

To a Lady - with Flowers from a Roman Wall
By Sir Walter Scott, 1813.

Take these flowers which, purple waving,
On the ruin'd rampart grew,
Where, the sons of freedom braving,
Rome's imperial standards flew.

Warriors from the breach of danger
Pluck no longer laurels there;
They but yield the passing stranger
Wild-flower wreaths the Beauty's hair.



Carlisle Cathedral where Sir Walter Scott married
Charlotte Genevieve Charpentier on Christmas Eve 1797.
Painted by Thomas Girtin c. 1795.

This leaflet is one of a series covering the length of Hadrian's Wall. They were inspired by the **Tales of the Frontier** project undertaken by Durham University. We hope they encourage you to visit new locations and to explore the Wall and its influence on people and places through history.

To view and download other leaflets in the series and an accompanying booklet, or to find out more about **Tales of the Frontier** please visit
www.talesofthefrontier.org

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Timeline

- 2000 ● Rampart found at hotel in Stanwix
- Roman bridge stones dredged from the river
- Sir Walter Scott marries in Carlisle Cathedral
- Castle under siege during Jacobite Rebellion
- Celia Fiennes visits
- William Camden visits
- Mary watches football at the Castle
- 1500
- Robert Bruce withstands Scottish attack
- Stone keep constructed
- First Norman castle built on site of fort
- 1000
- Bede's 'Ecclesiastical History of the English People'
- Cuthbert visits Carlisle
- 500
- End of Roman occupation
- Fort at Stanwix, and Hadrian's Wall built
- Fort at Carlisle built
- Roman conquest of Britain begins
- AD 1

Links:

Hadrian's Wall Country: www.visithadrianswall.co.uk
Hadrian's Wall Path: www.nationaltrail.co.uk/hadrians-wall-path
Tullie House Museum: www.tulliehouse.co.uk
Carlisle Castle: english-heritage.org.uk/carlisle
Discover Carlisle: www.discovercarlisle.co.uk/lifestyle
St Michael's Church: www.stanwixchurch.org
St Cuthbert's Church: www.stcuthbertscarlisle.org.uk

Cover image: © English Heritage. Roman altar used as a lintel at Carlisle Castle.

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Tales of the Frontier

People, places, past and present
around **CARLISLE**



No. 3 Crossing the Eden: Fish Sauce & Football

Where the Roman Wall crossed the River Eden, two major forts were built on opposite banks: Luguvalium, to the south on the Stanegate Road and, later, Petriana on the Wall itself. Their influence on the landscape has been significant. St Cuthbert visited the Roman ruins, and there are hints of early Christian worship.

Luguvalium grew into a major city. Its Norman castle, built within the boundaries of the fort, has witnessed border warfare through many centuries. Edward I brought Parliament here - to the benefit of local ale houses. Excavations and diaries have revealed more stories - of fish sauce and football matches!

**Come and discover how the Romans transformed
this important bend in the River Eden**



LUGUVALIUM

The Roman fort and town at Carlisle was known as Luguvalium, a name of Celtic origin. It may be based on a personal name, on the god Lugh, or on his harvest ceremony of Lughnasadh.

The fort was built on the Stanegate - the Roman road from east to west. Dating of preserved fort timbers from the earliest structures showed that they were cut during the autumn/winter of AD 72-3, perhaps during the closing campaigns of Quintus Petilius Cerialis against a local dissident, Venutius. The site was occupied continuously, rebuilt in stone in around 200, until some time between AD 275 and 325. Later, the Roman bridge must have fallen into disrepair.

"Within the channel of the river, mighty stones, the remains thereof, are yet extant"

William Camden, 1586

Recent excavations near Carlisle Castle uncovered a fragment of amphora. A label written in ink indicates the Roman contents:

"Old Tangiers tunny relish, 'provisions quality', excellent, top-quality."



This famous fish sauce was made in Southern Spain and used in all kinds of Roman cookery. 'Old Tangiers' could be a brand name. The find shows that Carlisle was connected to the Empire and able to import luxury items. The sauce would have seemed very exotic to native tastes!

Carlisle Castle

The first timber castle was built on the site of the Roman fort in 1093 by order of William I. In 1122, Henry I ordered a stone castle to be constructed on the site. The existing Keep dates from this period, and includes stones from the Roman fort (see cover).

When Queen Elizabeth I placed Mary Queen of Scots under house arrest in Carlisle Castle, her gaoler kept records reporting on her movements. These recount a 'game', played for Mary in 1568, where players kicked a ball using only their feet. The game had 20 players and lasted 2 hours. The 'pitch' was 50 m long with trees at either end as goal posts.

The castle drew the attention of travellers to the region:

"The castle, though antient, makes a good appearance at a distance, and commands an extensive view of pleasant meads, insulated by the two branches of the Eden."

William Camden, 1586

"... there remains only some of the walls and ruins of the Castle which does shew it to have been a very strong town formerly; the walls are of a prodigious thickness and vast great stones, its moated round and with draw bridges..."

