

# Walled city

— Photographs of York —

Photography by Richard Flint



# Walled City – Photographs of York

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A series of images exploring the UK city of York using the backdrop of the huge medieval walls surrounding the city.

The medieval walls of York define the city. Even the modern architecture of the city has borrowed elements from the walls design - most notably York's Travelodge hotel whose entrance has the styling of a medieval castle turret.

Built between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> century, with certain parts dating back to roman times, the city walls are some of the most intact in England. 1.9 miles in length, the walls offer some of the best views of the city and are a great platform to watch the day to day goings on within the city.

These images were shot on a hot and very bright day in May. The images have been laid out in the book in the order they were taken.

Thank you for downloading this book. I hope you enjoy the photographs.

Richard  
4<sup>th</sup> June 2009

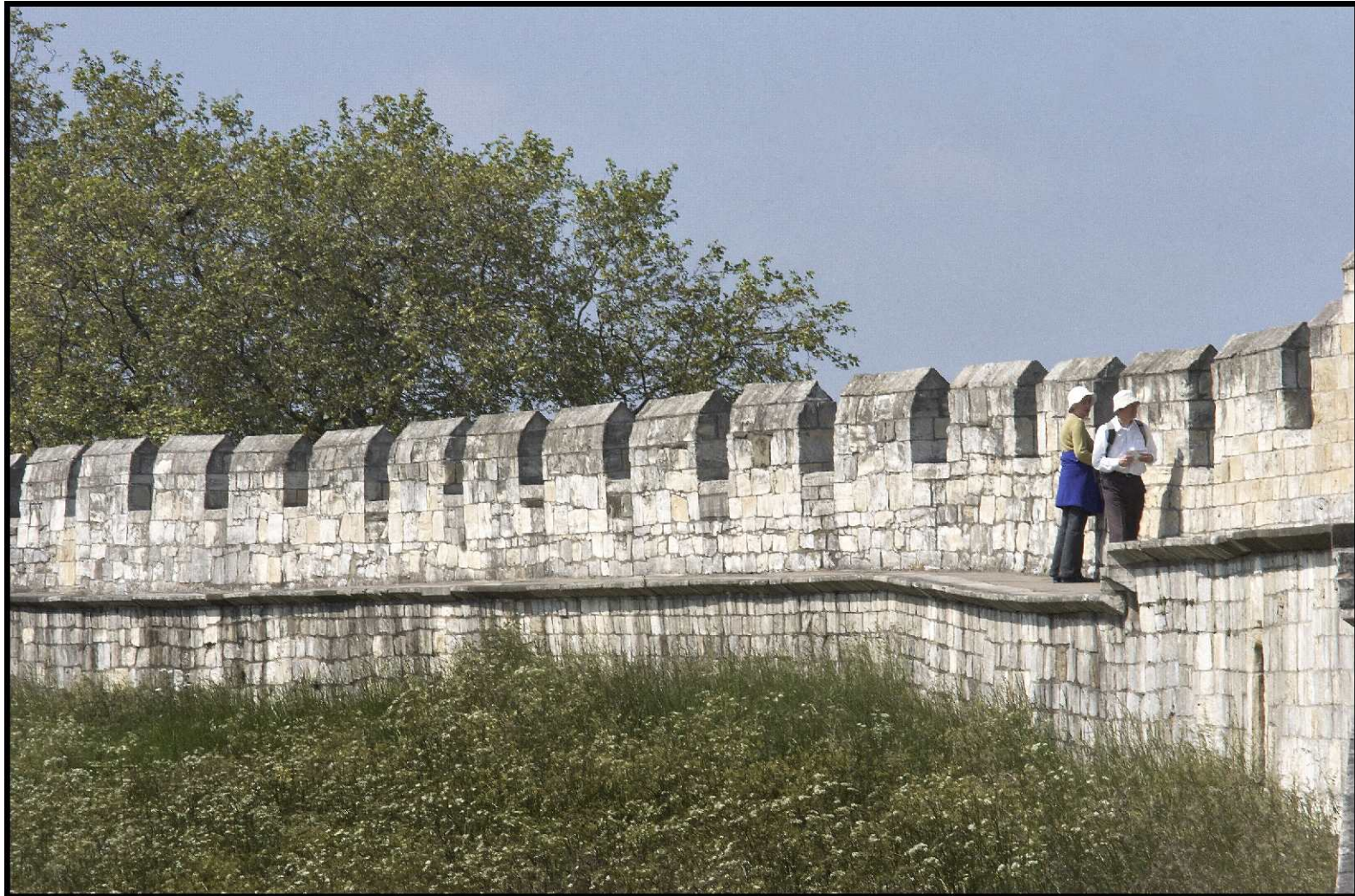
Homeless man and his dog - Station Avenue





Tourists walking the walls overlooking Station Avenue





York railway station parking area and bus stop





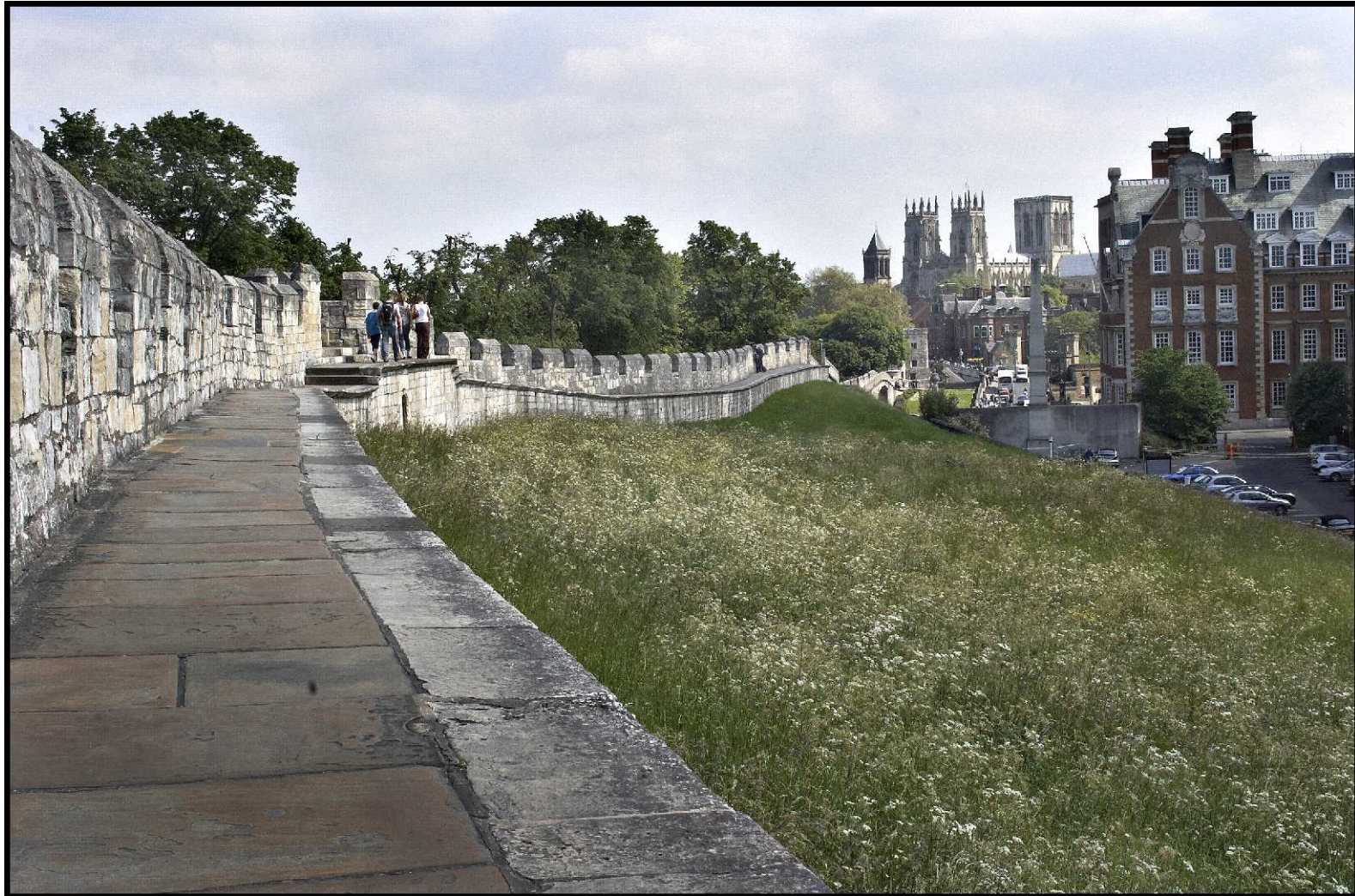
Bus stop outside the Railway Station - Station Road





