

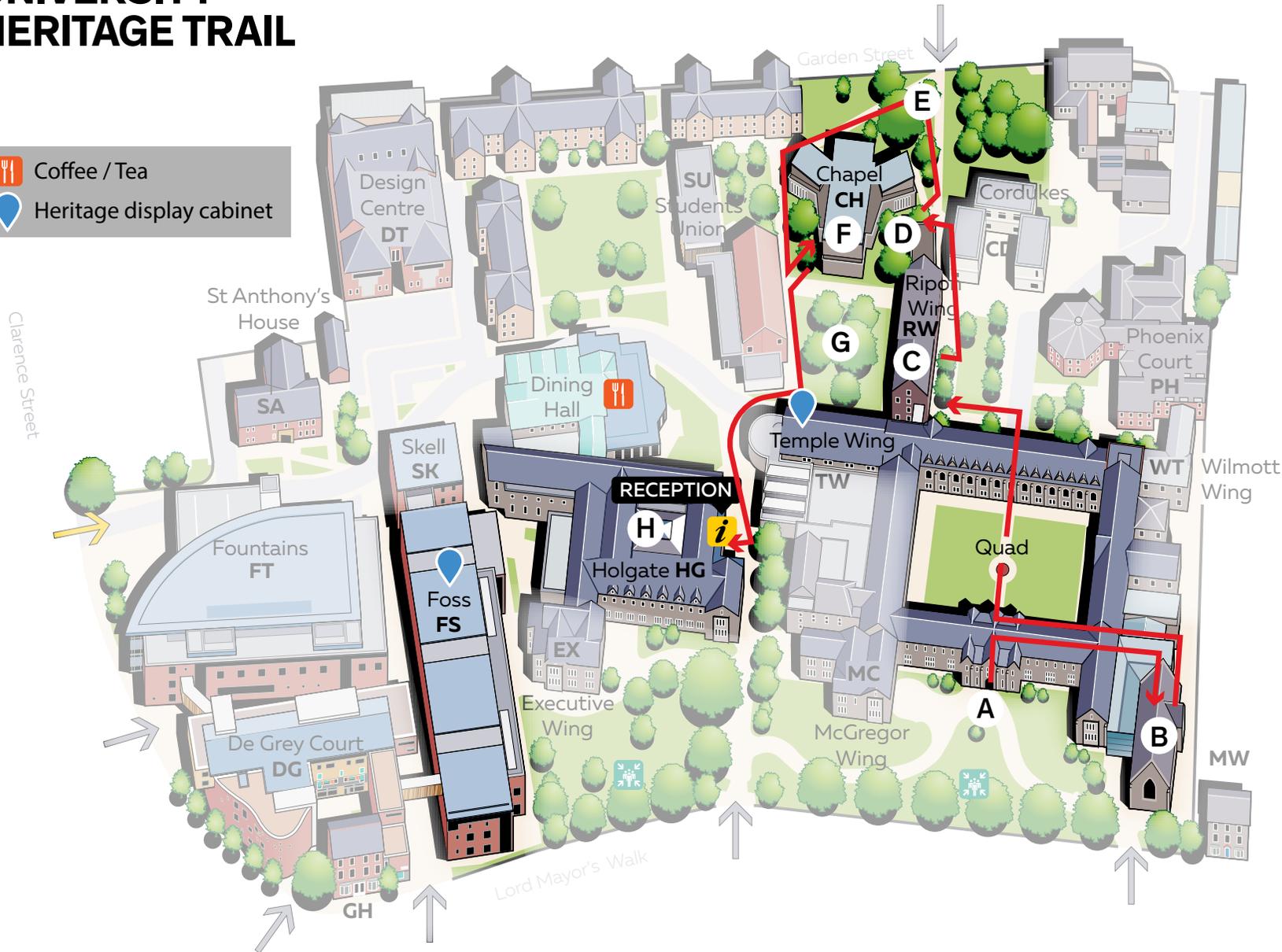
YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY HERITAGE TRAIL



Coffee / Tea



Heritage display cabinet



ESTABLISHED 1841

York St John University opened in 1841 as the York Diocesan Training and Middle School on premises at 14 Monkgate, where the Minster Health Clinic is today. In 1845, work began on a new three-acre site at Lord Mayor's Walk. The building was completed in 1846 and male students moved onto the new campus.

