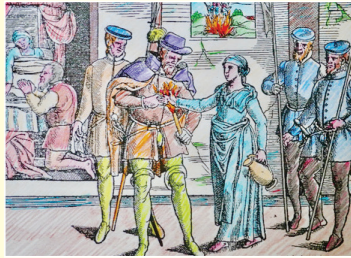
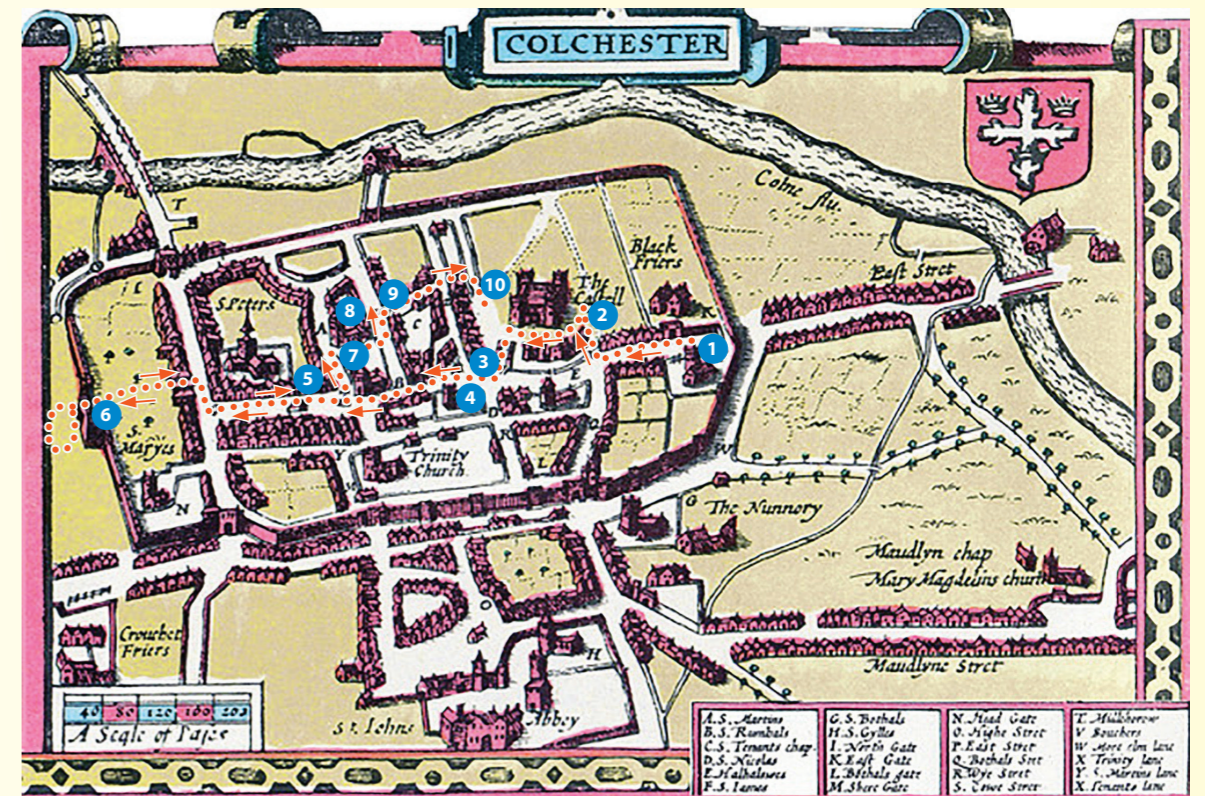


YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS DISCOVER SEVENTY-TWO PROTESTANT ESSEX MEN AND WOMEN, MORE THAN IN ANY OTHER COUNTY IN ENGLAND, WERE PERSECUTED AT THE TIME OF THE TUDORS. THERE WERE MORE MARTYRS IN COLCHESTER THAN ANY OTHER PLACE IN ESSEX.



The young people have explored a trail, based on the 1610 map of Colchester.