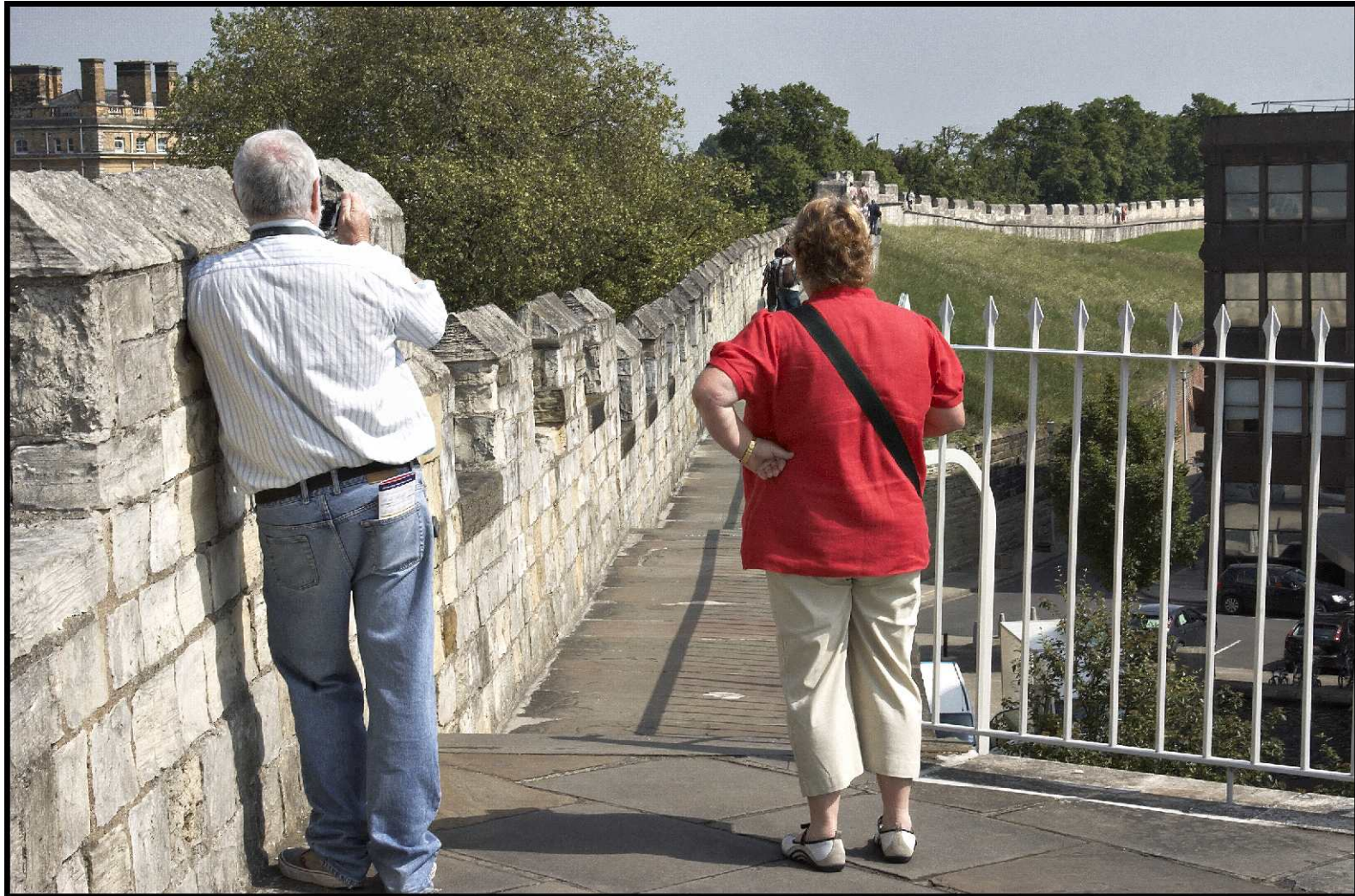
Looking along the wall back towards York Minster





Photographing the wall





Ivy against the stonework





Giving directions to a motorist - Nunnery Lane





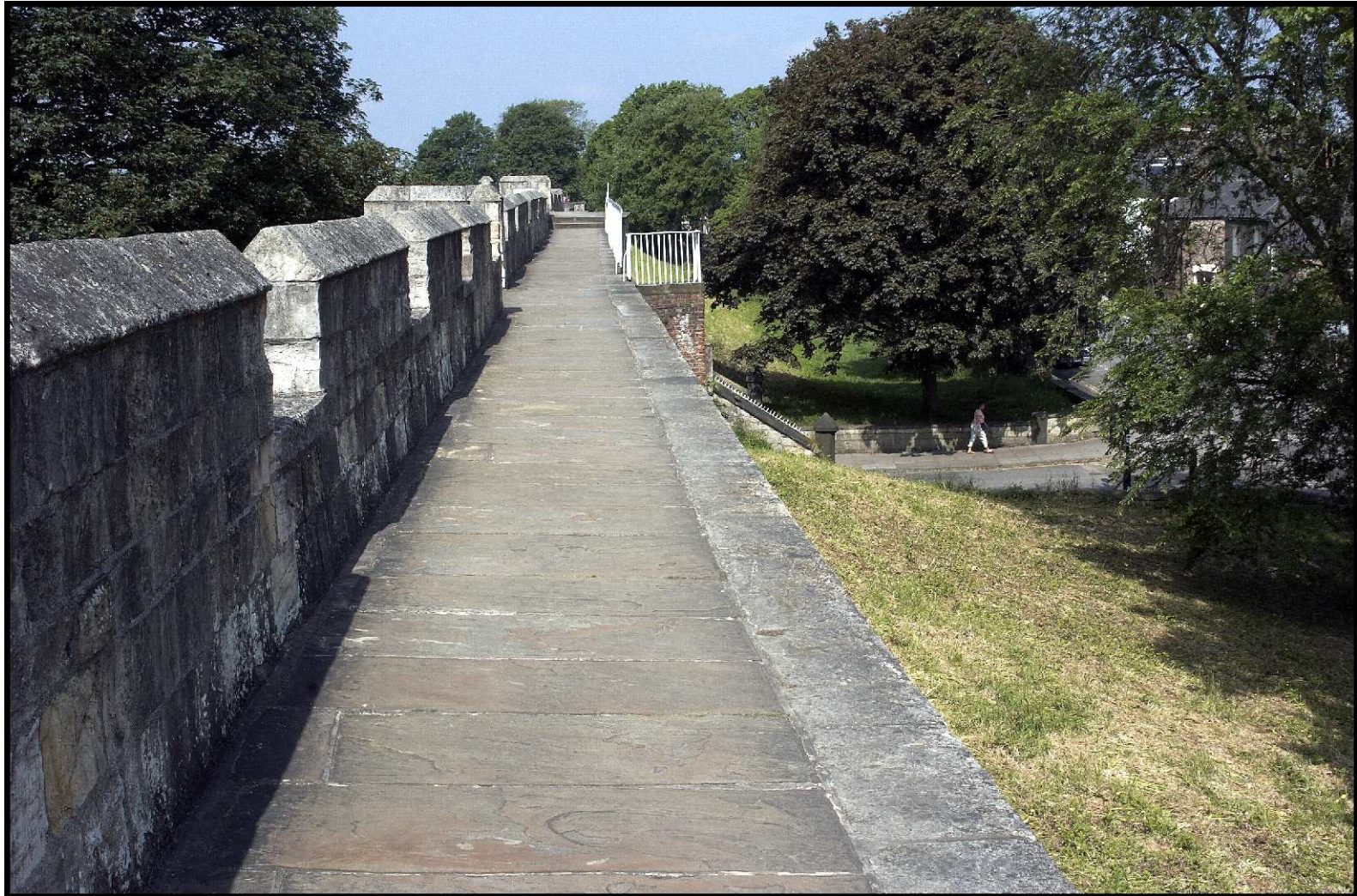
A caterpillar makes its way across the paving stones





