tower, turrets and crenellations of church together with varied storey heights on south side of street make for a very interesting roofline.
- > St Mary's churchyard, Senate House and King's College lawns and the large Chestnut tree outside King's College give the passage an unusually green setting for central Cambridge.

Streetscape Enhancements

Street furniture is varied with black painted metal bollards and finger posts which match the church railings, and generally appropriate cycle parking. However, the temporary galvanised street lights and utilitarian street signs could be improved.



View west along St Mary's Passage



No 3 St Mary's Passage



Church railings



Church of St Mary the Great

Archaeology / Historic Topography

Anticipated deposit depth is generally 2.00 to 2.50m.
 Potential for prehistory is low
 Potential for Roman is moderate
 Potential for medieval is high

construction. Investigations to the south of the passage revealed medieval walls and several Saxon and medieval pits, while medieval features and artifacts were found in the vicinity of Trinity Street and Market Street.

An earlier church stood on the site of St. Mary's, which brunt down in 1290. The present church was consecrated in 1351. It includes the remains of a 14th century chancel, but is generally 15th century in

Building No. / Name	Status	Age	Height (storeys)	Wall Materials	Roof Form / Materials	Architect	Notes
Church of St Mary the Great	Listed Grade A	late C15 remains of C14 chancel	N/A	oolitic & barnack limestone	flat-pitched / lead & copper		alterations & restoration: 1850-1 Gilbert Scott 1857 Anthony Salvin
22 King's Parade	Listed Grade II	C17	3	timber-framed faced with red brick	tiled		
1	Listed Grade II	C17 refaced C18	3	timber-framed & plastered	parapet / tiled		refaced in brick to give appearance of 3 storeys
2	BLI	mid C19	4	gault brick	parapet		
3	BLI	C17 with late C19 / early C20 façade	2 + attic	timber-framed	clay tiles		
4 (+ 30 Market Hill)	BLI	early C20	4 + attics	painting brick	hipped / slate		