



5 - 14 September 2010

Gordon Taylor and Betsy Taylor-Kennedy

Hadrian's Wall Path

→ National Trails homepage

NATIONAL TRAIL



Search Hadrian's wall path:

[Home](#)[About this Trail](#)[News](#)[Planning a trip](#)[Publications](#)[Links](#)[FAQs](#)[Contact](#)

The 84 mile National Trail takes walkers along the riverside route in Tyneside, through farmland in Tynedale and the grazing upland section dominated by the Whin Sill escarpment. It then gradually descends to the rich pastures of Cumbria and finally the salt marsh of the Solway Estuary



From UK National Trails website

Senatus Populusque Romanus

("The Senate and Roman People"),
referring to the government of the ancient
Roman Republic, and used as an official
signature of the government



Reg:

.....but apart from better sanitation and medicine and education and irrigation and public health and roads and a freshwater system and baths and public order... what *have* the Romans done for *us*?

Xerxes:

Brought peace!

Reg:

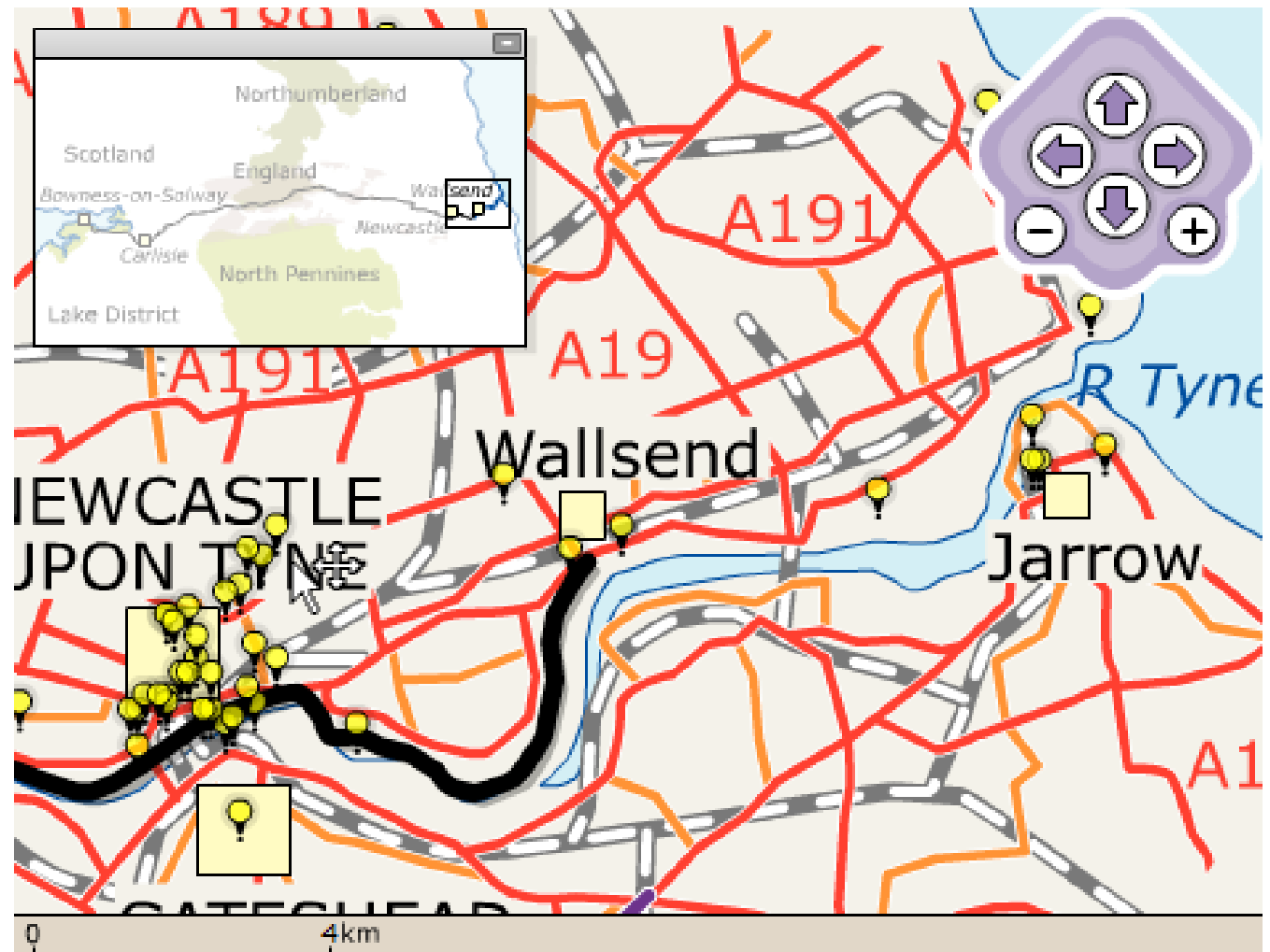
(very angry, he's not having a good meeting at all)

What!? Oh... *(scornfully)* Peace, yes... shut up!