Walls along by Dewsbury Terrace







Engraved into stone



Looking from the wall on to Baile Hill Terrace





Entrance to the walls at Fishergate







Worn hand rail at Fishergate



Construction work at Fishergate





Travelodge hotel has a wonderful combination of modern and medieval architectural styles





Fishergate





The City Wall going alongside Paragon Street





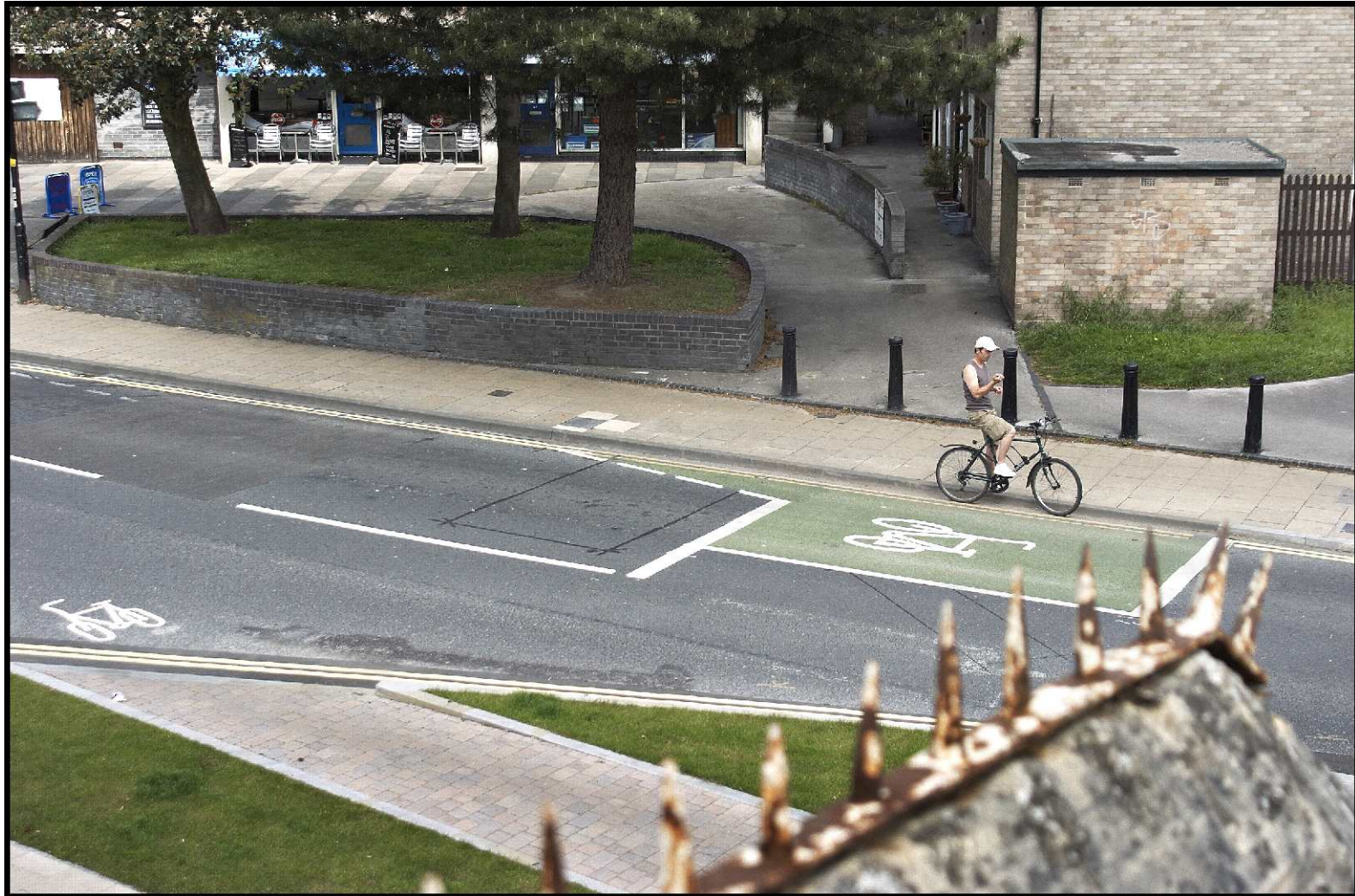
At the junction with Barbican Road







Waiting for the lights to change at Walmgate Bar...



Still waiting...