Celia Fiennes, 1698

500 m



Queen Mary looking towards Scotland from the Castle Keep, by S. Harrison, published by Edmund Bogg, 1898.

GOAL!

PETRIANA (Uxelodunum)

This was the largest fort on Hadrian's Wall, covering an area of 180 x 210 m. It is now buried beneath the village of Stanwix. The Roman name of the fort differs between sources. The name Petrianis comes from the Ala Petriana, an élite cavalry unit stationed there. Uxelodunum could be a Latin form of the Celtic for 'High Fort' as the fort stands on a natural platform overlooking the River Eden and the route to and from Scotland.

"The western sector of the Wall was the most dangerous... both on account of the nature of the ground and because of the hostile population beyond it. It is not surprising to find, then, that at Stanwix near Carlisle was stationed the Ala Petriana, the only military Ala in Britain."

Sheppard Frere, 1967

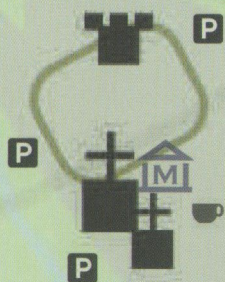
In 1984 ramparts were uncovered in the car park behind the Cumbria Park Hotel off Scotland Road; the line of the fort wall was marked in the carpark with coloured paving stones, and a statue was erected.

Most of the fort now lies beneath the primary school and Saint Michael's Church, where the south-eastern rampart is visible. The church was partly constructed from Roman stone. Its stained glass windows commemorate the Roman history of the area.



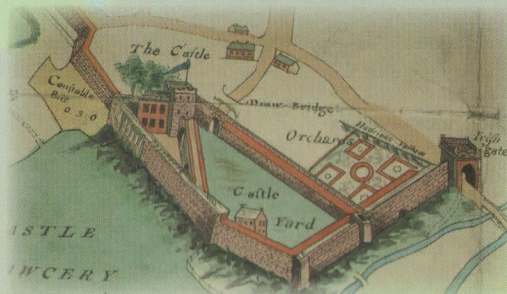
Stanwix (Petriana)

CARLISLE (Luguvalium)



Carlisle Cathedral

Archaeological investigations in the 1980s found tentative evidence for a large monastic site as described in texts detailing the life of St Cuthbert. An extensive cemetery was also found nearby. The Cathedral was built in the early 12th century as an Augustinian Priory Church. It stands on the junction of two Roman roads and Roman stones were used in its construction. Many Roman artefacts have been discovered below its grounds. Sir Walter Scott was married in the Cathedral in 1797.



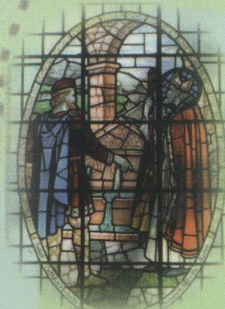
Map of Carlisle by George Smith, 1752.

Cuthbert's vision

Carlisle seems to have been occupied continuously after the Romans left, and to have retained its significance until the 8th century when the historian Bede refers to it as *Lugubalium civitatem*. Cuthbert visited as Bishop of Lindisfarne in AD 685. At this time there was a royal monastery, frequented by the Queen Eormenburg the wife of Ecgrith, King of Northumbria from AD 670 to AD 685.

Whilst the King was fighting in Scotland, Eormenburg toured the Roman remains at Carlisle with Cuthbert. One day Cuthbert paused, and said, "I have just had a vision of your husband's death. Return to your palace and escape with your children." Almost immediately, a messenger arrived with news that Ecgrith had been slain and his army routed.

St Cuthbert's Church is aligned to the Roman road north through Carlisle (Blackfriars St), rather than the usual east-west orientation, leading some scholars to think there may have been a very early church on this site. A stained glass window (right) in the current church shows Cuthbert being shown the Roman remains, including a well or fountain.



Cuthbert tours Roman remains in Carlisle. © TOTF Archive.

Hadrian's Wall Path

River Eden

Parliament comes to Carlisle

Edward I's last parliament was held at Carlisle in 1307, prompted by Robert Bruce's rising in Scotland; a visiting cardinal, Peter the Spaniard, presided over The Bruce's excommunication. There were also protests against the papal tax collector, William Testa, so the Statute of Carlisle was drawn up to stop monasteries exporting their wealth overseas.

There were practical implications of holding parliament in a small city, remote from London, in winter. It opened in January but by April most attendees had departed. Yet, if retainers and servants are included it is estimated that parliament brought around 2,000 people to Carlisle, in addition to at least 500 members of the royal household.



16th-century illustration of Edward I presiding over Parliament.

Some local suppliers profited: Agnes of St Nicholas earned nearly £10 from the sale of 2,335 gallons of ale. Demands for provisions placed a heavy burden on the local countryside. Royal cattle were pastured near the castle, and more were brought from Penrith and Corbridge; venison came from Inglewood Forest, and even whalemeat was provided!