



Stage Six – Market Place to High Street

You should be standing on the right hand pavement of Market Place near the **New Magistrates Court** which sits on the former site of the Augustinian Monastery. The friars wore black robes, hence Blackfriargate which we saw at the end of Stage 5.

When this area was excavated for the Law Courts graves of monks were found. These remains revealed a high incidence of arthritis which was probably caused by the swampy conditions of this area at the time. Also-preserved graves were flagellation whips which were probably used by the monks as part of their religious rituals.

See more about Hull monasteries and monks in the want to know more section of our website.

Markets were held here in Market Place from the early 1300s until the 1950s they continuing on in Trinity Square (in front of the Minster) until the 1980s

Records show that in 1806 a man sold his wife at market and delivered her to the purchaser Mr Houseman in a halter. This was not a particularly uncommon event in Yorkshire, where divorce proceedings were beyond the reach of most people.



From here you will see the magnificent **gold statue of King William III**, William of Orange, dressed as a Roman Emperor. Known locally as **King Billy** it was erected in 1734. In front of King Billy there is another public toilet built in 1902, with art nouveau tiles and transparent cisterns. Unfortunately it is closed at present.

Behind the statue is the **King** a music venue.

It was previously the **King William Hotel**. The building is known to have existed since 1799 but it didn't become a hotel until 1834.

Further along you will see a gold coloured telephone box. This is a tribute to Luke Campbell, Hull's gold medallist boxer from the 2012 Olympics.

Please walk on, from here you get an excellent view of the east end of **Hull Minster**. The earliest surviving parts of the church are from around 1320. The brickwork you can see was made from locally produced brick and it is one of the earliest surviving examples of a brick building in Britain today. Hull and Beverley are thought to be the first towns to mass-produce bricks since the end of the Roman era. This could be that there is little stone in the flood plains of East Yorkshire but an abundance of good quality clay.

Continue to walk past the minster, look to your left down what is North Church Side. You will see the Trinity Market bell tower again. You may have seen it from the other end from Posterngate, on the second stage of our walk.



Next we have our second recently lost pub the **Corn Exchange**. It fronts Lowgate but runs down North Church Side beside Holy Trinity Church. The full title is **Ye Olde Corn Exchange** and it does indeed sit on the site of a former corn exchange which occupied an open yard from the late 17th century. From the late 1800s a wine and spirits merchant occupied the site but it closed in 1913 and opened as a pub selling ale and food.

There have been a number of attempts to revitalise this historic pub but sadly it was closed permanently in 2023.

Further along the street is the one time Gaiety Picture House built in 1912, it is now a back packer hostel with a very good reputation.

Running to the left of Gaiety Picture House is a driveway which in Hull we call a tenfoot. Now a tenfoot is a public access which runs to the rear of a group of properties mind you it doesn't have to be 10ft wide and usually isn't!



Continue until you reach Liberty Lane. Again on the other side of Market Place you will see a blue bell hanging near an alley. This is sign to the **Ye Olde Blue Bell Pub**, which has a very narrow frontage that takes you down the alleyway. It leads to a Victorian pub which has changed very little over the years. In fact once inside you feel as if you have entered the 1880s

On the same side as the Blue Bell is an entrance to the indoor Trinity Market. Continue down Market Place and you will see the elaborately decorated **Hepworths Arcade** entrance. We will have a closer look at it stage 8 of our walk. For now cross Liberty Lane and walk to the next junction which is Scale Lane. *(Watching out for cars from both directions here)*

You should now have reached Scale Lane, we turn right here but just wait a moment and we'll have a look at the buildings on 3 of the 4 corners. You may have already guessed that they once had a previous life as city centre banks.

The building diagonally opposite with the word Bank over the door was the Midland, opened in 1890 the one in front of you was the National Provincial opened 1900 both are now café bars and restaurants. The 3rd one on the left was a branch of Lloyds, also opened around 1900 it has now been developed into apartments.