Tourist information noticeboard at Walmgate Bar







Postbox near the art gallery at Bootham Bar



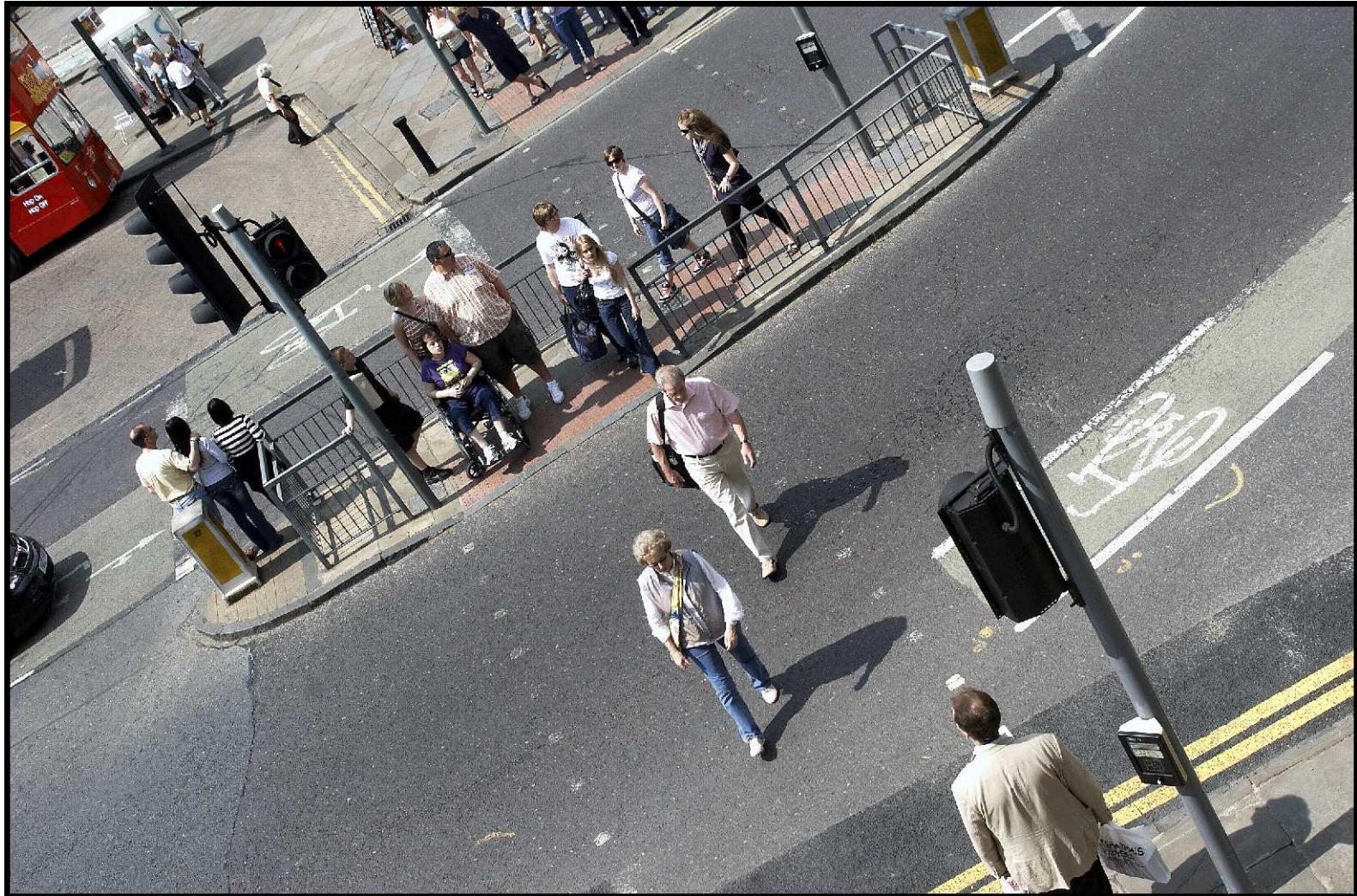
Bootham Bar





Pedestrians crossing at Bootham Bar







Graffiti



Looking over Moatside Crescent towards York University





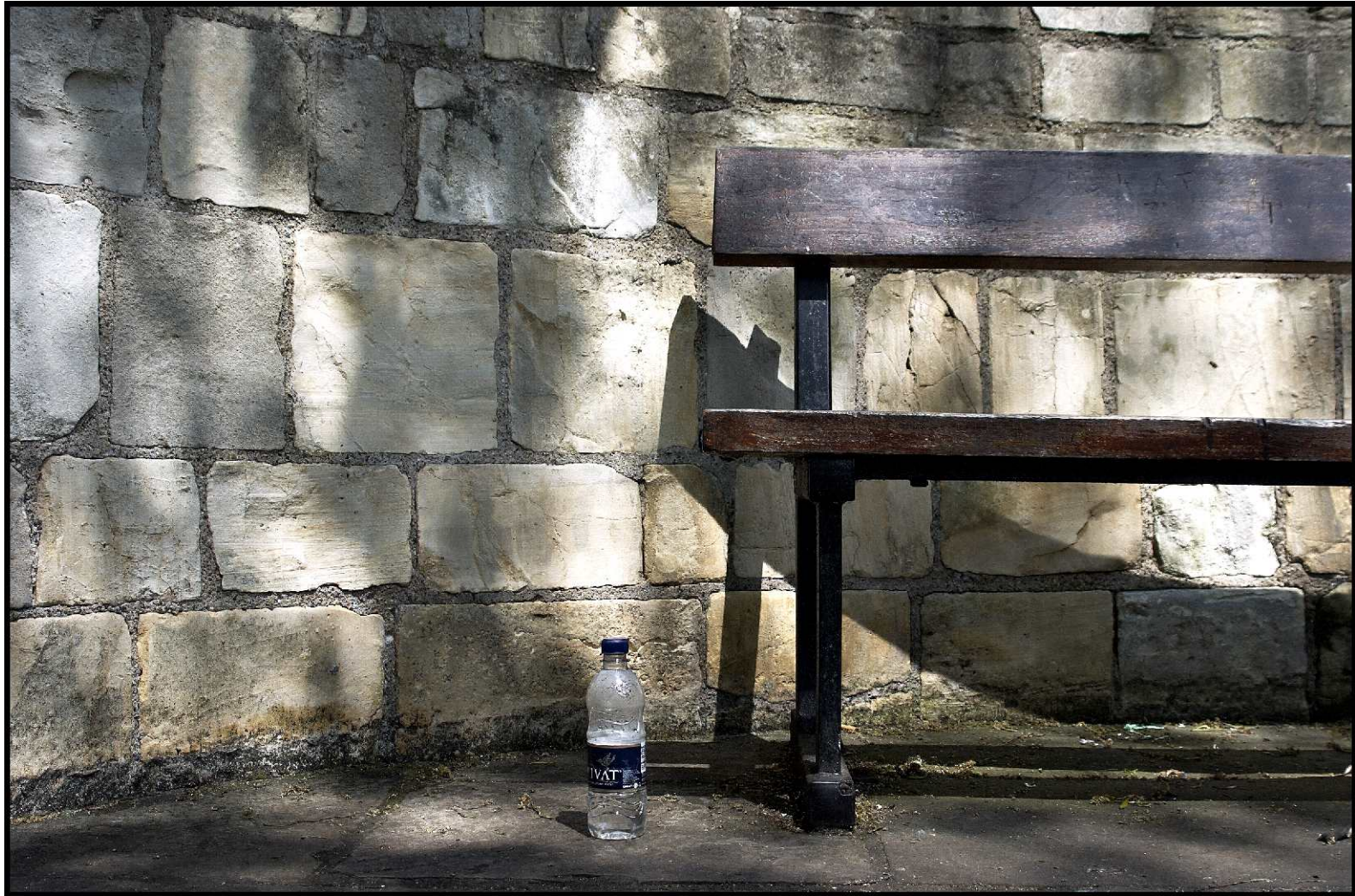
The wall running alongside Lord Mayor's Walk