1. From St James's Church and the site of the East Gate on East Hill, walk into High Street, passing Greyfriars Hotel on your right. In the reign of Queen Mary Tudor, protestant martyrs, the labourer Edmund Hurst and housewife Elizabeth Pepper lived in this parish.
2. Walk on past Hollytrees House Museum and the VIC on your right. Turn right by the war memorial into Castle Park. Pause to look at the southeast corner of Colchester Castle Museum. The ground floor of the building was occupied by the prisons in the Tudor period. At that time, prisoners from outside the town were held in there.
3. Walk along by Colchester Castle Museum. You are walking in the Castle Bailey, where two men^{*(i)} and two women^{*(ii)} were martyred together in the afternoon of 2nd August 1557. Leave Castle Park by the Museum Street gate. Along Museum Street, see if you can spot the site of the former Dunbar Gate to the castle.
4. Pause in the High Street, opposite St Nicholas Hotel. It is on the site of St Nicholas Church. The protestant martyrs, glazier William Bongeor, housewife Agnes Bongeor, and carpenter James Brewster lived in this parish.
5. Proceed past The George Hotel on your right and the Red Lion Hotel on your left. The two hotels date from the Tudor period. Pause at the Town Hall, which was completed in 1902. In the Tudor period, the building on the site was called the Moot Hall.
6. Walk on along the High Street to the junction with Head Street and cross the top of North Hill at the traffic lights. Turn right and then left into Balkerne Passage to the Mercury Theatre and the Balkerne Gate. On 2nd August 1557 three men^{*(iii)}, and three women, ^{*(iv)} were martyred beside the Roman wall after they were held in the Moot Hall prisons.
7. Retrace your steps to the Town Hall and turn left down West Stockwell Street. You will pass the basement cells of the former police station on your left. A little church yard beyond, belonged to the former St Runwalds Church which was once in the High Street. Opposite the churchyard is a timber-framed building which would have been standing at the time of the Tudors.



8. Proceed down West Stockwell Street to look at St Martins Church, with its Norman tower, which is partly ruined. Next door to the Town House, look for a plaque on the former home of the Taylor sisters, Jane, and Ann, who composed *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* and other poems and rhymes.
9. Turn along Quakers Alley between St Martins Churchyard and the Town House and left at the end into East Stockwell Street. Pause at the junction with St Helens Lane to look at Peake's House, a fine cloth merchant's house from the time of Tudors.
10. Walk along St Helens Lane past the former Quaker Burying Ground, on the right-hand side, to pause at St Helens Chapel, which is originally Norman. The chapel sits on some brick and stone from a Roman theatre, which can be seen in the corner of the building. Take the little alleyway opposite, back into the Castle Park. Our trail ends at Colchester Castle.