A. Heritage Passage & The Quad

B. Quad South Hall – The Old Chapel

C. The Ripon Wing

D. Peace Garden

E. Metamorphosis

F. The Chapel

G. Bell Tower

H. Holgate Building

Est.
1841

YORK
ST JOHN
UNIVERSITY

A. Heritage Passage & The Quad

Enter from Lord Mayor's Walk through what was the original College entrance in 1846 – once known as “Windy Passage.”

The artwork to your left, created by former student Catherine Scriven, is titled Alumni Abundantes after the college motto: “Ut Vitam Habeant Ut Abundantius” – That they may have life and have it more abundantly.



The display cabinet shows memorabilia and information dating back over the last 175 years of teaching at York St John. Other heritage display cabinets are sited in Temple Hall Foyer and the entrance to Foss Building. These are not part of this trail but well worth the diversion, if you have time.

Go through the door into the Quad – these buildings used to be student accommodation and a gymnasium. On the roof of the building opposite you will see the former College Bell. Many students prior to the 1970s have fond memories of the bell which rang to call them to chapel, which is where we shall head to next.

Head right out of the quad and into Quad South Hall. The original college chapel, dating from 1851, is in the far corner and is now used by the Faculty of Arts.

B. Quad South Hall – The Old Chapel

The old chapel cost £1,050 to build and contains stained glass windows telling the Bible story from Genesis to the Acts of the Apostles. These were the work of Canon Lamb (a Former



Principal of the University) in collaboration with the artist, Francis H Spear. The modern building was opened in 2007 by the Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion.

Opposite the old chapel is the George Herbert Room containing the George Herbert Window. This was moved from the Ripon campus when it closed in 2001.

C. The Ripon Wing

Retrace your steps back to the Quad and out through the passage under the bell tower. Turn left and enter the Ripon Wing through the first large white door.

The Wing was renamed in 2018 honouring the incredible contribution the college, its students and staff made to Higher Education, especially teacher training, for over one hundred years. Turn left and up the stairs you will find a display cabinet containing items from the old Ripon Campus. The “Christ the Teacher” stained glass window further up the stairs is from the chapel at Ripon, dedicated in 1963. Founded in 1862, Ripon College initially trained female teachers and was soon known for the high quality of its graduates.

The first men were admitted over 100 years later. A decade after that the college combined with St John's College York. The campus closed in 2001.



D. Peace Garden

Retrace your steps back out the building, turn left and at the top of The Ripon Wing, on your left, is The Peace Garden. The chapel enclosure was converted into a Japanese-Style garden in 2005. It contains memorials and commemorative benches for a number of former staff and students and the ashes of former College Bursar Stanley Watkin and former tutor Joe Copping.



E. Metamorphosis

Turn left out of the Peace Garden walking around the outside of the chapel. On your right, you will pass a cast concrete work of art entitled “Metamorphosis.”



This was designed and made by Margaret Wright (née Flanagan), a student at Ripon College. It is a study of the positive and negative space as two halves seek to integrate themselves. It was completed in 1975 when Ripon College and St John's College, York merged to become The College of Ripon and York St John.

F. The Chapel

Continue round the chapel to the main doors. The chapel was designed in the Brutalist style by architect George Pace and was designated a “Listed Building” in 2004.

The war memorials at the chapel entrance bears the names of former students who lost their lives in WWI and WWII.

The Joseph Lightfoot Talbot chair is on the right of the altar. It is named after the first speaker of the Junior Common Room and was used by the Student President when chairing meetings. The chair was crafted by Robert “The Mouseman” Thompson. Can you spot the carved mouse?

The south transept (on the right) is dedicated as The Water of Life Chapel and contains a stained-glass window designed and made by former student, Cathy Nutkins, working alongside glaziers at York Minster. It was brought to York from the Ripon campus.

To the left of the altar is the St Margaret of Dunfermline Chapel – in honour of Ripon College's adopted saint. The mosaics in this chapel came from the 1899 Ripon Chapel. The Willis Organ is also from Ripon and housed in the loft at the rear of the chapel.



G. Bell Tower

On exiting the Chapel you will see a metal structure – The Bell Tower (Ripon Chapel 1963) was moved to York following the closure of the Ripon campus. The Association of the College of Ripon & York St John donated a new bell when it was decided that the original bell would stay in Ripon.



H. Holgate Building

Turn left past the Temple Wing and into the main University reception. Now the Holgate Building, in 1846 it was opened as the Yeoman School, for the sons of farmers and tradesmen.

In 1857, it became the Free School of Robert Holgate which later became Archbishop Holgate's Grammar School. The school was taken over by the College in 1963, in exchange for land on Hull Road, where the school still stands. Major redevelopment was carried out in 2005 to create the modern building you stand in today.