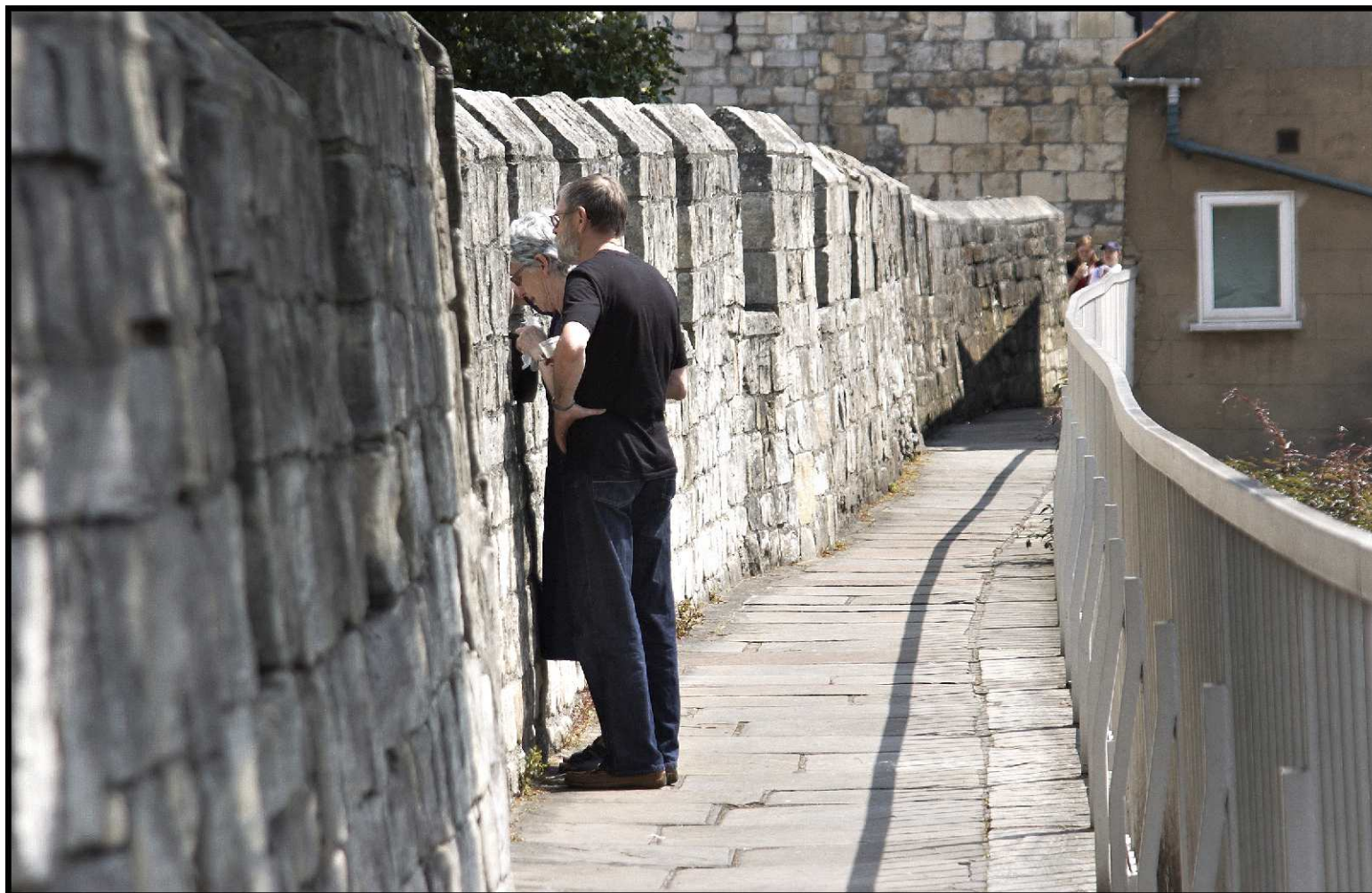


Water bottle and bench





Woman searches in her handbag near Monk Bar





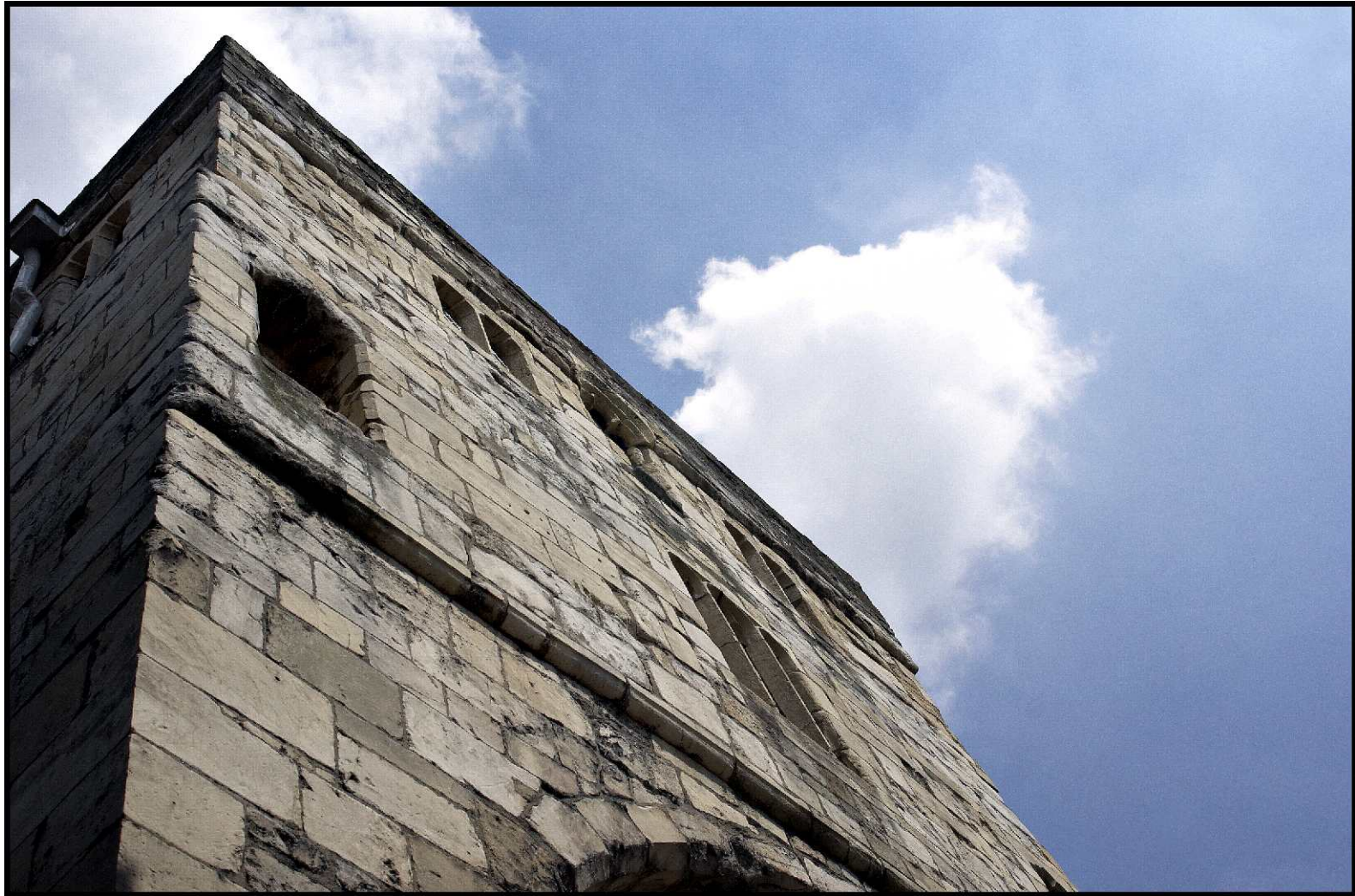
FedEx delivery van near Monk Bar



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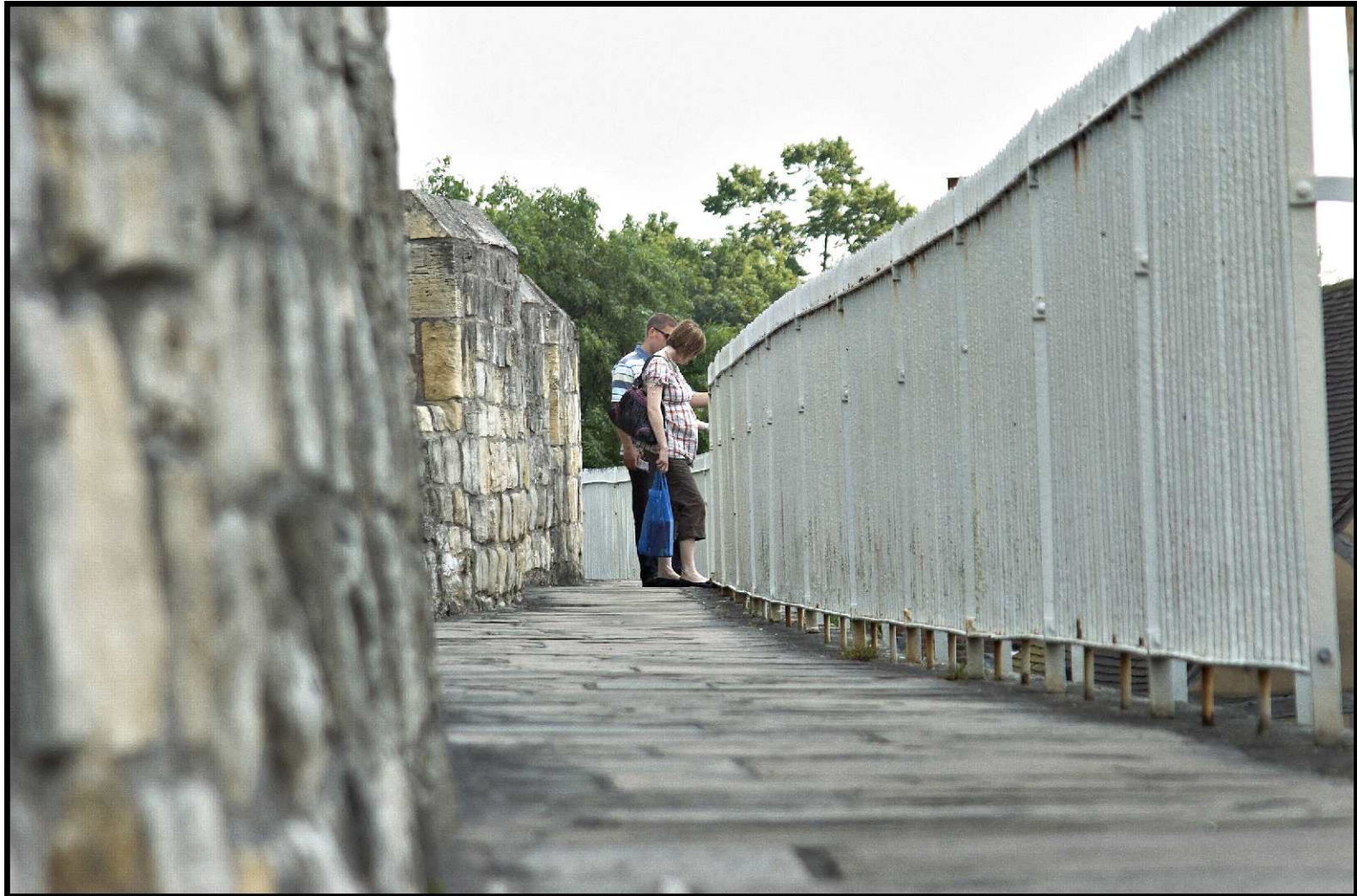


Monk Bar





Tourists admire the remains of the Roman walls - Jewbury



Battlement view





Little do the tourists know, as they walk past this little plaque, that it symbolizes part of York's dark past and one of its blackest days. During the medieval period, York had one of the largest Jewish communities in England. In 1190, York's Jewish community was massacred when they refused to renounce their faith. Many in the Jewish community chose to commit suicide rather than be murdered or baptized. According to the BBC local history [website](#):-

*'No documentary evidence has been found of a cherem, a Jewish order of excommunication, on York, however, it is widely accepted within the Jewish community that such an order existed. This cherem forbade Jews from settling within York's city walls, and reflects the distaste with which Jews viewed the city. According to sources in the Chief Rabbi's office, devout Jews travelling on the East Coast Main Line still take care not to eat sandwiches as they pass through York, as this would contravene the cherem still associated with the city. On overseas Jewish community internet message boards, the question of whether travel to York is permitted is a frequent one.'*

According to the 2001 census, the Jewish population of York is only 191 out of a total population of 181094.







