Hull Heritage Walk

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<u>Stage Two</u> – Monument Bridge to Trinity Square Takes approximately 25 minutes



From Victoria Square the light-controlled crossing will take you up to one of the entrances to Prince's Quay. You will see the railings of Prince's dock, which has a sign reading **Monument Bridge**. Prince's Dock was the third of Hull's town docks, opening in 1829. It was originally called Junction Dock because it joined Queen's Dock (now Queen's Gardens) with Humber Dock (now the Marina).You will see both in later stages.

Standing on Monument Bridge you will notice that it is no longer a bridge and you can't see a monument! When this was a thriving dock area, before 1930, this was the bridge which opened to allow the movement of ships between Prince's Dock and Queen's Dock. The bridge would be raised 9 or 10 times a day much to the frustration of pedestrians and motorists.

The **monument** still exists; it's the huge column and statue dedicated to William Wilberforce that can be seen at the far end of Queen's Gardens in front of Hull College. It was moved in 1934 as part of a traffic re-organisation. Look around the pavement near the grey Monument Buildings – there is a marker to show where it once stood. (*There is a photograph of how this area used to look in the 'Now & Then' section on our website*)

Near here, have a look over the glass barriers round **Beverley Gate**. Looking down you will see the foundations of the medieval gatehouse into the town of Hull. This is where, on St Georges Day 1642, the Governor of Hull, Sir John Hotham, refused King Charles I access to the town and its extensive arsenal, the largest outside London.

Although most of the North of England was Royalist, in typical Hull style they sided with Cromwell and the Parliamentarians. This was one of the first acts of defiance that sparked the beginning of the English Civil War. (To find out how this challenge to the King's authority affected the outcome of the Civil War, and to Sir John Hotham personally, see **Hull and the Civil War** in the "Want to know More?" section on our website)

From here walk to the junction of Princes Dock Street and Whitefriargate. Turn right and walk down **Prince's Dock Street**. As you walk look for the metre wide row of red coloured bricks set in the pavement on the dock side of the road. They represent the outline of the Old Town Walls built in the 14thcentury. Four and a half million bricks were used to make this wall, mostly made locally at the Hull or Beverley brick yards. On the opposite side of the road there is a building with 2 cellars, each with a brick arch. This was **Colonial Chambers**, built in the early 19th century, and was possibly the first purpose built office block. It is now a coffee shop and restaurant. Next along is **Roland House**, built earlier in the 19th century as Ferres Almshouse before Prince's Dock was opened.



The next building, dated 1842, was the entrance to Trinity House Academy, a Nautical College founded in 1787. The college moved to a new site in 2013. The archway is one of the entrances to **Zebedee's Yard**, named after the longest serving headmaster of the college. It is now the location of one of Hull's

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memorials to over 6,000 fishermen lost at sea. The memorial is due to be moved to a new site down Hessle Road where the fishing community was located.

The opening of Junction Dock, in effect, made the centre of Hull an island which could only be accessed over one of four bridges. The dock was renamed following the visit of Prince Albert with Queen Victoria in 1854. The town of Hull became a city in 1897 as part of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee celebrations.



Walk further down Prince's Dock Street, on the right until you reach the end of **Posterngate.** Here the red bricks delineate the postern, which allowed one person at a time in or out of the town when the main gates were closed. You may also see the outlines of some of the many interval towers marked along the line of the wall. Beyond this is a row of Georgian buildings, now mainly restaurants and coffee bars. At the corner of Posterngate is a large former warehouse, which has

been a popular night club since the 1970s.

Now we are going down Posterngate. Wheelchair users might find this a difficult street to negotiate due to the uneven cobblestones and narrow pavement. If you decide to avoid it, **Whitefriargate** will take you down to **Trinity House Lane.** Here you will rejoin the other route.

Look around on the pavement. Can you find the shoal of herring moulded into the bricks? These are part of the Fish Trail. Carry on walking, crossing over Dagger Lane and past **The Mission**. This was previously a Seamen's Mission built in 1866, and has been a pub since 1995. *(See: Hull's Pubs in our 'Want to Know More?' section)*

Opposite the Mission, the two buildings next to the exit of Zebedee's Yard (used as a car park) are the one time Mercantile Marine Offices, built in 1868 and extended in 1874. This is where ships' crews would be signed on and discharged.



The large white building ahead is **Carmelite House**. The name comes from the Carmelite Monastery that stood near here in the 14th century. The monks or friars wore white robes which gave the name Whitefriargate to the street which runs along here. The present building was completed in 1826 as an Almshouse for Trinity House. (See: **Hull's Monasteries and Monks** in the 'Want to Know More?' section of our website)

Opposite Carmelite House is No 6 Posterngate, the previous Parochial Offices for the main two Churches in Hull, Holy Trinity and St Mary's. It was built in 1864 as you can see from the carvings on the frieze above the doors of the building.

Back across the street is the former **Harry Lazarus Hotel**, one of the licensed emigrant lodging houses for overnight accommodation for European migrants en route to Liverpool, and then on to America, in the mid nineteenth century. They would disembark from the Riverside Quay (near Humber Dock) to the lodging houses, and would then be escorted to the emigrant waiting room at the end of a platform in Paragon Station to wait for trains over to Liverpool and Manchester. The migrants were kept apart from locals because it was feared they might be infected with cholera.

The migrant's waiting room, built in 1885, still exist – it is now the Tiger's Lair, the bar for Hull City supporters on match day.



As you emerge from Posterngate, **Hull Minster**, formerly Holy Trinity, comes into view. You are now in Trinity Square.

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If you came down Whitefriargate, turn right into Trinity House Lane where you will rejoin this route,



At the end of Posterngate, turn left and take a short walk along Trinity House Lane. Here you will find **Bob Carver's**, a famous fish and chip shop. Nearby, on the same side, is the pub called The **Bonnie Boat**, named after the Inuit Canoe that is in the keeping of Trinity House, across the road. Look up and admire the

pediment above Trinity House.

Just a little bit of **Trinity House** history. It gets its name from Holy Trinity Church, aka Hull Minster, and evolved from a religious guild founded in 1369. Its members were from various occupations and it was formed to provide candles and masses and to ensure good attendance at funerals. By the 1450s it had changed to a guild for shipmasters only. It was later awarded a Royal Charter by Henry VIII in 1541 as the Guild of the Holy Trinity so, in its words, "that they might regulate the pilotage of ships in the King's streams". These duties continued until the Pilotage Act in 1987.

You will notice many signs and symbols related to navigation and shipping authorities as you travel around Hull's Old Town, one of the most important docks in England for much of the last 800 years.

End of Stage Two Stage Three begins in Trinity Square