

Section1: Tower 1 to Bitchdaughter Tower (walls and minor towers)

M1	Masonry sound with no significant decay or loss of fabric (except severe cracking in external wall at Tower 2 and near Bitchdaughter Tower)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface
F2	Some decay of flags or minor cracking or wear, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
R1	Ramparts in good condition, well maintained with full public access
S2	Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet. A map of the City Wall circuit is provided in Tower 1, section featured in Trail leaflet.
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically pleasing
A2	Some physical access issues, a few steps, occasional access from ground level
VF3	No visitor facilities

Notes

Severe cracking of external wall may be due to structural movement. There is a reasonable amount of vegetation on the interior ramparts. There are a large number of sizable trees growing on Baile Hill, probably the successors of the 18th century plantings. Some of the slopes of the motte are eroded from visitor use, this erosion clearly also being an issue when the Royal Commission made their survey in 1971¹. Wooden batons have been inserted to provide support for the slope. One stanchion in the railings to the south of Baile Hill is missing, erosion from people using this as an entrance to the motte can be clearly seen. White daffodils on the outer ramparts bloom later than the yellow and extend the flowering season. A pavement, following the line of the walls, is provided internally and externally.

Character

This area has a quiet residential suburban character, with attractive, good quality Victorian brick built, terrace houses facing onto the appealing green, steeply sloping sward of the ramparts. There is a feeling of intimacy. Baile Hill is a major topographical feature, with a dominating presence, and the Walls provide a weathered limestone enclosure to the open space.

Opportunities / recommendations

The severe cracking should be investigated by the City Engineer. The wall walk comes very low to the rampart near to Baile Hill, which provides an opportunity for improving physical access to the wall walk by provision of ramp or similar. The two shallow steps up onto Bitchdaughter Tower and two shallow steps off onto the wall heading north west to Victoria Bar, where the wall is at its widest, could also be overcome through use of ramping to provide access to a large section of the wall walk. A ramp at Baile Hill could be curved to complement the topography. Further research regarding the 18th century planting scheme may provide opportunities for the restoration of this landscaping. This may also suggest an appropriate design for the ramp, although an obviously modern, well-designed structure would also be appropriate. This area has an interesting history; being used at various times as a castle, for grazing, for musters, a gun emplacement, a prison, for Shrovetide games and as a prospect mound. These uses provide many opportunities for interpretation and encouraging use by local communities. In addition, its use as a prospect mound could be reinstated, possibly with the judicious removal of trees/tree limbs/vegetation. There is an opportunity for the re-instatement of the steps on the south west side to combat the problems of erosion, but an archaeological assessment must be undertaken

¹ See photograph on p93 of this volume.

to judge the impact of this. It would be desirable to locate this on the area excavated in the 1960s.



Erosion on Baile Hill

Section 2: Bitchdaughter Tower

M1	Masonry sound with no significant decay or loss of fabric (except for one severe crack as mentioned on previous sheet)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
F1	Flags sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear
R1	Ramparts in good condition, well maintained with full public access
S3	Signage, orientation, interpretation in poor condition, inappropriate to setting, intellectually inaccessible, significantly detracts from significance of monument, no interpretive provision known of
SV2	Attractive view, nearby features of some interest, possible opportunity for secondary interpretation
SV3	Of minor interest, nearby features of little interest without intrusive / extensive interpretation, little opportunity for interpretation except perhaps for specialists
A2	Some physical access issues, a few steps
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

Severe cracking may be continuing subsidence, historically mentioned as "Biche Doughter tower already shronken from the Citie wall"². Severe cracking of external wall may alternatively be due to the 'bellows' effect, as mentioned by the City Engineer at Robin Hood Tower.

Inside the Tower, accessed through a doorway, with small window above, now secured with a bolted grill, is a small room with a mixture of stone and brick walls and a brick vaulted ceiling. There is a brick backed fireplace and a small niche high in the far (south) wall. The interior of the tower appears to retain at least the remnants of a brick and cobbled floor.

There is an amount of rubbish in the interior of the tower. This may have resulted from unauthorised use and access. Although the interior of the tower is not currently accessible to the public, the rubbish poses a health and safety hazard and also some degree of fire risk.

Character

Notes on previous sheet are also applicable to this feature. The Tower is a natural pausing point on the wall walk and provides an opportunity for visitors to orientate themselves. It also provides a viewing point for Baile Hill, the residential area of York to the south of the walls, and the impressive straight section of Walls heading north west towards Micklegate Bar.

Opportunities / recommendations

See notes on previous sheet regarding opportunities for physical access to the exterior. The severe cracking should be investigated by the City Engineer. The flat top of the Tower provides a space with opportunities for installation of public art, or visitor facilities such as seating incorporating interpretive design. Space should be left for free circulation of wheelchairs should the physical access to this section of the Walls be increased. The top of the Tower could provide viewing space for events held on the ramparts below. Previous uses such as a prison and watch house provide opportunities for interpretation.

Thorough cleaning of the interior room and an intrusive archaeological investigation could reveal the extent of the remaining floor surface. Despite its small dimensions, this room may provide an opportunity for re-use, possibly for

² RCHME. 1972. *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the City of York: Volume II - The Defences*, p91

fixed interpretation or occasional use for events. Re-use must, however, be tempered with the need to secure the space in order to avoid build up of further debris and unauthorised use overnight. Consideration might also be given to use as a bat roost.