City walls - Jewbury





City walls - Jewbury





Battlement view



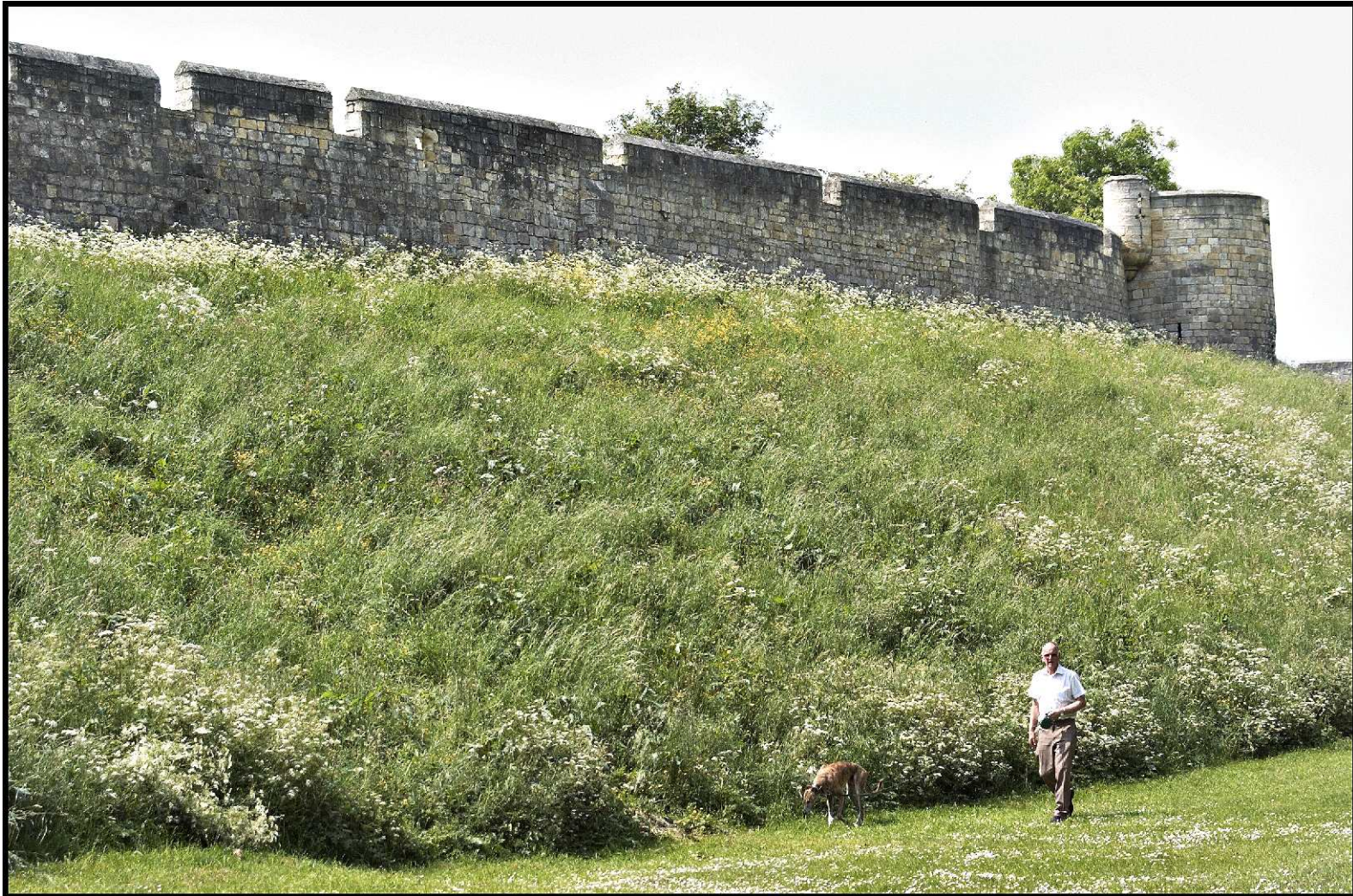


View through an arrow slit - Jewbury leading into Foss Bank





Walking the dog - Jewbury





Heading back into the city centre





Smiling man and boy





Station Rise



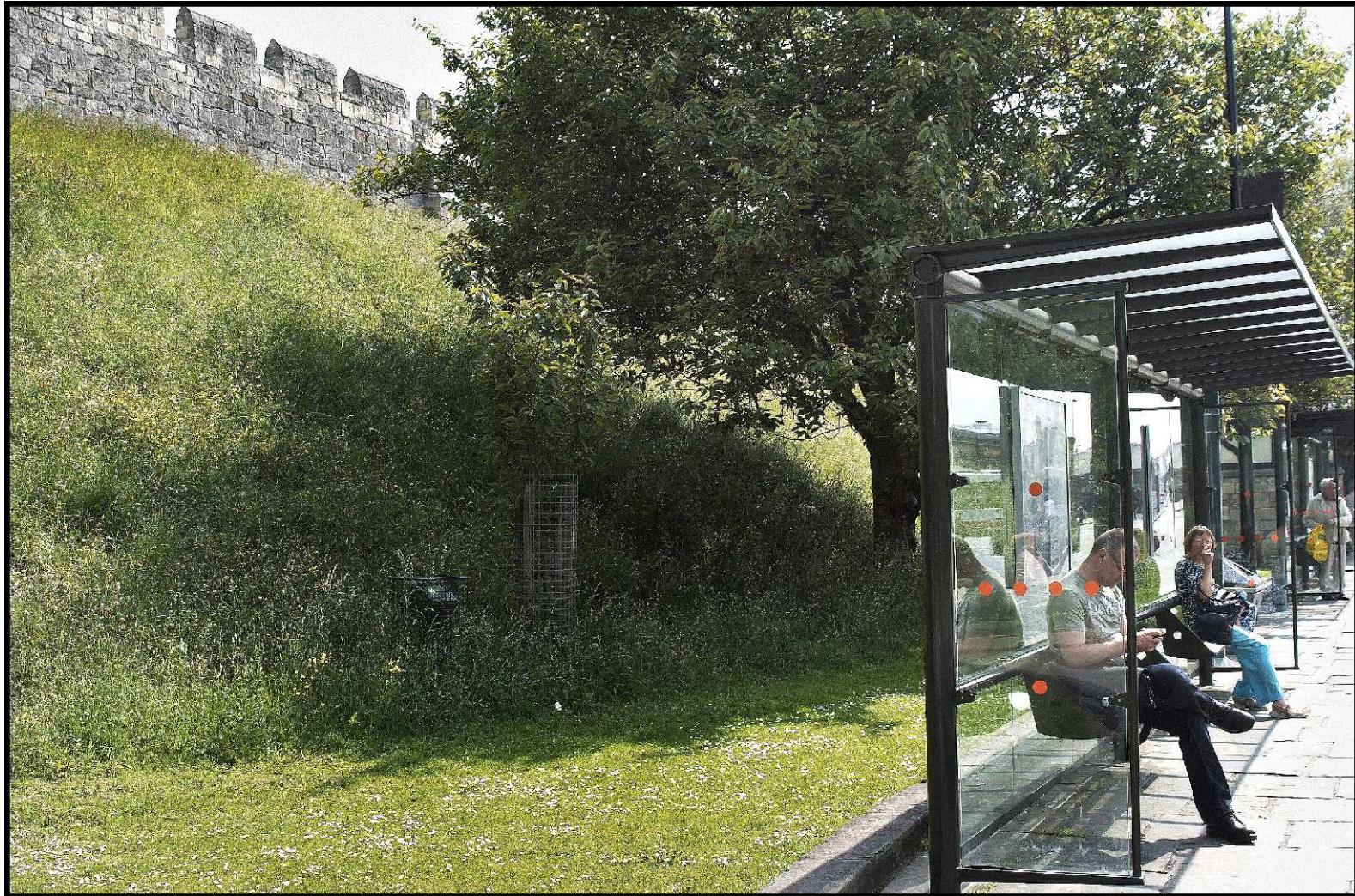


Using the walls is often quicker than walking on the busy streets





Waiting for the bus - Station Road





The city wall along Queen Street



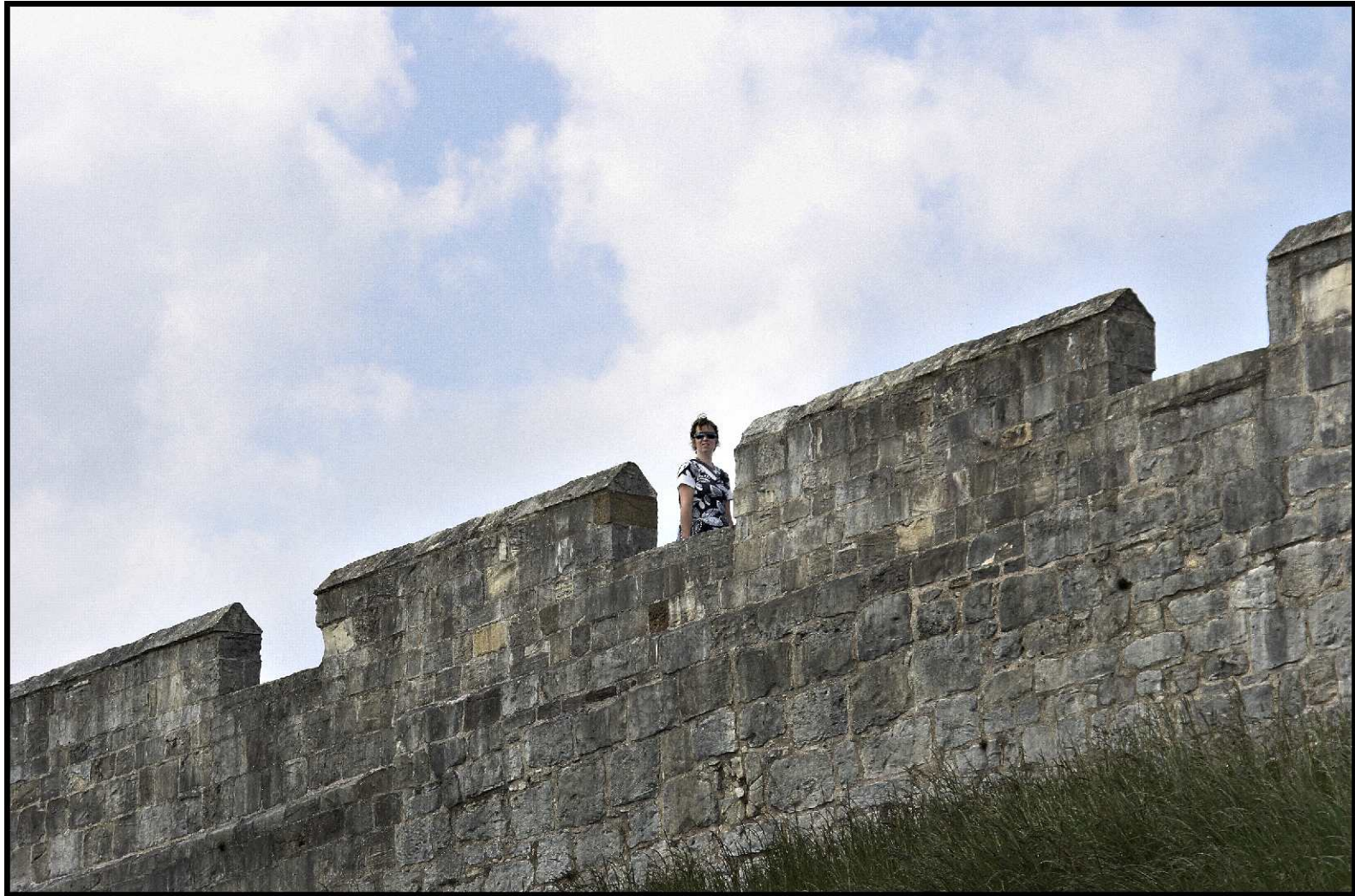


The corner of the city wall starting along Queen Street



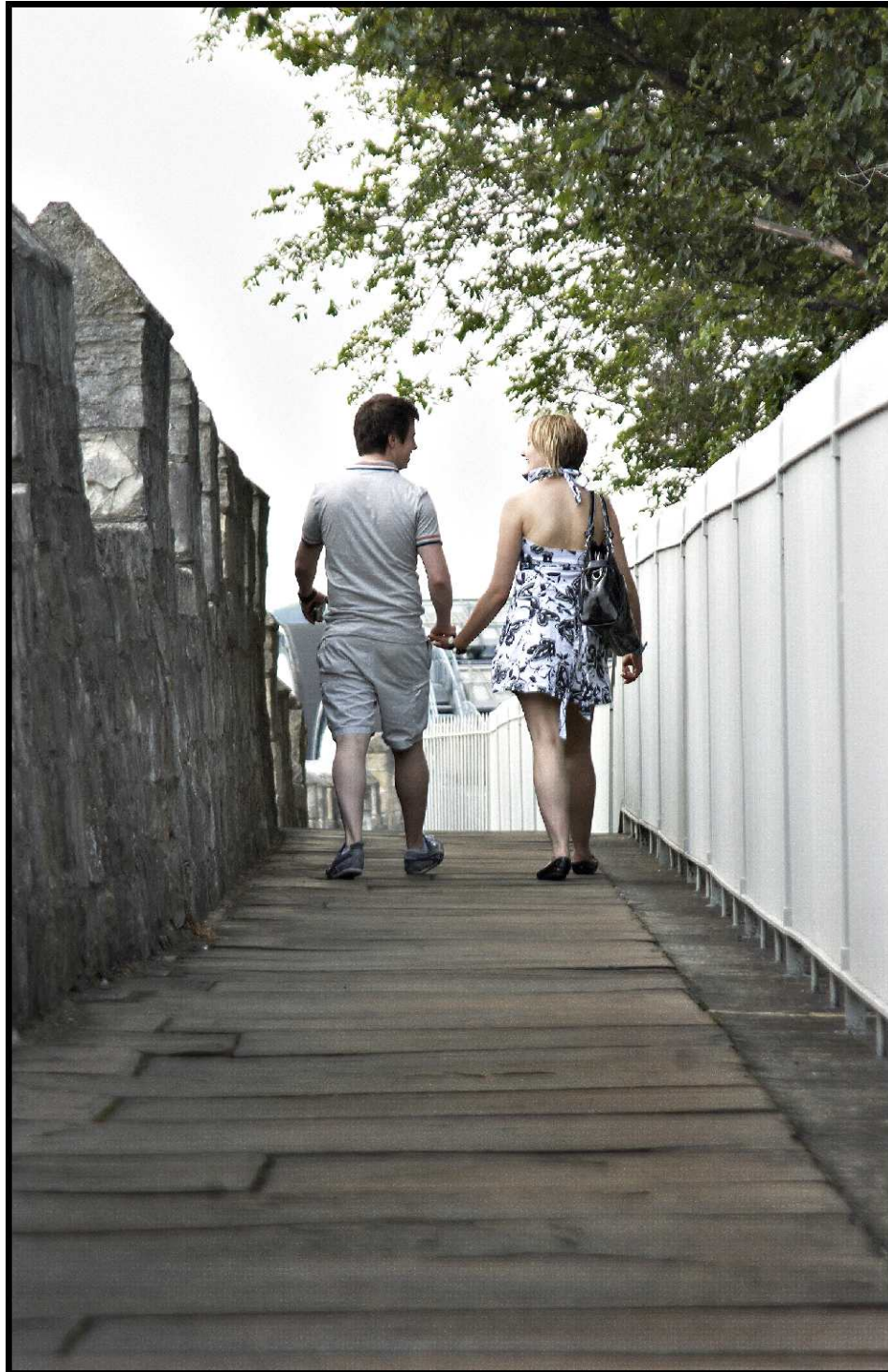


Walking along the wall at Micklegate





Couple walk hand in hand near Micklegate





The best view of York





# The Walled City Project

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**T**he idea for photographing York via its impressive medieval walls first came about in late 2007 but after a promising start the idea never progressed further.

Eighteen months later along came the Solo Photo Book Month project. I'd wanted to do a book last year but heard about it too late to realistically join in. I decided then that I would take part in 2009.

Originally I was going to shoot my book project in Newcastle Upon Tyne but time and work commitments made that impossible. I aim to do that project for my 2010 book.

I did have the Walled City project marked up as a plan B. The format of a book seemed to fit the idea perfectly.

All of the images were taken using a Nikon D2H and Nikon/Sigma lenses. Book layout and design were done using Photoshop, Open Office Draw 3.0 and Adobe Acrobat 8.

## About the Photographer

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**B**orn in County Durham (UK) in 1972, I took up photography when I was ten years old. My first camera was a plastic 126 film camera purchased from a pharmacy shop in Conwy, North Wales in 1985.

In 1991, I went to study Film, TV and Photography which eventually led me onto studying photography to HND and BA(Hons)Degree levels.

In 2001, I became a freelance photographer.

I currently live near York.

More details and images can be found at:-

<http://www.richardflintphoto.com>

<http://www.richflintphoto.blogspot.com>



All images by Richard Flint

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## Walled City – Photographs of York

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Front cover image: Tourists walk on city walls near York railway station

Back cover image: City walls along Queen Street