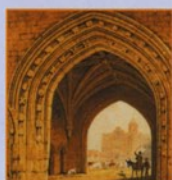


The Bayle Museum



Baylegate
Bridlington





Bridlington Priory before 1538



The Bayle in the Nineteenth Century



The Lords Feoffees



The Founders of the Museum

A Brief History of the Bayle.

The word Bayle is derived from the French *Baille*, meaning 'enclosure' or 'ward'.

Recent archaeological surveys of the Bayle have concluded that a large proportion of the building dates to the late 12th Century. The initial use of the building is unclear although there is a possibility it may have been a gatehouse to a castle built by William le Gros after he took control of Bridlington Priory in 1143.

In the 14th Century the Bayle was the Gatehouse to Bridlington Priory, a porter lived inside the Bayle and monitored the comings and goings of the Priory. An Almoner also lived in the Bayle and distributed food and ale to the poor of Bridlington.

Since the dissolution of Bridlington Priory the Bayle has been used for many different purposes including a Prison, Court, School, Garrison, Non-Conformist meeting place, Town Hall and meeting room for the Lords Feoffees.

Today the Bayle is a Grade I Listed Building and Scheduled Ancient Monument, which makes it of great interest historically and architecturally.

The Lords Feoffees and the History of the Museum.

The Lords Feoffees and Assistants of the Manor of Bridlington were created in 1636 when a group of townsmen purchased the Manor of Bridlington from Sir George Ramsey of Coldstream. The Lords Feoffees own the Bayle together with other property in the Manor and have been established as a charitable trust for over three hundred years.

The Augustinians, a distinguished antiquarian society, were formed in 1920 for 'the purpose of collecting, recording and preserving the relics of Bridlington and District'.

In 1928 both organisations collaborated to form a Trust to manage the newly created Museum at the Bayle. Many local items have been generously donated or loaned to provide a detailed social history of the town and its people.

The Lords Feoffees became sole Trustees in 2000 and the following year instigated major refurbishment and appointed a Curator. Entrance fees are subsidised to encourage local people and visitors to learn the fascinating history of the Bayle and Bridlington.

They hope you enjoy your visit.



Discover two of Bridlington's nationally famous characters.

VARIED COLLECTIONS

Agriculture Room

- See a selection of farming tools and veterinary equipment.
A record of Bridlington's rural life.
See the two hundred year old graffiti left by troops garrisoned here during the Napoleonic Wars.

Hear the story of Jane King - Prisoner in the Bayle.



Kidcote (Prison)

- The Bayle was used as a prison for four centuries.
The Kidcote held petty criminals from the town who were tried at the Court in the top of the building.
See a prison cell in 1667.

Military Room

- Discover the strong local links with the Green Howards.
Play the 'Army Game'.
Learn about Queen Henrietta Maria's connection with the Town.

HISTORIC BUILDING



CD-ROM

See images of Bridlington life using CD-Rom technology.

SCALE MODELS

Court Room

- The Lords Feoffees meet here four times a year.
Look out for the Town Chest holding documents that go back to Elizabethan times.
Count the carved mice on the Thompson of Kilburn furniture.

LISTENING POSTS

Private moment - Monk takes the strain!

Garderobe

- The Garderobe was a medieval lavatory.
See an Augustinian Canon from Bridlington Priory sitting on top of the original garderobe shute.



LIFE SIZE FIGURES



Collections Room

- Reveal some of the Museum's varied collections by pulling out the drawers.

The weary farmer returns home for his tea.



Hear more about the life of St John of Bridlington.



Victorian Kitchen

- View the Yorkshire Range adorned with copper pans and other everyday objects from the 19th Century.

Bayle Room

- Get a glimpse of the activities in the Bayle in the 15th Century with the large scale model.
Play the 'Monk Game' by dressing the monk in the correct habit.
Admire the 14th century parchments on display.
Read about school life in the Bayle.

Visitor Information

The Bayle Museum is open for the Summer Season from 18 April to 11 September (inclusive)

Opening Times:

Monday to Friday 11am - 4pm (last admission 3:30pm)

Adults: £1.00 Children (under 15 years) Free

(and must be accompanied by an Adult)

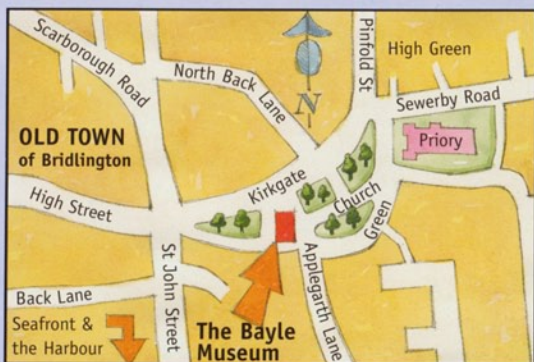
The Museum welcomes group bookings out of normal opening hours and during the closed season.

Special rates are available for group bookings and school visits.

Visitors should be aware that access to the whole museum is via two staircases.

Free car parking is available directly outside the museum.

How to get here



The Old Town of Bridlington is less than a mile inland from Bridlington seafront.

For all enquiries regarding the Museum

please contact:

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