



Stage Two – Into the ‘Old Town’



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!

Well, 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 3 or 4 times a day much to the frustration of pedestrians and motorists.



Now the **monument** still exists; it's a 90-foot column with a 12 foot tall statue of **William Wilberforce** on top. You can see him from here, through the trees at the far end of Queen's Gardens in front of Hull College.

It was moved here in 1934 as part of a traffic re-organisation. You'll get a closer look at him on Stage 8 of the walk.

(There is a photograph of how this area used to look in the 'Now & Then' section on our website).

Nearby on your left have a look over the glass barriers around **Beverley Gate**. Looking down you will see the foundations of the main gate to the medieval Hull. This is where, on St Georges Day 1642, the Governor of Hull, Sir John Hotham, refused King Charles access to the town and its extensive arsenal, the largest outside London

Although most of the North of England was Royalist, during the English Civil War, 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)*

Now in front of you behind Beverley Gate is **Burton House**.



A grade 2 listed art deco building built in 1936 for Montague Burton a gentleman's outfitters. A restoration completed in 2024 brought out the beauty of the polished pearl black granite cladding and the Art Deco windows.

From here walk to the left of Beverley Gate to the junction of Princes Dock Street and Whitefriargate turn right and walk down **Prince's Dock Street**. As you walk move to the wide paved area on your right and 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 14th century.

Over five million bricks were used in the construction of the 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 Alms-house 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 you can see 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 memorials to over 6,000 fishermen lost at sea. It is now the location of one of Hull's memorials to over 6,000 fishermen lost at sea

The opening of Princes Dock formally known as 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-hand pavement until you reach the end of **Posterngate**. Here the red bricks on the ground outline the 'postern', a check point 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. To your left is a row of what were Georgian houses, now they are mainly restaurants and coffee bars.

At the corner of Posterngate is a large former warehouse built in 1831. It has been a popular night club since the 1970s.

Now please walk 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 this, then go*

*back to **Whitefriargate** and walk down there to the end and turn right at the first cross roads you come to, this is **Trinity House Lane**.*

At the end of Trinity House Lane, you will see the other the end of Posterngate where you will rejoin the other route.

Look down on the right-hand pavement of Posterngate. Can you find the shoal of herring moulded into the bricks? These are part of Hull's Fish Trail. Carry on walking, crossing over Dagger Lane and passed **The Mission**. This was previously a Seamen's Mission built in 1866, and has been a pub/restaurants since 1995.



(See: Hull's Pubs in our 'Want to Know More?' section of our website)

Opposite the Mission, the two buildings next to the exit of Zebedee's Yard (now used as a car park) are the one time Mercantile Marine Offices, built in 1868 and extended in 1874. This is where, until the mid 1980's, ships' crews would be signed on and discharged.



The large white building next to the Mercantile Marine Offices 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 the street we mentioned earlier.

This 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 transmigrates on route to Liverpool, and then on to America, in the mid 19th and until 1914. The transmigrants were kept apart from

locals because it was feared they might be infected with cholera or other diseases.

The migrant's waiting room, built in 1885, still exists – it's near the rear of Paragon Interchange on Anlaby Road. It is now the Tiger's Lair, the bar for Hull City supporters on match day.

You can read about the 19th century transmigration through Hull in our 'Want to more' section.



As you emerge from Posterngate, you will have arrived in Trinity Square with the magnificent **Hull Minster** (formally Holy Trinity Church) in view.

You'll hear more about Hull Minster at the beginning of Stage 3 of our walk. So for now please cross over the end of Trinity House Lane and stand in front of the Kingston Hotel pub, and turn around.

The impressive white building opposite is Trinity House. It gets its name from Holy Trinity Church and was originally set up to look after visiting seamen.



Trinity House has occupied this site since the 1450's. Look up (being careful of passing traffic and people) and see the magnificently ornate three bay building with a pediment over the main entrance.

With its reclining figures, unicorn, lion, and shield, it's well worth a couple of minutes of your time. Just a little bit of Trinity House history before we carry on.

It gets its name from Holy Trinity Church, now 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.



If we look carefully to the right of the Trinity house entrance you will see a green plaque which bears the name “**Thomas Ferris**.”

He was a master mariner, a warden of Hull Trinity House, Mayor and Sheriff of Hull and a significant benefactor to Hull Trinity House leaving his estate for the benefit of distress seafarers”.

If you want to know more about this wonderful man and his fascinating history then go to ‘Beggars Bridge a Hull Story of Adventure, Love and Romance’ in the Want to Know More section of our website.

It’s now possible to take a tour around this magnificent building, information is available at the Information Pod in the Hull Interchange or you can see the Hull Trinity House website for details.



Also, around here there are 2 pubs of particular interest. The first, **The Kingston**, just behind you, is a typical Mid-Victorian pub with one room built around a central bar.

The other one, a bit further down Trinity House Lane on the right is the Bonny Boat.

It is known to have traded as early as 1791 and again it has a single room with lots of fascinating objects which reflect Hull's nautical past.

Both pubs are worth a moment of your time.

Well, you are now at the **end of stage 2** of our walk and I really do hope you've enjoyed it.

When you're ready to start **Stage 3 return to Trinity Square** facing Hull Minster, and go to the 'Trinity Square to the Marina' section of the walk.

Thank you