The brick vaulted ceiling of the interior room



***Evidence
for
potential
survival
of brick
(left)
and
cobbled
(right)
floor***



Niche in south wall



Brick backed fireplace

Section 3: Bitchdaughter Tower to Micklegate Bar (walls and minor towers)

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
M3	Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P3	Mortar pointing showing noticeable loss of mortar or use of inappropriate mortar requiring attention within c.15 years
F1 F3	Flags sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear Distinct signs of decay or more severe cracking or wear, life of flags limited
R1	Ramparts in good condition, well maintained with full public access, including provision of play area
IVT	Inappropriate / damaging vegetation or tree in vicinity of Walls, appears to be exacerbating decay or creating problems – remnants of thick ivy stem on the outside base of the wall, tree overhanging the wall - both near Micklegate Bar.
S3	No interpretive provision known of (except for mention of chessboard carved into flag)
SV2	Attractive view, nearby features of some interest, possible opportunity for secondary interpretation (Victoria Bar and Lounelith, opportunity to provide views across the city to the Minster)
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls (but flat, wide, straight section of wall walk)
VF3	No visitor facilities

Notes

The interior of the wall has been reinforced with early brickwork, which now shows signs of slumping. CYC Conservation Officer suggested that this could be due to the rubble interior of the wall drying and contracting over time.

A retractable bollard prevents unauthorised traffic from using Victoria Bar.

This section includes some of the earliest towers along the Walls, including Saddler Tower, which has recently been repaired, including the insertion of two RSJs; a repair very much in the SPAB genre. The interior of the tower has a new gravel floor, unfortunately used as a big litter tray by the local cats. There is some cracking visible in the ceiling. A fireplace is situated on the west wall. A bolted grill secures the doorway.

Character

Internally, this area has mostly a quiet residential suburban character, with attractive, good quality Victorian brick built, terrace houses, with small front gardens facing onto the appealing green sloping sward of the ramparts. The feeling of intimacy at Section 1 declines slightly as the rampart gets less steep and more broad and the houses further from the Wall as one proceeds towards Micklegate Bar. There is also more variety of building types towards the Bar, including small Victorian civic buildings. A line of mature trees edges the rampart in most places. All these features give a more formal, more urban, less intimate but nevertheless attractive character to this section.

Externally, much of the character of the York suburbs has been lost due to the position of a large open car park next to the City Walls; with the busy Nunnery Lane often full with queuing traffic.

Opportunities / recommendations

There are opportunities for providing interpretation of the Roman Colonia and for the judicious removal of trees/ tree limbs to provide vista / views of the Minster

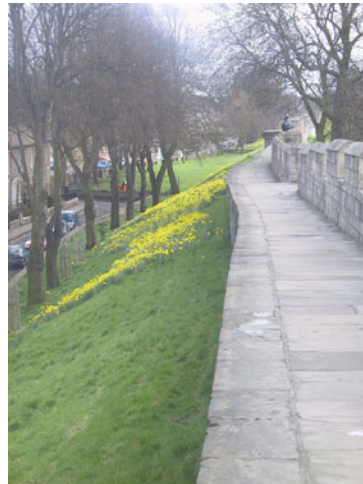
across the city. Also some of the Victorian civic buildings are interesting. Externally the Wall near Saddler Tower contains a good example of a stone shattered by cannon shot and there are frequent mason's marks on the external Wall between Bitchdaughter Tower and Tower 4, both of which could be interpreted near Victoria Bar or along the outer pathway, encouraging visitors and local people to 'read' the archaeological evidence in the wall. The carved head at Tower 10 and the inscribed stone by Tower 8 also provide opportunities. The playground could be updated, possibly with a Medieval / walls / castle theme.

Saddler Tower may again provide an opportunity for re-use, possibly for fixed interpretation or occasional use for events. Re-use must, as previously



mentioned, be tempered with the need to secure the space in order to avoid build up of further debris and unauthorised use overnight. The gravel flooring of the Tower could be re-thought so as not to encourage feline use. Interval towers could also be considered as appropriate for use as bat roosts.

Victoria Bar



The intimate attractive residential character of this section subtly changes as one moves north west towards Micklegate Bar



The Nunnery Lane car park

Section 4: Micklegate Bar

M1	Masonry sound with no significant decay or loss of fabric
M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
P2	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar
F1	Flags (internally) sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear
S2	ONLY NOT S1 DUE TO PRESENTATION ISSUES WITHIN MUSEUM. Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF1	Major visitor facilities, such as museum

Notes

The fabric of the Bar includes re-used Roman blocks and sarcophagi. The effects of traffic pollution and collision are evident. The wallwalk passes through a passageway from which the first floor can be accessed. The Micklegate Bar Museum occupies the interior. The museum focuses on the use of the Bar for displaying severed heads and the social history / people relating to the Bar. The museum is therefore dependant on its location as the subject matter of the museum relates directly to the Bar. Access to upper floors internally is via steep wooden stairs between the floors. Little is provided in the way of services: the building has no water, gas or toilet facilities. The museum is currently negotiating its lease with the council; it is also subject to a three yearly rent review.

The museum, which opened in 1984, does not keep visitor figures but on a good Saturday, it will receive approximately 50 visitors. The museum is part of the York Pass and the 'Hidden Secrets of York' schemes. The museum owner is undertaking on-going research relating to the Bar and is continuing to develop displays about the people that have lived there. The owner has a great deal of enthusiasm and good ideas for developing the museum but is constrained through lack of funding. Currently approximately 50% of the museum's income comes from the shop. Limited funding has resulted in some displays that would benefit from updating and upgrading.

The museum has 1 full time staff post and a number of part time staff and volunteers. Usually only one person will staff the museum at any one time, apart from during busy periods when two members of staff may be on duty. The museum has links with the Leonardo (language) scheme and takes language students on placement. Comments to the museum staff have included: not enough information on the Walls to tell people what they are looking at; not enough toilets / lack of orientation to toilet facilities; too few rubbish bins.

The area suffers from anti-social behaviour including attempted break ins, homeless people sleeping, begging and lighting fires. These incidents occur around the foot of the Bar at pavement level and in the passageway at first floor / museum entrance level. Hypodermic needles have also been found in the joists here. The Council agreed in February 2001 that gates were required at either end of the passageway in front of the museum entrance in an attempt to prevent arson and break-ins to the museum. SAM consent has been given for these gates on health and safety grounds, temporary gates were due to be installed in May 2004.

