

G1 Walk - Quays

Walk to the Moorings and back

In medieval times this area we call 'the Quay' was under water as the shoreline came up to the row of shops (where Boots is today) and down the road to Mill Street. The Bistro on Mill St used to be called Wharfside which gives a clue to where the water reached.

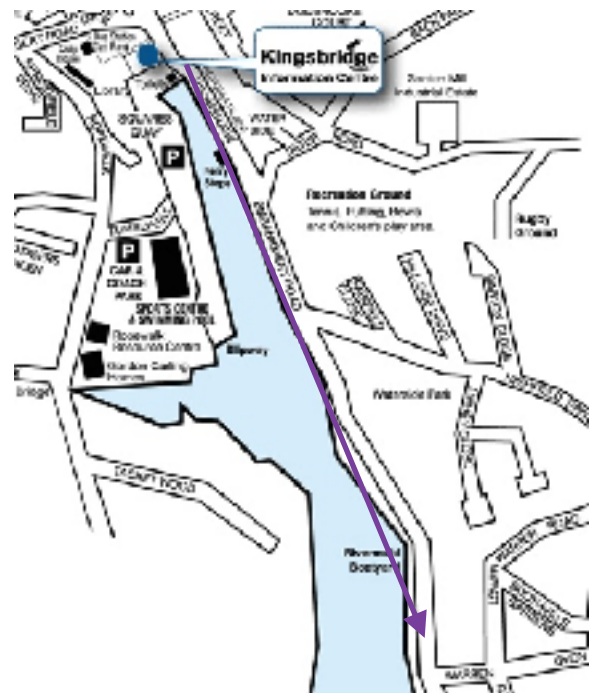
S P Fox wrote in 1874: "*although Kingsbridge is so conveniently situated for commerce, being exactly at the head of the arm of the sea, which is navigable for vessels of burden, yet neither of the quays for handling goods belongs to the parish, Dodbrooke Quay being in the parish of that name and Square's Quay in that of West Alvington.*"

Squares Quay was where the car Park is now and was a timber yard in the 19 Century.

Dodbrooke Quay was opposite on the east side of the Estuary for visiting unloading ships and for goods from the woollen trade, brewing etc as road transport was difficult until 1830s when the turnpike roads were finally constructed around Kingsbridge. *In 1850 coasting vessels of 150 to 200 tons burden receive and deliver cargoes of coal, corn, timber, and general merchandise. (Whites Directory)*

Salt Mill Quay was an ancient quay - level and right next to the current Recreation ground. This was run by the tenants of the Salt Mill (deeds of 1649 mention '...duties for mooring of ships, Barques, Barges or boats upon or to the said key or for landing or lying of any goods or commodities upon the said quay.'). In 1730 the lease was taken by Richard Hawkins and the mill was apparently wound up and probably the quay too. It will have been used also to bring in lime for the lime kilns, the kiln on the site of Salt Quay Moorings being operated until at least 1861.

New Quay (by the Crabshell) became the main quay as the upper estuary silted up. There was major ship building south of here in 1800s
From 1930 no large ships came beyond the bar at Salcombe, because of silting up and 'progress'



Kingsbridge from the Quay

