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BOOTHAM BAR AND YORK WALLS

Etty's statue faces Bootham Bar, a gatehouse which controlled access to the city in medieval times. If you look carefully behind Etty's right leg, you can see that his cloak covers a miniature likeness of the Bar, representing the artist's efforts to protect this ancient monument. The Bar fell into such bad repair that the Council threatened to remove it completely in 1832. Etty immediately wrote to *The York Herald*, and contributed £50 towards its restoration. Happily for York, Bootham Bar was saved.

3



YORK MINSTER

Passing beneath Bootham Bar, and walking down High Petergate, you will be able to see the magnificent York Minster. Etty affectionately referred to the Minster as his "Bride...so lovely to mine eyes, so dear to my heart, captivating to my imagination". The artist's beloved Minster suffered two severe fires during his lifetime (in 1829 and 1840). Etty was devastated by news of these two disasters, and played a key part in raising funds to restore the Minster to its former glory. It was Etty's dying wish to be buried in York Minster, but unfortunately funds were not available.



William Etty R.A., York's most famous artist son, was born at 20 Feasegate, York, on 10 March 1787.

Although Etty moved to London in his twenties, establishing a highly successful artistic career, he continued to visit family and friends in the city throughout his life. Etty campaigned vigorously to save York's architectural heritage from destruction. He fought to prevent York Minster from being radically altered after fire swept through the building in 1829 and 1840, and was instrumental in preventing the city's medieval walls from being demolished. Etty's passion for his native city also extended to education, and the artist played an influential role in establishing the York School of Design, which trained and prepared young artists to work in manufacture. Etty eventually retired to York in 1848, where he died the following year and was buried in the churchyard at St. Olave's.

Visitor Information

Opening times:

Daily from 10am-5pm
Closed 25, 26 December & 1 January

Admission:

Free. Donations welcome.

Access:

York Art Gallery is on two levels, both of which are fully accessible to wheelchair users.

Shop:

Visit our shop for stationery, cards and postcards.

The Café at York Art Gallery:

Sample freshly prepared sandwiches, great coffee and cakes in our café.

Friends of York Art Gallery:

For more information on becoming a Friend telephone 01904 687687 or visit www.friendsofyorkartgallery.co.uk

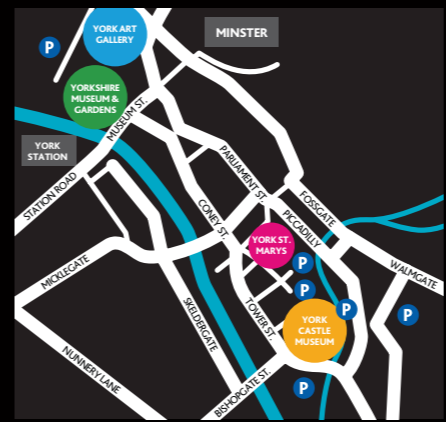
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WILLIAM ETTY: Art & Controversy

25 June 2011 – 22 January 2012



Front Cover Image: William Etty, *Monkbar*, c1830 ©York Museums Trust. Inside Images: *Photograph of Etty statue* ©Gareth Buddo; Myles Birket Foster, *Bootham Bar*, 1880-1899 ©York Museums Trust; Hullmandel, *York Minster, as it appeared on the Night of the Fire, Wednesday, the 20th May, 1840*, 1840 ©York Museums Trust; *Photograph of Bible above No. 35 Stonegate* ©Gareth Buddo; Etty's birthplace plaque ©York Museums Trust; William James Boddy, *St. Martin's from the River Ouse*, 1910 ©York Museums Trust; W. Brown, *The Yorkshire Museum* ©York Museums Trust; Paul Braddon, *William Etty's Tomb* ©York Museums Trust.
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York Art Gallery

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York Art Gallery

**ETTY
York Walk**

Discover Etty's York



York Museums Trust



Welcome to ETTY'S YORK!

On this tour of York you will discover some of the places associated with William ETTY.

The walk takes approximately three quarters of an hour.

1



EXHIBITION SQUARE, YORK ART GALLERY – ETTY STATUE

Commissioned by York Corporation, this statue, carved in Portland stone, was made by the local sculptor, George Milburn, and unveiled to the public on 20 February 1911. In the same year, a retrospective exhibition of ETTY's works was held at York Art Gallery.

If you look above the gallery entrance, you will see four sculpted roundels depicting famous York artists: John Carr (1723-1807, architect); John Camidge (1734-1803, musician); John Flaxman (1755-1826, sculptor); and, on the far right, William ETTY (1787-1849, painter).

4



No. 35 STONEGATE – TODD'S BOOKSHOP

Walking down Stonegate, you will be able to spot a golden Bible (dated 1682) hanging over the doorway of the 'Haunted House'. This was once one of York's most prestigious bookshops, owned by John Todd. As a child, ETTY "would stand entranced and sketch" the prints displayed within the shop's windows.

5



No. 20 FEASEGATE – BIRTHPLACE

A York Civic Trust plaque in the doorway of BHS commemorates ETTY's birthplace. He was born on 10 March 1787, to Matthew and Esther ETTY, the seventh of ten children.

His parents ran a popular bakery on this site, and their "small shop was a thronged one", selling "famed gingerbread". The shop floor became his "first panels", where he revealed his early promise as an artist. He left home aged 11 in 1798 and was apprenticed at a Hull printing company.

6



CONEY STREET HOUSE – RETIREMENT

A bronze plaque on the side of York City Screen, (which is next to St. Martin's Church), marks the location of ETTY's Coney Street house. He lived here in retirement from June 1848 until his death in November 1849.

Purchased for £1,100, the house was a two-storey building overlooking the River Ouse. Describing his new residence, he exclaimed: "I have got fires lighted; and sit looking at a very pretty view: - green fields, trees, and rippling river. How I love it!"

7



THE YORKSHIRE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

The Yorkshire Museum, in the Museum Gardens, is the home of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. ETTY was made an honorary member in 1829, in "consideration of his eminence, and the debt of gratitude" Yorkshire owed him. It was the Society who persuaded ETTY, in 1838, to give a public address advocating the education of artists in York. This promotion of the Arts culminated in the opening of York's School of Design in 1842.

8



WILLIAM ETTY'S GRAVE – ST. OLAVE'S CEMETERY, MARYGATE

ETTY died, aged 63, on 13 November 1849, watching the sun setting over the River Ouse. His last words were "Wonderful! Wonderful! This death!" The funeral was attended by over 300 mourners, including members of York's foremost public societies. Drawn by four black horses, the hearse left Coney

Street and moved through the York streets to St. Olave's cemetery. Many shops closed out of respect, and the bells of York Minster paid a mournful tribute to the artist. His grave can be seen through an archway of the ruined St. Mary's Abbey. Inside St. Olave's church, on the left as you enter, is a stained glass window in memory of ETTY.