It was voiced that the owners, traders and workers in Micklegate believe that the historic core of York is solely promoted as the area east of the river and the Micklegate area has become neglected, which promotes anti-social behaviour.

Character

The Bar has an imposing presence both when approached from the wallwalk and when seen from street level. This area of the City is quite built up, with buildings closely compacted and of several stories, however the Bar still dominates visually and adds to the pleasing mixture of historic periods, materials and styles represented. It is one of the images most used as being representative of the historic character of the City and is highly photographed by tourists. Internally, the trappings of the museum detract little from appreciating the layout and fabric of the building, which retains an 'air' of age.

Opportunities / recommendations

The future provision of permanent gates at either end of the passageway provides an opportunity for the Council to commission something special and exciting visually that enhances the structure and people's experience of the Bar and the Walls. This could possibly incorporate interpretive design or utilise local craftspeople.

As with all the Bars it would be preferable if it could be closed to vehicular traffic, or at least restriction of large vehicles, in order to prevent the inevitable serious damage to the historic fabric.

The museum is an appropriate re-use for the Bar and provides an opportunity for visitors to learn more about the structure, the use of the Walls themselves and the social history of York. However, there are opportunities to improve the quality of some of the exhibits and graphics, although this is currently restricted by financial restraints. The provision of assistance with specialist skills such as marketing, interpretation and museum practice as well as co-ordinating joint funding bids across the Walls would be recommended. It is also recommended, for all structures along the walls, that opportunities are explored for increasing access, for example through virtual media. While the museum should be commended for providing its own website that supplies an extent of virtual access this would also benefit from regular updating, especially as technology develops extremely quickly.

In addition it is recommended that allowing for the sensitivity of the historic structure and fabric, services are installed to improve the product for the tenants

and to improve the possibilities of finding an alternative tenant should the need arise.



The character of Micklegate Bar dominates the surrounding buildings

Damage from traffic pollution to the stonework and collision damage is particularly obvious inside the central arch



Interpretation in the museum: that works (showing visitors how the Bar may have looked with its barbican intact); and some that needs to be made more accessible (handwritten display with large amounts of text in a small font size).

Section 5: Micklegate Bar to Barker Tower (walls and minor towers)

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
M3	Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
P2	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar
F3	Distinct signs of decay or more severe cracking or wear, life of flags limited
R1	Ramparts in good condition, well maintained with full public access
R3	Ramparts showing signs of wear and tear, obvious truncation or in private use with no public access
SFD	Significant feature in danger of collapse, near total decay or destruction of significance due to decay – potential of this occurring with the railway arches, although this is being addressed
S2	Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A2	Some physical access issues, a few steps, occasional access from ground level
VF2	Some visitor facilities, such as seating, litter bins, orientation, signage

Notes

Four bench seats are provided, one at Tofts Tower (and a litter bin) and three near to North Street Postern. There are many Civil War gun loops in this stretch of wall and an inscribed boundary stone near Tower 16.

The internal rampart area around Tofts Tower is immediately behind a private office building (Jarvis) and is not conducive for public access as it is likely to be private property. Between Tofts Tower and Tower 14 there is a railway arch through the Wall beyond which are a number of arches under the roadway, some of which appear to be partially used for storage and one that is used as a throughway. These arches may be owned by Jarvis and certainly front onto Jarvis' staff car park.

It was noted that the internal rampart from Micklegate up to Tofts Tower is notorious for disposal of used hypodermic needles.

Along the stretch of Wall from Tofts Tower towards Barker Tower there are a number of areas where modern railings are provided and some areas where railings have been removed. Within the inner ramparts near Tower 15 air raid shelters survive.

The area in front of the railway station, Queen Street and the area to the west is due to be re-developed. The removal of the Queen Street bridge has been muted.

Engineering work is, at the time of writing, currently being undertaken on one of the railway arches.

From the walkway over the road arches, the view of the Minster is one of the most photographed views in York. In addition the old railway station building and the impressive NER offices (now GNER) can be seen. On the internal ramparts towards Barker Tower there are a number of municipal flowerbeds. North Street Postern is a large arch of 1840 replacing the original small gateway.

Character

The Wall from Micklegate to Tofts Tower is probably the most utilitarian stretch along the Walls circuit. The sharp drop to the busy road externally and the buildings along Queens Street give the view to the exterior of the Wall a slight air of neglect. The height of the stretch of wall from Tofts Tower to Barker Tower and the views over this area of the city give the impression of a more open space than the more intimate character of many other areas of the Walls. The views of the railway station and hotel externally and the impressive Victorian railway buildings internally give this section an historic urban character with a massing of large solid buildings and developments.

Opportunities / recommendations

As mentioned in the main Plan the opportunity has been missed when providing street furniture to commission pieces that incorporate interpretation or art that would enhance the Walls and add to the visitor's enjoyment of the experience. We would recommend that these opportunities are explored and that only high quality robust furniture is used.

There may be opportunities for re-use of the arches under the roadway if issues regarding ownership, access and so on could be resolved. There may be potential for small businesses, interpretation areas or refreshments. Queen Street Bridge does little to enhance the monument but does not actively detract from it. Its removal may cause structural issues with Tofts Tower and the ramparts in this area. The form of any replacement structural support will need to be carefully considered.

It may be possible to open up the air raid shelters to public access on certain days, such as the Heritage Open Days or for occasions such as the recent D-Day anniversary. Opportunities should be explored to exploit the high lime content of this area in relation to encouraging solitary bee species.

The municipal flowerbeds are at odds with the character of the Wall, although this area has a history of municipal horticultural use (see pictures below), it would be possible to incorporate something more interesting in this area.