I ought to mention that most of the ex-banks covered on the walk are now café bars and restaurants and have on the whole maintained their superb interiors.

I think you might find it worthwhile to have a look in one or two of them just to see how times really have changed.

Now turn right down Scale Lane, staying on the right. As you go take time to look up at the buildings on your left.



One of the pubs down here is the **William Hawkes**, built 1820. It is a relatively new as a pub it opened in 2012 but brilliantly re-imagined. Gunmaker and dentist! William Hawkes occupied the building (hopefully he didn't confuse the two professions!). The pub has one main room and been designed to evoke a real Victorian feel. It has a small cosy interior with many mementoes of the past occupation and wonderful mahogany bar acquired from other pubs



Opposite the William Hawkes is the **Manchester Arms**, another fine Victorian pub in traditional style.

It has rejoiced in splendid former names such as the Blade Bone, the Slaw Bone, The Earl Grey and the Black Bull Inn before becoming the Manchester Arms in 1876 named after the first ship to enter Queens Dock in 1778.



A little further on is **No.5 Scale Lane**, also known as The Old House. This is Hull's oldest surviving domestic building and is timber framed. It dates from the 15th Century.

Opposite No.5 Scale Lane is **Burnett Avenue**, built in 1880. It is obviously not an avenue now but was originally built as an L-shaped alleyway giving open access to the properties inside the block. Note the heavy wear on the front step. We will see the other entrance to this alley when we walk down High Street later on.

Cross High Street (traffic comes from the right here) to Scale Lane Staith with The Lion and Key on the corner. On the side of the pub is a large information sign about the history of the pub and an explanation of the origin of the name. A staith gives access from High Street to the River Hull.



The **Lion and Key** built as the Britannia coffee house in 1812, it started serving alcohol in 1817. It gets its name from the Lion (being Wellington) following his victory at Ciudad Rodrigo in Spain in the Peninsular War. The Lion was said to have the Key to Spain. The pub is well worth a visit, note the ceilings adorned with beer mats, the retro advertising signs and the old Hull street signs.

Behind you on the opposite side of the Staithe is an excellent example of how and where most of Hull's wealthy 17th and 18th century merchants lived. They had their houses and front gardens here on High Street with warehouses behind, reaching down to the riverside. This meant that they could load and unload goods directly onto ships and barges from their own backyard.

Here we can see how one merchant's house developed from the 18th to the mid 19th century. You are looking at the side elevation of no. 44 to 46 High Street, known as Danish Buildings.

The front part facing High Street was completed in 1858 as purpose built offices, but if you look carefully you will see that it was built in the front garden of a 5 bay fronted merchant's house, this was the home of John Bayles and family. It was built around 1770 and behind it are his warehouses that faced the river. I doubt you would get planning permission for a building like that in your front garden nowadays.

As you walk up the gentle slope observe the bronze strips in the ground with the parts of sailing ships etched into them. This is a very pleasant place to rest or picnic on a warm day.



In front of you is **Scale Lane Bridge** a swing footbridge over the River Hull. It was built as part of the 2017 City of Culture celebrations and is unique in that it is the only bridge in the country you walk on and off and ride on whilst it is operating. There is an information board close by and you can find out operating times from the Hull City Council website.

As you face the river, to your right you can see **Myton Bridge** this takes the A63 over the River Hull. You can also see the **Flood Barrier** and **The Deep**.

You can hear more about these on Stage 5 of the walk.

Please now make your way back to High Street and to your right you will see **Ye Olde Black Boy** pub. It is Hull's oldest pub and was first licensed in 1729 this is the end of stage 6.

If you would like to let us know what you think about this or any other part of our website, please go to **Trip Advisor** and enter **Hull Heritage Walk, reviews** and take it from there. Thank you.

Stage 7 begins facing Black Boy on the opposite side of the street.

This is the end of Stage 6