

# The city of York

Presentation prepared by  
Raymond Wong  
City University of Hong Kong

*as a referencing material to support  
his teaching about heritages  
from an international prospective  
under city environment*

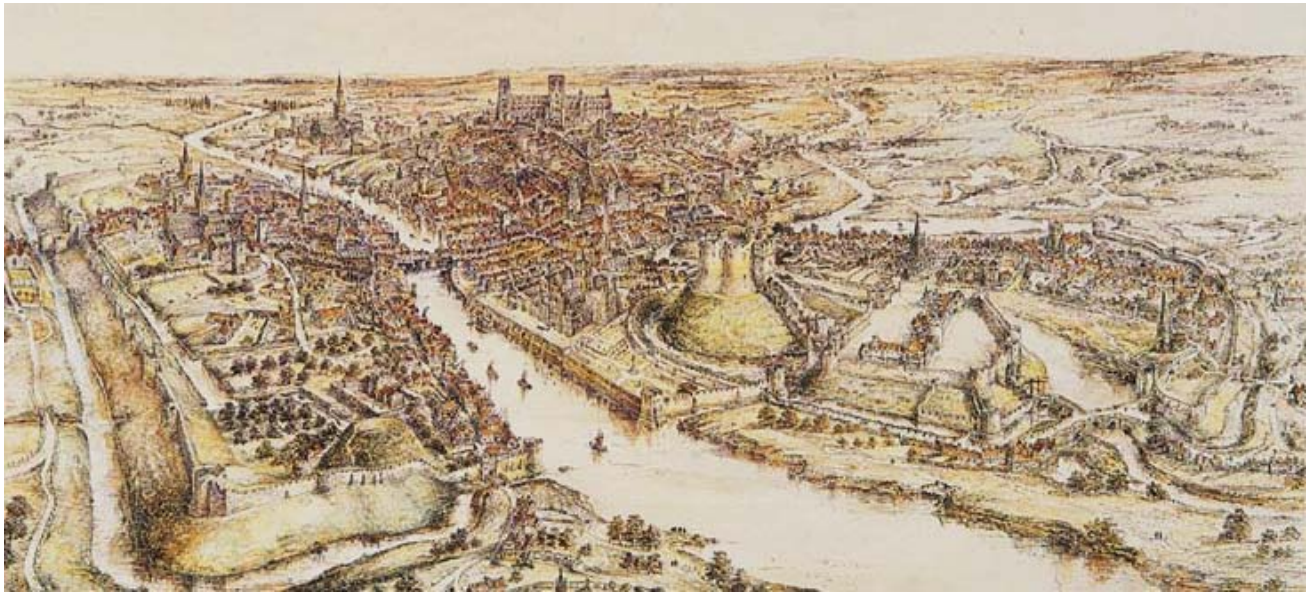
**York** is a walled city situated at the confluence of the Rivers Ouse and Foss in North Yorkshire, England. The city has a rich heritage and has provided the backdrop to major political events throughout her 2000 years of existence.

The city was founded by the Romans in 71 AD. It became in turn the capital of the Roman province and of the kingdoms of Northumbria. In the Middle Ages, York grew as a major wool trading centre and became the capital of the northern province.

In the 19th century York became a hub of the railway network and a confectionery manufacturing centre. In recent decades, the economy of York has moved from being dominated by its confectionery and railway-related industries to one that provides services.

In the recent years, education, health services and tourism have become an important element of the local economy.

From 1996, City of York also includes rural areas beyond the old city boundaries. In 2010 the urban area had a population of 202000.