The character and presence of the inner ramparts beds 1950s (left) and 1880s (above) has been gradually eroded³

³ http://library.york.gov.uk/uhtbin/cgisirsi/0/0/57/49?user_id=YORKIMAGES

Section 6: Barker Tower

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
P2	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar
S3	Signage, orientation, interpretation in poor condition, inappropriate to setting, intellectually inaccessible, significantly detracts from significance of monument, no interpretive provision known of
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

This building is not currently occupied. The stone flagged floor of the upper floor flexes under a slight load and is supported on recently replaced timber joists, the main beam of which is severely cracked. The ground floor interior room floods badly and unsurprisingly there is evidence of damp in the stonework. The roof timbers have either been extensively altered or are re-used wood. The only trace of the staircase mentioned in the RCHME volume is a blocked trapdoor in the first floor. The top step of the external flight leading to the first floor is badly cracked.

Discarded hypodermic needles have been noted around the entrance to the tower.

There appear to be five partially blocked slit openings around the tower, recorded as 'windows' in the RCHME volume. The first floor of the tower was originally open, as demonstrated by the moulded parapet and waterspouts.

Physical access is good to view some of the exterior of the Tower but the interior and many of the interesting features externally are difficult to access.

Character

The attractive patina of the tiled roof can be easily observed from pavement level at Lendal Bridge. The interior of the tower has a charming character, especially the ground floor, which is unfortunately spoilt by the green algae and damp walls. The ground floor interior room has an almost chapel like ambience, probably due to the series of stone arches. The exposed roof timbers greatly add to the character of the first floor.

Opportunities / recommendations

The cracking of the main timber beam supporting the first floor should be investigated as a priority.

An appropriate re-use should be sought for this building, which should include provision for public access.

On initial inspection it appears that the partially blocked slit windows extend below the current floor level indicating that the floor was originally at a lower level. The building should be fully recorded and if this proves to be the case there may be opportunities for intrusive investigation through the ground floor, which may contain rich archaeological deposits and could be a temporary attraction for the public. The roof timbers could also be investigated to establish if they are re-used timber, as appears to be the case. The deviation from the regular plan of the ground floor in the west corner should also be investigated during recording to establish if this is the original plan or a later alteration.



Frequent flooding and the tower's position has resulted in damp in the ground floor stonework



The main beam supporting the first floor flags is cracked along its length

Section 7: Lendal Tower

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
P3	Mortar pointing showing noticeable loss of mortar or use of inappropriate mortar requiring attention within c.15 years
S3	Signage, orientation, interpretation in poor condition, inappropriate to setting, intellectually inaccessible, significantly detracts from significance of monument, no interpretive provision known of
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A1	Physical access good, slopes rather than steps, flat surfaces, access from ground level - to courtyard and to engine house
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls – to interior of Tower and Lendal Hill House
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

A brick built residential Georgian property adjoins Lendal Tower: Lendal Hill House. A brick built engine house/ payments hall completes the trio of buildings around the internal courtyard. The Helmsley Group has recently acquired the site and all buildings for "refurbishment".

While the house and payments hall are beyond the scope of this study they play an integral part in telling the later story of the Tower and the City and as such they have high group value.

The Yorkshire Archaeological Trust is currently being using the house for storing and processing archaeological finds. The engine house / payments hall is currently unused and frequently suffers from vandalism.

Many of the alterations undertaken by York Waterworks were of high quality and of interest and value in relation to this later use of the Tower as offices. There are also some artefacts and ephemera left behind that belonged to the Waterworks Board.

The additional buildings increase the group value of this site and are of value in relation to the information they can provide regarding the use of the site and evidence of engineering development.

There are some physical conservation issues relating to the deterioration of the fabric including stone decay around windows in the Tower, use of hard cement mortar, and ingress of water / damp problems in the engine house and Lendal Hill House.

An old-fashioned interpretation panel is provided on the wall of the Tower facing the pavement over Lendal Bridge.

Character

The small courtyard garden between the three buildings is an attractive and secluded space, from which it is possible to view all three buildings and appreciate their different characters. The Tower and, from the courtyard side, the house show large degrees of intervention and appear 'patchy' with a hotchpotch of features and an inconsistent, but appealing, character. The front façade of Lendal Hill House is more uniform, formal and characteristic of its period. The Tower is grandiose and looms protectively over the house, river and

garden. The engine house / payments hall is more utilitarian but nevertheless has some interesting and attractive architectural features including its window arrangement (one pair, one upper and one lower, within a recessed arch), the contrasting stone cills and string course.

Opportunities / recommendations

The Tower, house and engine house / payments hall are extremely useful spaces for which appropriate re-uses should be found. Any re-use should consider the facilitation of public access, at least on occasions such as Heritage Open Days.

Within the scope of this study it is not possible to fully analysis these buildings. As a group they have extremely high architectural, historical, archaeological, aesthetic, engineering and other values and should be treated appropriately. A building survey and analysis should be undertaken for this group of buildings and especially the Tower itself. Preferably a specific Conservation Plan or Statement should be produced to increase understanding of the complicated alterations and developments that have occurred and to inform any future work necessary and therefore secure a sustainable and appropriate re-use. This is an extremely important group of buildings, both for the City Walls and in its wider context in relation to the City itself, and it must be developed in a way that enhances and protects its significance.

It has been suggested that a new doorway could be created at the back of the engine house / payments hall in one of the lower window openings. This would facilitate level access to the building from the Museum Gardens and negate the issues of physical access over the cobbles on Lendal Hill. It would, however, destroy the symmetry of the façade and consideration should be given to retaining this symmetry perhaps by insertion of a second door, as it is not possible to choose a central window opening for alteration. The width and height of the openings should also be retained.

Other features of interest should be retained and sympathetically treated throughout development, including: the wooden panelling, lift, fireplaces, plaster ceilings, equipment relating to waterworks use, and stone arches in the Tower; the oriel window, fireplace and original doors in Hill House; the entrance gate to the passageway; the fabric of the City Walls incorporated in Hill House; the area of ramparts to the north east. There are likely to be many other features of interest and value that contribute to the significance of these buildings and further study is required to fully understand and identify these.

The artefacts and ephemera that belonged to the Waterworks Board should be donated to the Museum. A full photographic survey and written recording of all items should be undertaken before any items are removed.