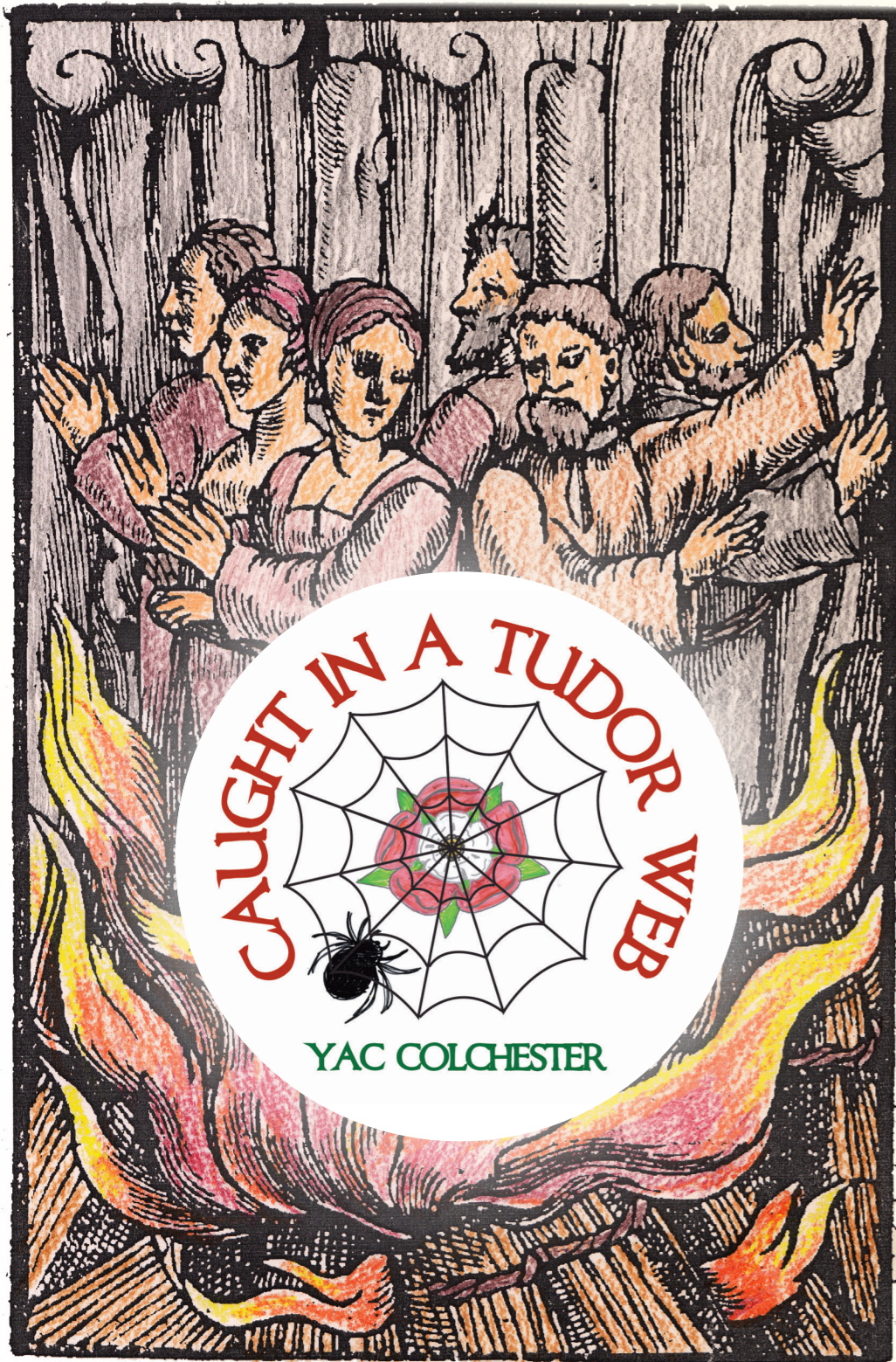
^{*(i)} William Munt, labourer of Great Bentley
John Johnson, labourer of Thorpe

^{*(ii)} Alice Munt, housewife of Great Bentley
Rose Allen, Alice's daughter, aged 20, spinster

^{*(iii)} William Bongeor, 60, a glazier of St Nicholas, Colchester.
Thomas Benold, tallow chandler of Colchester
William Pareas, of Bocking, 20 years old, a fuller