York in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century



An aerial view of York with the Minster Cathedral as the focus point



The old city zone of York with history dating back to around a thousand year



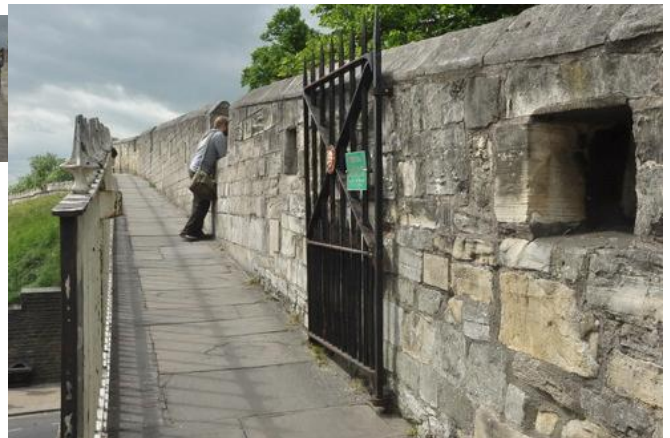
Inner city bounded by city wall











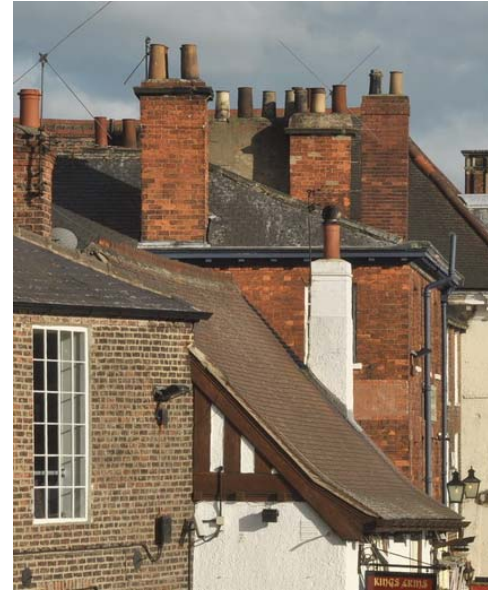


Graceful and beautiful houses  
inside the town area













## General streetscape inside York







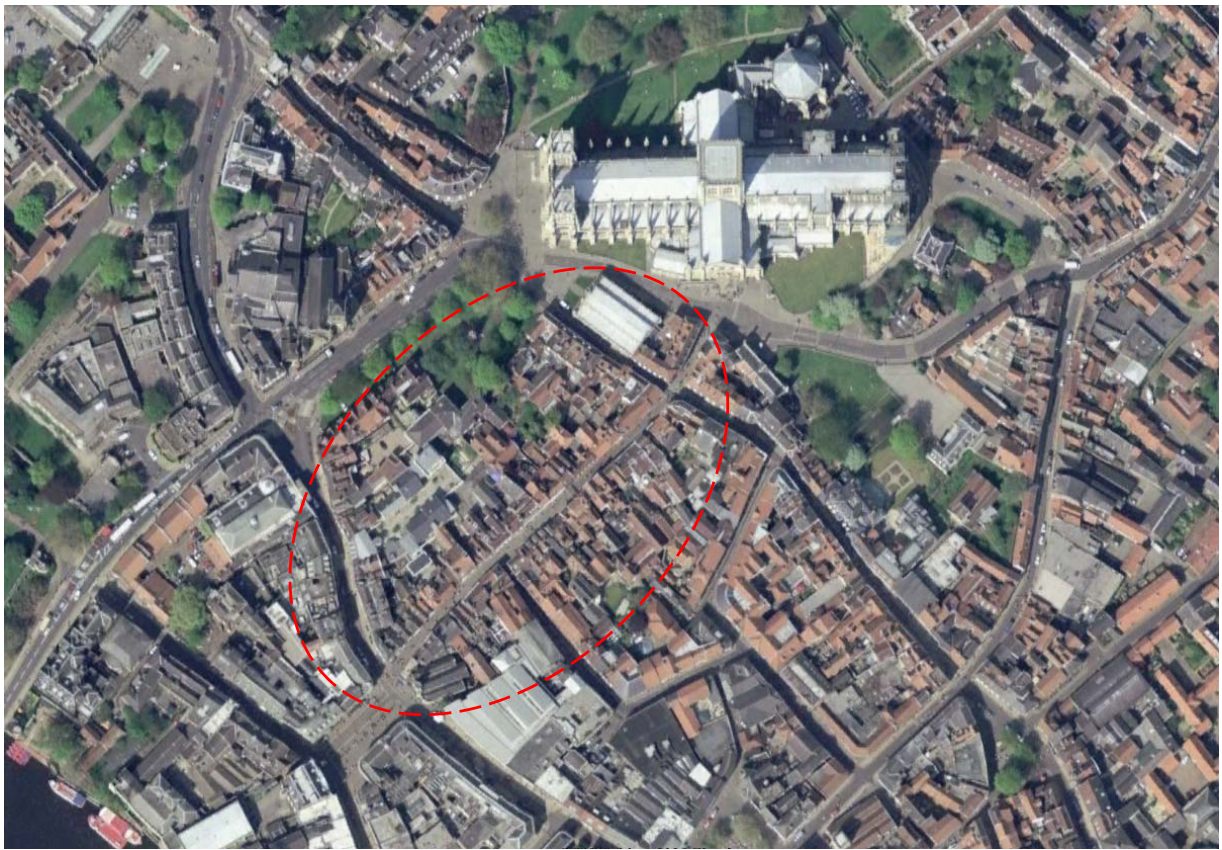
The river bank as part of the  
core of old York Town