The small courtyard garden between the three buildings should be utilised or designed in such a way that it complements and 'links' the buildings together, as they could become disjointed if different uses were found for each of them or the access points into the buildings altered, damaging their group value.

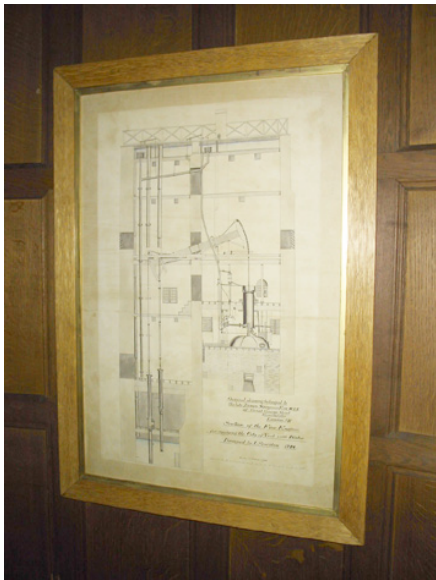


The engine house / payments hall suffers from repeated vandalism





The group of buildings contains many features of significance that should be further investigated, protected and enhanced



Examples of artefacts and ephemera that should be donated to the Museum.



The interpretive provision on Lendal Tower



Section 8: Lendal Tower to Bootham Bar (walls and minor towers)

M3	Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P2	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar
R3	Ramparts showing signs of wear and tear, obvious truncation or in private use with no public access
IVT	Inappropriate / damaging vegetation or tree in vicinity of Walls, appears to be exacerbating decay or creating problems – possible damage to ramparts or wall in area behind Lendal Tower. Some vegetation growth on interior of Multangular Tower.
S1	Signage, orientation, interpretation in good condition, appropriate to setting, intellectually accessible or enhances monument, a main feature in current general leaflet interpretation
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A1	Physical access good, slopes rather than steps, flat surfaces, access from ground level
VF2	Some visitor facilities, such as seating, litter bins, orientation, signage

Notes

The walkway along the short stretch of Wall between Lendal Tower and the Museum Gardens entrance is not open for public access. The Museum Gardens are closed to the public in the evenings.

A number of carved stones provide interpretation, orientation and attempt visitor management for the Multangular Tower and the features behind the library.

The various stretches of Wall behind the library are not well signed and are difficult to find, while this area has an aura of private property that does not encourage exploration. There are also some issues regarding personal safety in this area. The footpath from the Museum Gardens past the King's Manor to Exhibition Square can also appear to be private and visitors are not particularly encouraged to use this route.

The Wall to the south west side of St Leonard's is breached and has been repaired with brick. Much of the walls here are covered with plant growth, which will trap water and increase decay.

Paved paths and bench seats are provided within the Museum Gardens.

Character

The Multangular Tower and Wall bordering St Leonard's precinct provide a backdrop for the Museum Gardens, enhancing the impression of a Victorian pleasure garden with associated antiquities. The area within the Walls in the grounds of the library is secluded and quiet, imbuing a sense of escape from the bustle of the City.

Opportunities / recommendations

It is recommended that the access, orientation and interpretation be improved for this area and in particular the area behind the library.

Near to the Anglian Tower is one of the best pieces of interpretation for the city Walls, a series of banks indicating the rampart levels at different historical periods. In light of recent excavations this may need to be revised, it is important that information provided to the public is correct.

The vegetation covering much of the tops of the Walls in this area should be carefully removed ensuring that pulling out roots does not damage the stonework, where necessary a weedkiller should be used prior to removal or plant growth covered until it has died back. Soft capping could be considered for the Multangular Tower and potentially the Wall from this towards Museum Street.

Various pageants have been held in the past in the Museum Gardens using the background of the Walls, it would be possible to resurrect this tradition, possibly in conjunction with other regular festivals that are held in the City.

This area is a point where visitor to the City Walls could be encouraged to explore the City further, visit other attractions and generate secondary economic benefits.

There is a short section of rampart behind the City Wall between Lendal Hill House and the entrance to the Museum Gardens. There is potential that this has been disturbed less than many other areas of rampart and may be worth physical investigation to establish the extent of survival and increase understanding about the ramparts.

It should be noted that a Management Plan is, at the time of writing, being prepared for the Museum Gardens. This document should be consulted prior to any development or alteration occurring in this area.



Interpretation, orientation and visitor management



Vegetation on the Multangular Tower could be replaced with a controlled 'soft capping' technique

Section 9: Bootham Bar

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
P2 P1	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
F2	Some decay of flags or minor cracking or wear, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future (especially steps up to first floor)
S2	Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

This Bar is still used as a vehicular thoroughfare into the city centre. Pigeons frequent the interior of the Bar and there is an amount of guano over the floor. Spikes have been installed to discourage them but these do not appear to be sufficient deterrent. Proposals are being made for the installation of a mechanism that would allow the raising and lowering of the portcullis. The Bar is situated at a key access point for visitors, with the bus stops, tour stops and TIC also situated here although a cluttered appearance is caused by the signage and street furniture associated with these.

Character

The clutter of street signage around Exhibition Square detracts from the visual appearance of this Bar but it nevertheless is a crucial part of the character of the Square. From High Petergate it provides the focal point of the street, extending the character suggested by the variety of small shop fronts and frontages with a 'strong vertical rhythm'. Bootham is on a more domestic / human scale than the other main medieval bars.

Opportunities / recommendations



Options should be explored to solve the pigeon issue, as the existence of their droppings is a health & safety concern. Mitigation techniques such as the use of birds of prey could also be viewed as providing an additional visitor attraction.

The practicalities of the portcullis project with regards to gaining the consents required and the conservation requirements of the building, together with the health and safety issues, would need to be carefully considered and may require a detailed conservation and design study. While the majority of the fabric that would be affected would be of Victorian origin, the main Conservation Plan has identified that this is of value in itself as an example of early 'conservation' philosophy. The financial costs of this work may also make it inappropriate and unfeasible and resources could well be put to better use elsewhere.