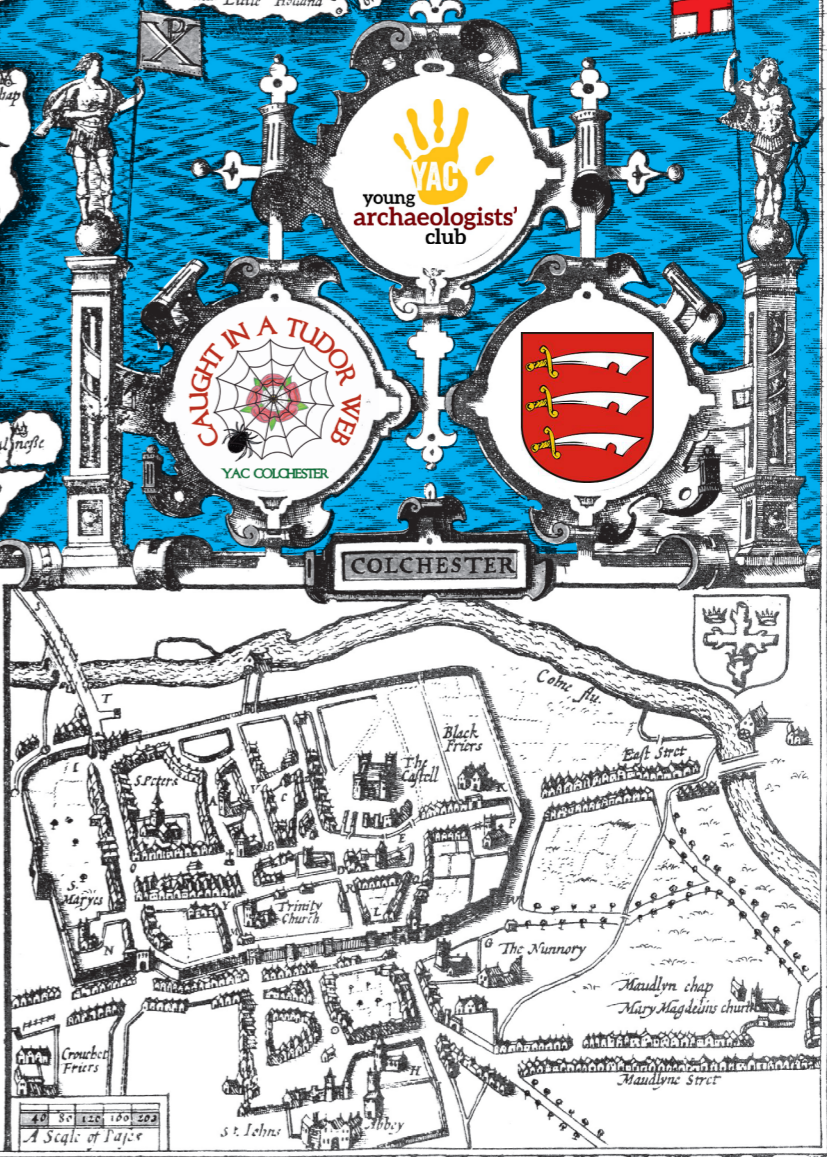
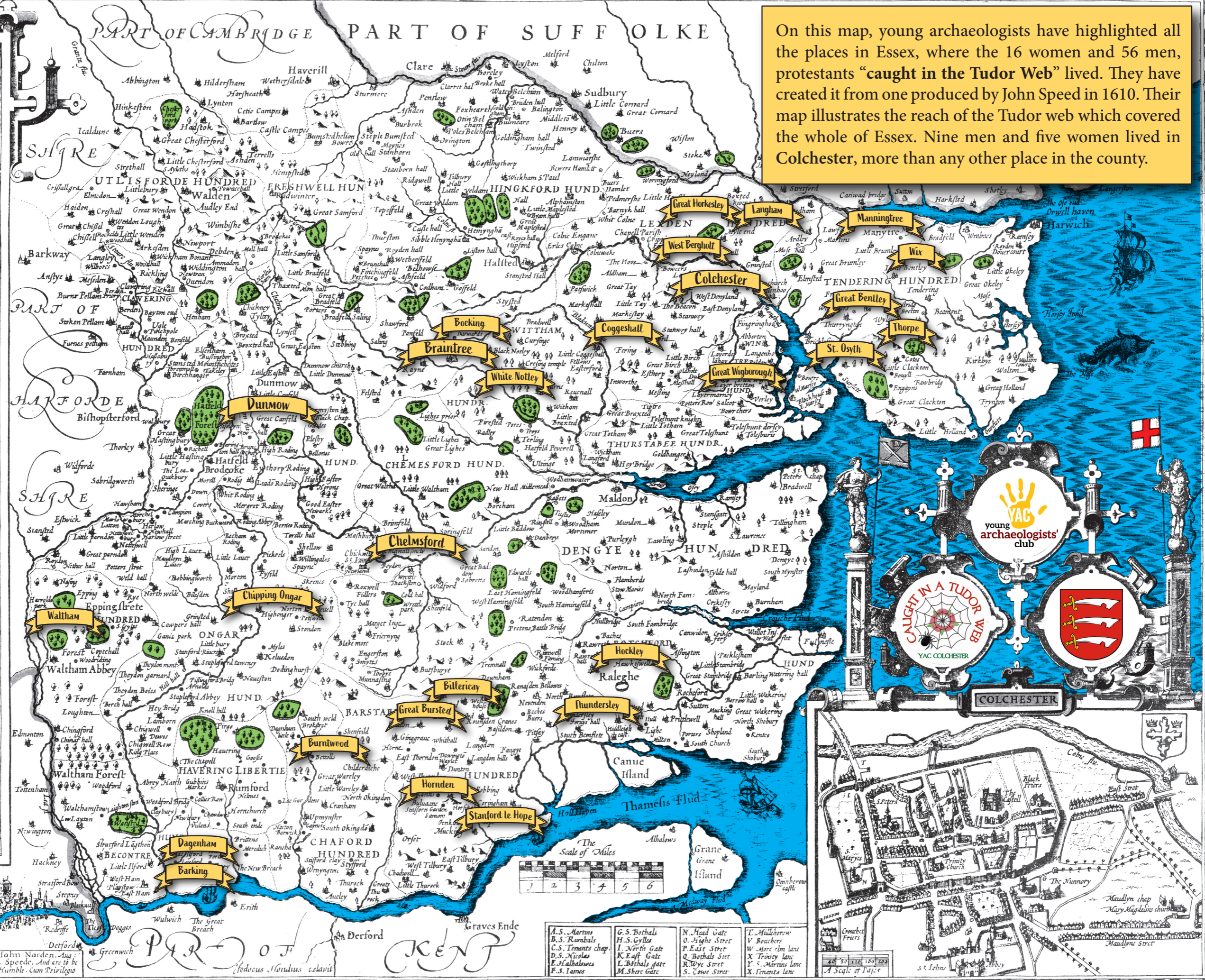
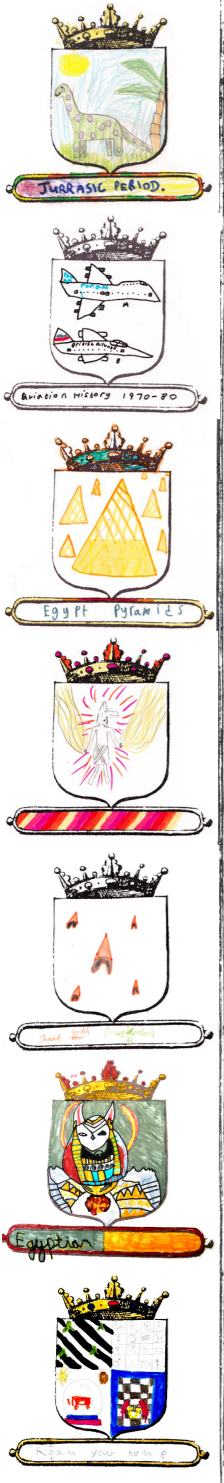
^{*(iv)} Agnes Silverside, of Colchester, a widow aged 60
Helen Ewring, miller's wife, aged 45
Elizabeth Folkes, of Colchester, a maid servant, 20 years old

Colchester's YAC "Tudor Web" trail passes close to Anglican, Baptist, Buddhist, Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Islam, Jewish, Methodist, and Quaker places of worship and proves the dark days of religious division in the town are well and truly in the past.



On this map, young archaeologists have highlighted all the places in Essex, where the 16 women and 56 men, protestants "caught in the Tudor Web" lived. They have created it from one produced by John Speed in 1610. Their map illustrates the reach of the Tudor web which covered the whole of Essex. Nine men and five women lived in Colchester, more than any other place in the county.

Colchester YAC have illustrated some of their favourite eras for their map



Described by John Norden. Augmented by T. Speede. And are to be sold by G. Mable. Cum Privilegio