The Medieval street in York



The Medieval street in York which can be dating back to 15<sup>th</sup> Century is located on the south strip of the Minster Cathedral





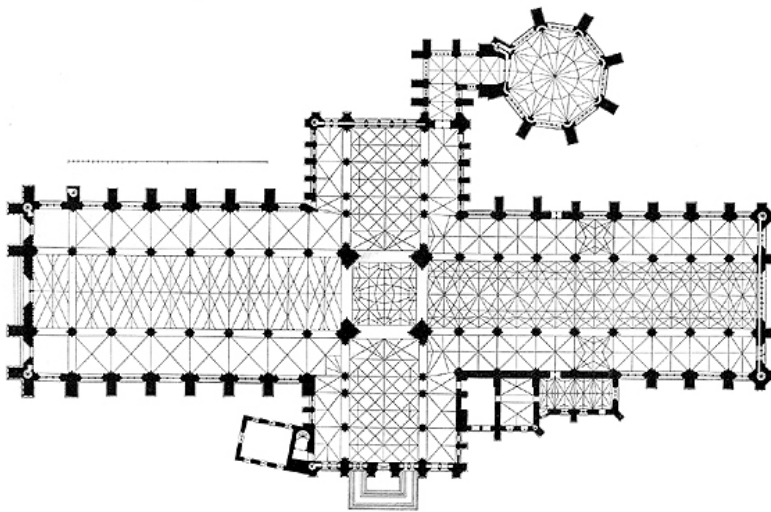




Landmarks of York



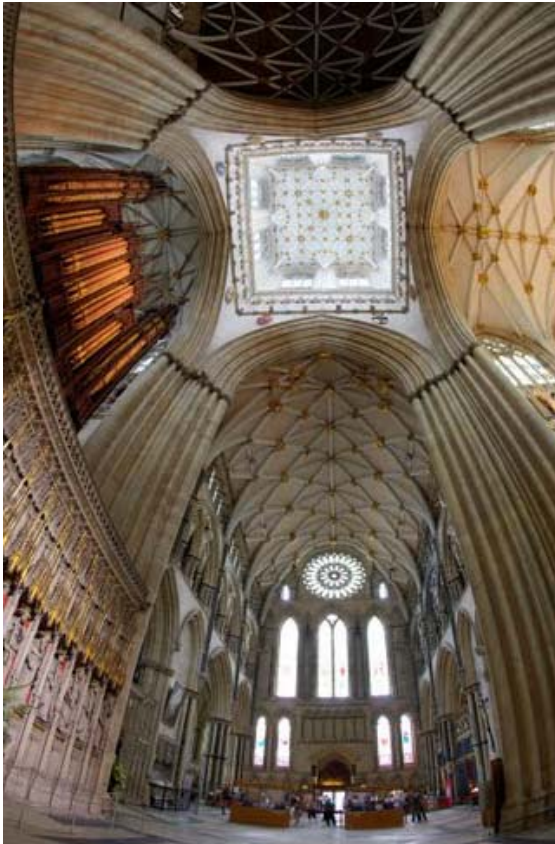
The York Minster Cathedral

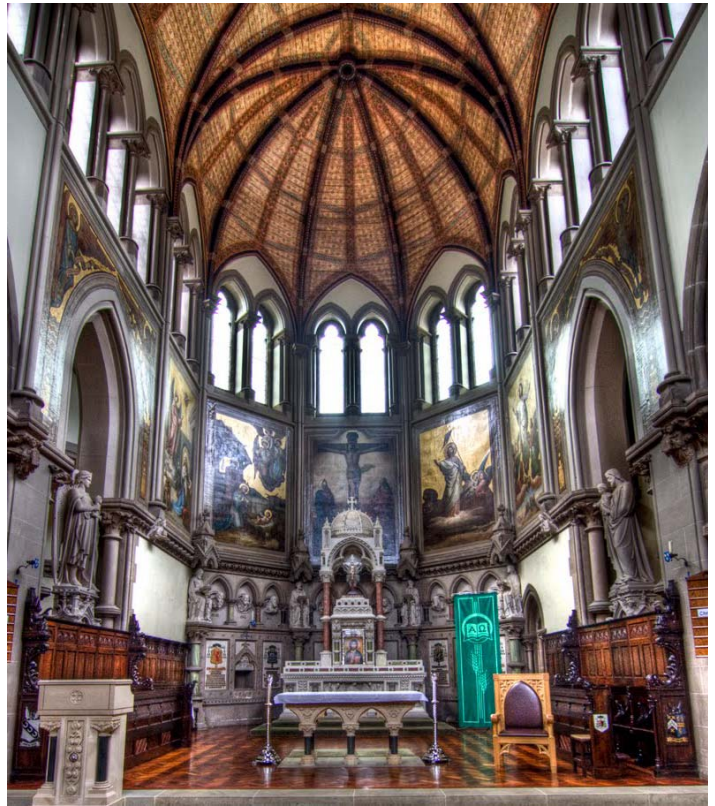


**York Minster** Cathedral is one of the largest of its kind in Northern Europe. The minster is the seat of the Archbishop of York, the second-highest office of the Church of England. The formal title of York Minster is "The Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of St Peter in York". The title "Minster" is attributed to churches established in the Anglo-Saxon period as missionary teaching churches, and serves now as an honorific title.