This is another point where visitors could be encouraged into the City; down Petergate the small attractive shops encourage exploration and browsing.

The rationalisation of the signage around the Bar and the general upgrading of Exhibition Square is an opportunity for enhancing the setting of the monument and improving one of the public spaces within the City.

Section 10: Bootham Bar to Monk Bar (walls and minor towers)

M1	Masonry sound with no significant decay or loss of fabric
M3	Some near Gray's Court - Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
P4	Rare – some near Gray's Court- Mortar pointing severely decayed with almost total loss of mortar resulting in instability of masonry or use of inappropriate mortar causing significant loss of masonry
F1	Flags sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear
F2	Some decay of flags or minor cracking or wear, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
R3	Ramparts showing signs of wear and tear, obvious truncation or in private use with no public access – mostly private gardens or precinct
SFD	Significant feature in danger of collapse, near total decay or destruction of significance due to decay (Robin Hood Tower)
IVT	Inappropriate / damaging vegetation or tree in vicinity of Walls, appears to be exacerbating decay or creating problems – trees overhanging walls and additional vegetation in private gardens but difficult to assess due to no access to private gardens
S1	Signage, orientation, interpretation in good condition, appropriate to setting, intellectually accessible or enhances monument, a main feature in current general leaflet interpretation - this section of the wall is strongly emphasised in visitor literature as <i>the</i> part of the walls to walk
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant – Minster and Minster precinct
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF2	Some visitor facilities, such as seating, litter bins, orientation, signage

Notes

Near Tower 24 there is a group of re-used stones dating from c.1150 and possibly from the Archbishop's Palace. There are also many re-used blocks on the inner face north of Monks Bar near to Gray's Court.

There are a number of private entrances / stairways onto the wall that are now locked or blocked off. There are many private gardens that border the Walls in this section.

There is a plaque on the section of the wall overlooking Ripon St. John's. This relates to this section of the Wall being restored to city ownership by Edwin Gray in 1889.

There is an unexcavated ice-house within the Minster precinct, close to the Wall near interval tower 24. There are several large trees currently situated on top of this structure and there are plans in progress to remove the trees and excavate this feature.

Props support the platform of Robin Hood Tower internally and there are health & safety concerns for large parties of people standing on the platform. It is thought that this structural problem is caused by the 'bellows' effect, which occurs because the Tower is situated at the angle of two portions of Wall and the thermal movement of the Walls.

Character

The character of this area is strongly influenced by the style of private gardens to be seen from the Wall and the number of large trees overhanging the Wall. It is often mentioned as the most attractive section of the wallwalk and THE section to walk. The Wall itself is the Victorian reconstruction of what they thought a medieval wall and towers should look like. Many spectacular views of the Minster

and the nearby historic houses / residences can be viewed from this stretch of the Walls.

Opportunities / recommendations

A more permanent solution to the issues at Robin Hood Tower should be sought in conjunction with the City Engineer and English Heritage. The large amount of minor vegetation around the Walls in private gardens may hide minor defects that require swift attention if they are not to become serious problems.

Therefore the owners and businesses around this area should be approached and a regular inspection made of any areas concealed by vegetation. Specifically a thorough inspection in winter should be undertaken, when leaves have fallen and access is easier.

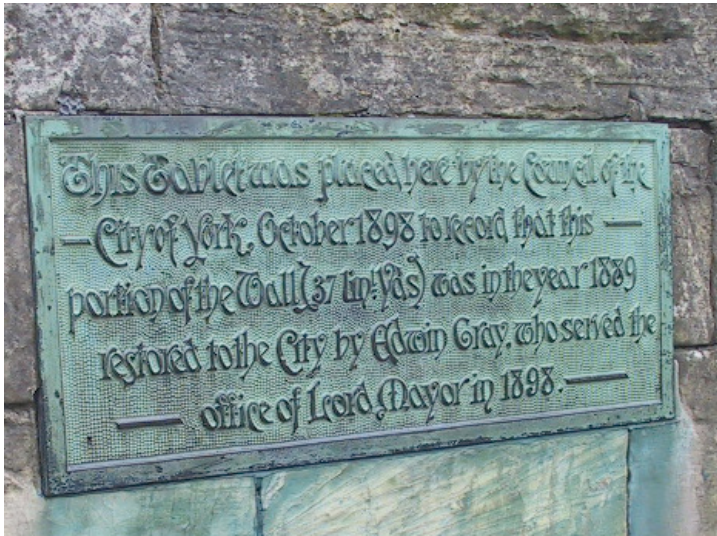
The plaque about Edwin Gray is often mistakenly thought to relate to the physical restoration of the Wall itself. Any secondary interpretation provided that relates to this section of Wall should make it clear what this plaque actually refers to.

The flat top of the Tower provides a space with opportunities for installation of public art, or visitor facilities such as seating incorporating interpretive design. Facilities such as benches and litterbins should be robust and of good quality design and materials to enhance a visitor's experience rather than the fairly utilitarian benches currently in place.

Some of the businesses abutting the Wall advertise themselves to visitors using the wallwalk thereby increasing the economic benefit of the Walls and creating links encouraging visitors to explore the town further. While too many signs in this area would detract from its attractive character and potentially spoil the visitor experience, the precedence could be used at other sites around the wall circuit.

This section of the Walls has railings along its greater part. These are utilitarian in design and detract from the visual impact of the Wall, while addressing a safety issue. It is recommended that these railings are removed and replaced with a more appropriate design. The main Conservation Plan provides examples of physical barriers that may be more appropriate and thought should be given to appropriate materials, minimal maintenance, minimal intrusion to the monument and reversibility. There is an opportunity to enhance the Walls, rather than detract from them.

The interval Towers provide opportunities for providing bat roosts, especially as this has been identified as an area where bats are likely to forage. There may also be opportunities to consider the re-wetting of the ditch area next to the Lord Mayors Walk for wetland habitat. These and other opportunities should be discussed with English Nature and once a Habitat Management Plan has explored opportunities for enhancement.



The plaque about Edwin Gray

A pub in Gillygate advertises to visitors on the Wall



Section 11: Monk Bar

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
M3	Especially inside - Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
F1	Flags sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear
S2	ONLY NOT S1 DUE TO PRESENTATION ISSUES WITHIN MUSEUM. Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF1	Major visitor facilities, such as museum

Notes

The fabric internally is liable to decay and delamination; there are several areas where this is severe. This may be due to changes in temperature caused by using heaters internally and the ingress of water. There is a damp smell in some areas, particularly the "Little Ease Prison", which suggests water ingress. Inappropriate mortar has been used for repairs in some areas and could be exacerbating the problem. The roof, however appears to be sound and have been replaced relatively recently. In places there appear to be traces of plaster and red colouring on the internal stonework.

The museum gets c.95% of its trade from visitors to the Walls but the owner finds the opening and closing times of the Walls erratic (especially in the winter), which affects his business. He would like to be able to open in the evenings.

Staff find the building difficult to clean; it can take up to 18 hours to dust and vacuum the building. These would appear to be appropriate techniques for the historic stonework but is time intensive. There are pigeons nesting in the exterior of many of the windows. In some cases, the layer of nests and debris half fills the window.

The signage for the museum on the railings outside the bar is intrusive as the number of signs produces a cluttered appearance.

The staircase up to the museum from street level is extremely steep, narrow and dark.

Access within the museum is particularly difficult. Vehicular access through this Bar has been closed, although cyclists and pedestrians may still pass through. Vehicles use the larger arch to the south with restricted access for cars from the exterior.

Character

Monk Bar, like Micklegate, dominates its environment and is an impressive monument, much photographed by tourists. Externally there is a busy road junction immediately outside but internally the Bar is a focal point for the view up Goodramgate. The Bar is surrounded by moderately large-scale buildings and adds to the pleasing mixture of historic periods, materials and styles represented. Internally, most of the building can be accessed, although access is poor, the trappings of the museum detract little from appreciating the layout and fabric of the building.

Opportunities / recommendations

The museum is an appropriate re-use for the Bar and provides an opportunity for visitors to learn more about the history of York, although the subject is fairly limited. However, there are opportunities to improve the quality of some of the exhibits and graphics, although this is currently restricted by financial restraints. The provision of assistance with specialist skills such as marketing, interpretation and museum practice as well as co-ordinating joint funding bids across the Walls would be recommended. It is also recommended, for all structures along the walls, that opportunities are explored for increasing access, for example through virtual media. While the museum should be commended for providing its own website that supplies an extent of virtual access this would also benefit from regular updating.

Further investigate opportunities for allowing the museum to open in the evenings and agree a solution with the museum owner. This could be facilitated for this particular Bar without allowing access to the wallwalk as there is a steep staircase that leads to the museum and the wallwalk but the opening to the wallwalk could be closed at certain times.

A specialist stone conservator should investigate the causes of stone decay. As a priority the traces of plaster and colouring should be sampled and analysed, as they are likely to disappear as the stone decay continues. This could provide evidence for the historical internal decoration of the Bar.



The internal stonework is subject to decay

The access through the Bar arch is restricted to pedestrian and cycle access



Section 12: Monk Bar to Layerthorpe Postern (walls and minor towers)

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
M3	Distinct signs of decay, life of blocks limited (c.20-50 years)
P1	Mortar pointing flush with surface, sound mortar of appropriate mix
F1	Flags sound with no significant decay, loss of fabric, cracking or wear
R2 R3	Ramparts in fairly good condition, some public access Ramparts showing signs of wear and tear, obvious truncation or in private use with no public access
IVT	Inappropriate / damaging vegetation or tree in vicinity of Walls, appears to be exacerbating decay or creating problems - some
S2	Signage, orientation, interpretation in fair condition or provided by secondary means (leaflet, website, guided tour stopping point and so on), appropriate to setting, mostly intellectually accessible or does not particularly detract or enhance monument, minor feature of current general leaflet
SV1 SV4	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant: Roman remains and icehouse View intrusive to monument, inappropriate development nearby, aesthetically intrusive – street clutter at Layerthorpe Bridge
A3	Physical access poor, only for people with full mobility, many steps, no access from ground level except via another section of Walls
VF2	Some visitor facilities, such as seating, litter bins, orientation, signage

Notes

The views from this stretch of Wall includes interesting features such as the excavated Roman corner tower, a nineteenth century icehouse and the Merchant Taylor's Hall. A new interpretation panel about the ice-house has been fixed to the parapet in the vicinity of this feature.

There is a narrow stretch of walk with no railings and with a steep drop towards New Tower (Tower 32), which could be considered to be a safety issue.

The view from Tower 34 is over Layerthorpe Bridge junction, which is marred by the numerous signs and traffic management arrangements.

Character

Walking this stretch of Wall feels almost like taking visitors 'behind the scenes' of many areas of York, as the Wall cuts through back gardens and behind small businesses. Most of the buildings internally are of historic character. The Wall here seems to be the solid division between historic York within the Walls and modern York without, as the character changes completely each side. Externally there are leafy green suburbs in addition to large retail outlets and modern development.

Opportunities / recommendations

The provision of further interpretation regarding the significant features to be seen from the Wall (ice house, roman remains etc) would be desirable. This could be fixed or provided by secondary means. They also provide opportunities for extending the educational relevance of the Walls.

It has been commented that railing or a physical barrier may be needed in this area. See notes for Section 10 above and in the main Conservation Plan policies.