The minster has a very wide decorated Gothic nave and chapter house. The nave contains the West Window, constructed in 1338, and over the Lady Chapel in the east end is the Great East Window, finished in 1408, the largest expanse of medieval stained glass in the world.











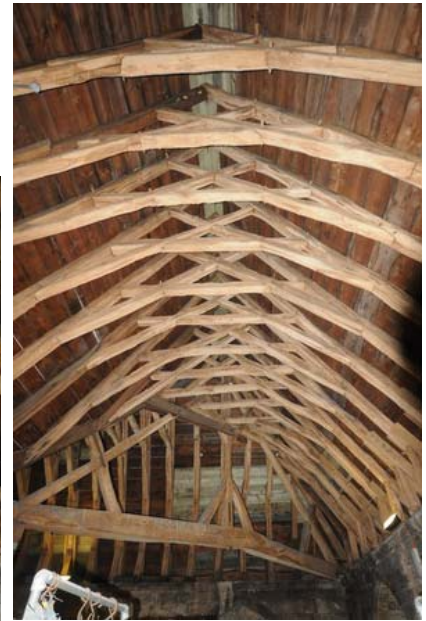
Restoration of the building is an important work that involved time and large amount of finance in order to maintain its shape and quality







Part of the renewed roof truss reflects its original shape and structure that inherited hundreds of year from traditional craftwork.



Representing houses that reflect feature of British Architecture, the simple yet elegant way



The Middlethorpe Hall and her restored garden

The Middlethorpe Hall is a historic house currently used as a hotel. It is a perfectly symmetrical red brick and stone house built in 1699. It has been now owned by the National Trust since 2008. In 1980 it was rescued from an undignified decade as a nightclub, having previously been a girls' boarding school.

During restoring process, the houses were renovated and the area nearby was improved and with hundreds of trees planted. A small lake was also added. A dilapidated late 17th century garden was restored and replanted with vegetation, stable buildings converted and extended for additional hotel accommodation. It is now a handsomely furnished hotel in country house style with excellent kitchens, a fine cellar, perfect service, and a green English garden.





The annexed houses serving as ancillary hotel facilities





The garden area





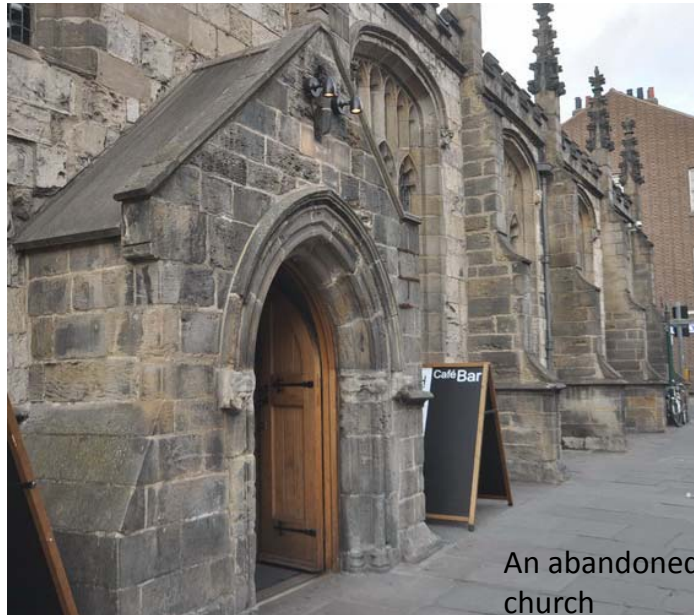
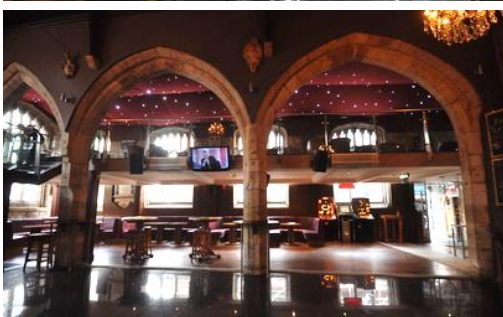
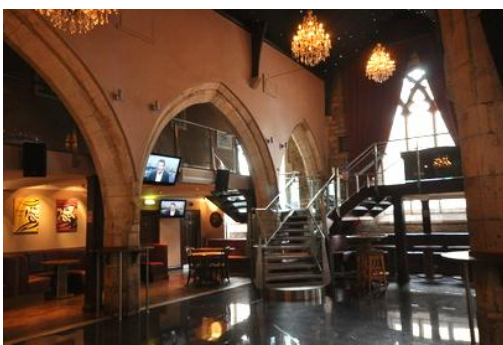
A traditional country houses in timber frame construction revitalized into a convention facility



The interior views of the convention facility



Other properly maintained houses being revitalized for commercial uses



An abandoned church  
revitalized into  
a restaurant



Railway Station and the hotel attached  
aside, forming a representing  
heritage landmark of York





The Royal York, a 5-star hotel located on the side of the railway station as an annexed facility