***The excavated Roman
Corner Tower now
(right) and during
excavation (below)***



***The ice house can be accessed
through the car park / beer garden
of a public house***



Section 13: Layerthorpe Postern to the Red Tower (King's Fishpond area)

S3	Signage, orientation, interpretation in poor condition, inappropriate to setting, intellectually inaccessible, significantly detracts from significance of monument, no interpretive provision known of
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant: King's Fishpond and nature reserve
SV4	View intrusive to monument, inappropriate development nearby, aesthetically intrusive – inappropriate development of poor design to east
A1	Physical access good, slopes rather than steps, flat surfaces, access from ground level
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

The damming of the River Foss in the Norman period, creating the King's Fishpond, provided this section of the City's defences.

There is only one sign that indicates the direction of the Red Tower and the continuation of the wallwalk. This sign is poorly positioned and cannot be seen until the visitor has already walked the length of path next to the river.

There is one bench seat provided that overlooks Foss islands Road. The railings next to the river are a missed opportunity for providing something innovative and exciting. The path following the river towards Rowntree Wharf can seem daunting for some people in terms of personal safety.

Character

Light industry and retail units and the busy road dominate this area. The negative impact of the cluttered signage at Layerthorpe Bridge junction has already been mentioned. The commercial business premises to the west of the Foss are of good quality materials and modern design but the poor quality and intrusive units to the east dominate them. The area of the Foss has an untidy and neglected appearance, while the road noise detracts from the visitor's experience.

Opportunities / recommendations

In this area there are many opportunities for improving the interpretation, orientation, environment and visitor experience and it is recommended these be improved. There may be opportunities for providing some sort of physical barrier between the path and the road; this could incorporate interpretive elements and vegetation to enhance the environment in this area. This is a section of the defences where good modern installations and design would be appropriate to dominate and improve the area and thereby extending the example set by the good quality modern office buildings near to Layerthorpe Bridge.

It may also be possible to create physical links with other areas of the city here – for example river trips to the Castle Mill or walks to the Rowntree Estate / Wharf.

It has been confirmed that the retail area to the east of Foss Island's Road is due for re-development in the near future. It is recommended that, where possible, guidelines are given for new development that include recommendations such as the use of appropriate quality materials, good design or screening measures.

It is recommended that volunteers be used to assist with the upkeep and general appearance of the nature reserve area, as long as this does not interfere with the natural significance of the site.

This is one of the few areas of the City defences that can be made fully accessible to all and this should be capitalised upon through the provision of interpretation,

orientation and visitor facilities. This section has great potential for development and improvement.

During the development process planned for the area west of the road in the vicinity of the current wine merchants, opportunities may be identified for the creation of wetland habitats to complement the riverside area and increase habitat diversity.



Orientation to the next section of City Walls can only be seen when walking south. Visitors walking northwards are likely to miss this sign.

Section 14: The Red Tower

M2	Some decay, but not to the extent that replacement will be required in the relatively near future
M4	Roof - very significant decay with renewal needed in relatively near future (c.0-20 years)
P2 P3	Mortar pointing slightly weathered, fairly sound mortar Mortar pointing showing noticeable loss of mortar or use of inappropriate mortar requiring attention within c.15 years
S3	Signage, orientation, interpretation in poor condition, inappropriate to setting, intellectually inaccessible, significantly detracts from significance of monument, no interpretive provision known of: new interpretive panel poorly written and typeset
SV1	Significant view, opportunity for fixed interpretation of nearby feature, aesthetically significant
A1	Physical access good, slopes rather than steps, flat surfaces, access from ground level
VF3	No visitor facilities, facilities provided are intrusive to significance of monument or damaging to fabric

Notes

The roof of this building is in poor repair and the council currently uses the building as a store.

There is a larger perimeter low wall type feature made from re-used stone. While there has been no positive identification for the purpose of this wall or the source of the stone it has been suggested the re-used stone may have come from one of two sources. There is approximately 2 meters of stone under the brick of the Red Tower walls visible on early photographs; this may have been removed as the Foss land level built up. Alternatively it may have come from the destroyed Layerthorpe Bridge and postern.

However, an examination of previous archaeological investigations undertaken as part of this study suggests another potentially exciting source for the stones. Excavations in the Bedern area of the footings of the Roman fortress wall found a medieval robbing trench with two large millstone grit blocks from the Roman footings abandoned in the process of being robbed. One of these blocks is very similar to the blocks utilised for this confusing stretch of wall at the Red Tower.

The Tower has been re-roofed and re-faced internally, probably in the nineteenth century but this has not detracted from its character.

By the Red Tower, on the pavement, is a green fingerpost sign indicating the direction of the walking route around the City Walls. A new interpretive panel has been fixed to the north wall.

Character

This building has a specific character that cannot be replicated at any other point along the Walls. This is partly connected with its fabric, as brick buildings of this age are rare along the Walls. The small, domestic scale of the building marks it out from the other towers and makes it more accessible to the visitor, while contrasting with the scale of the more modern buildings nearby. Because the fabric and style are different from the surrounding buildings and the Wall it is isolated from its environment.

Opportunities / recommendations

It is recommended that a comparison is undertaken of the stone type of the two blocks found in the excavation at the Bedern and other millstone grit block finds⁴, if available, with those that make up the small wall feature around the Red Tower. In addition a survey / examination of the blocks in the wall to attempt to record and understand their previous use may help to establish their provenance.

Repairs to the roof should be undertaken as a priority in order to assist prevention of further deterioration of the fabric.

There are opportunities relating to the previous use of the building, especially regarding its use as a sulphur factory, to provide additional interpretation and links with the national curriculum. The building is currently underused and provides an opportunity to provide undercover interpretation facilities, especially for small school groups. Any opening of this building to the public should take account of issues regarding security and antisocial behaviour. The errors on the current interpretation panel should be resolved.



The low wall on the west side of the Red Tower, made from re-used stone blocks

The syntax on the interpretation panel should be corrected, while the text and method of presentation would benefit from updating



⁴ Addyman, P.V(ed). 1996. *The Archaeology of York. Vol.3: The Legionary Fortress. Fasc.3: Excavations and Observations on the Defences and Adjacent Sites, 1971-90.* p288