Historic role of York reflecting one of her unique heritages – York once the centre point of railway network in UK

The Train Museum in York



Aerial view of the Train Museum, on the side of the York Railway Station still under operation





The old train platform



Classical locomotives  
on display



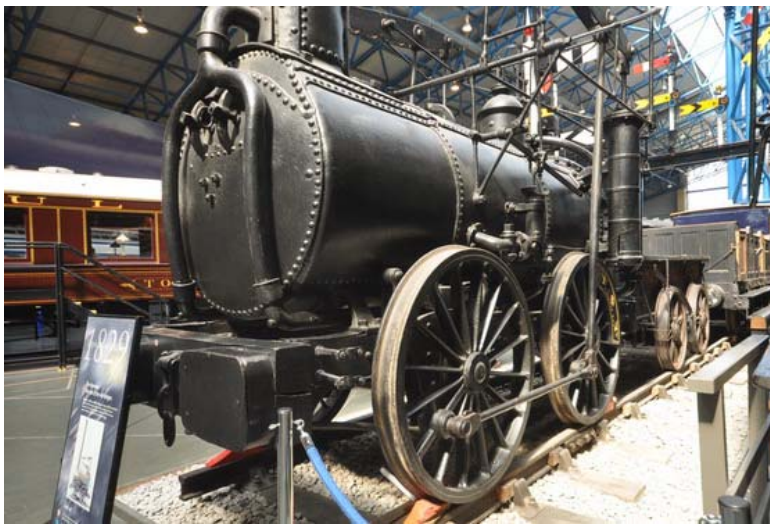
Locomotive and wagon once belonged to the Royal Family





Inside the wagon  
of the Royal Family





Some very old engines on display



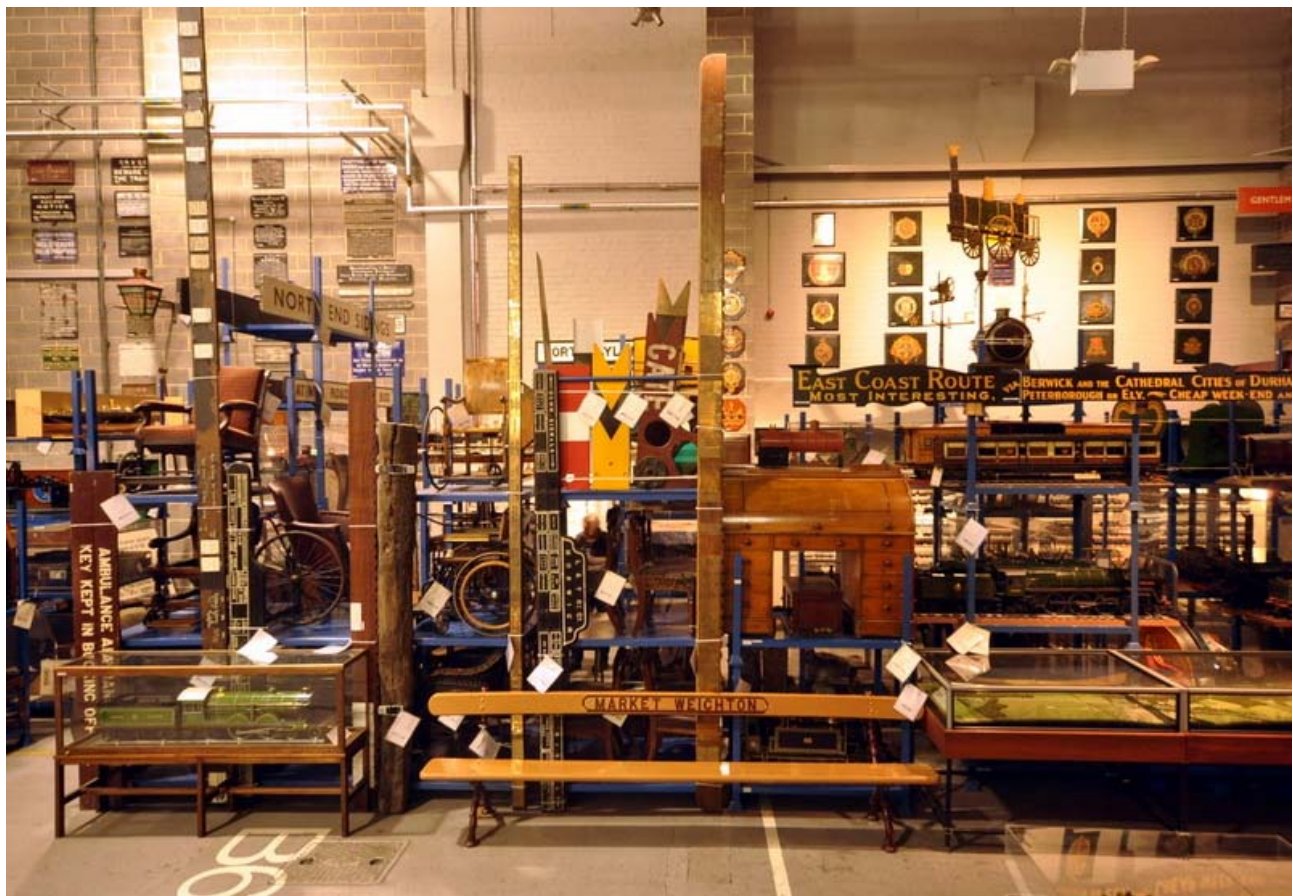
Engines that marked the a milestone of technological development of rail history



Educational illustration –  
Dissection of an steam  
locomotive



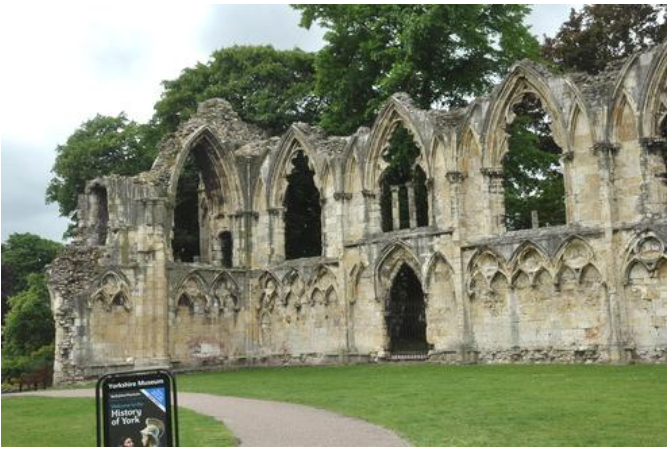
Inside the driving cabin

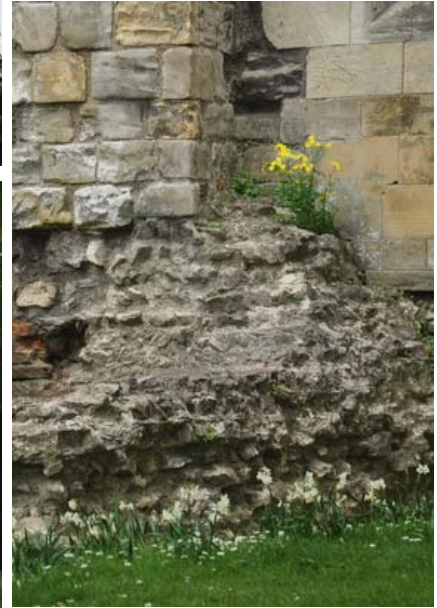


Collection of fittings and accessories in old railway stations

Ruins as part of a heritage park







This presentation about the City of York aimed to provide reader further understanding making use of a UK/European example, that a historic city as a whole can be viewed as a heritage. It also helps to demonstrate various form of assets that compose the inner riches of the place.