From Monty Python's Life of Brian

Day 1 South Shields to Newcastle on Tyne

5 Miles



South Shields



Arbeia Roman Fort



A photo of a reconstructed room at Arbeia Roman Fort & Museum



A reconstruction of the Roman Fort main gate at Arbeia

Wallsend Metro station: signs in Latin





Start of the Wall Pictures from Tyne and Wear Museums

Wallsend to Newcastle along the Tyne



Wallsend to Newcastle along the Tyne



Newcastle and Gateshead



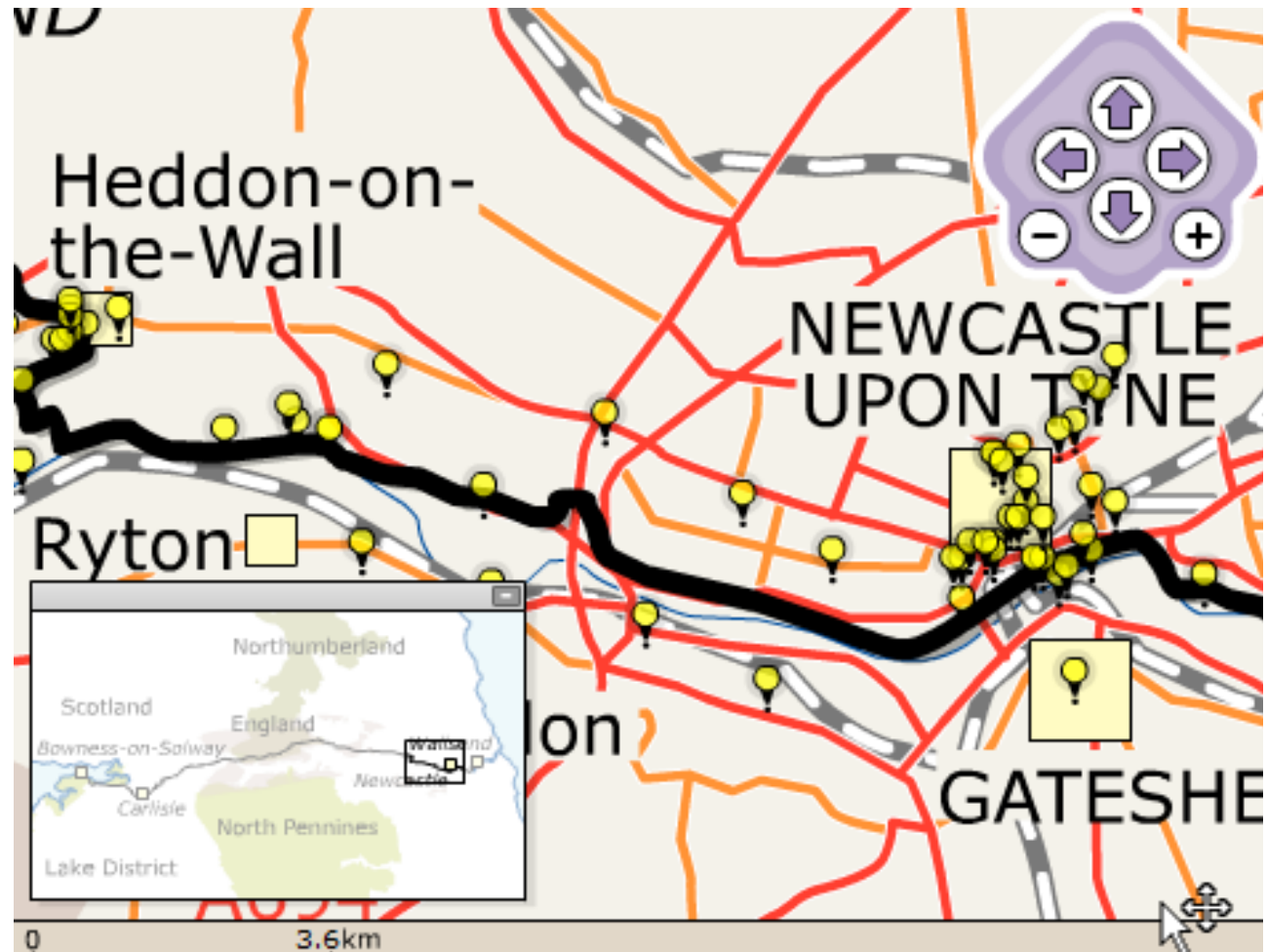
Newcastle and Gateshead



Millennium bridge

Day 2 Newcastle to Heddon on the Wall

10 Miles



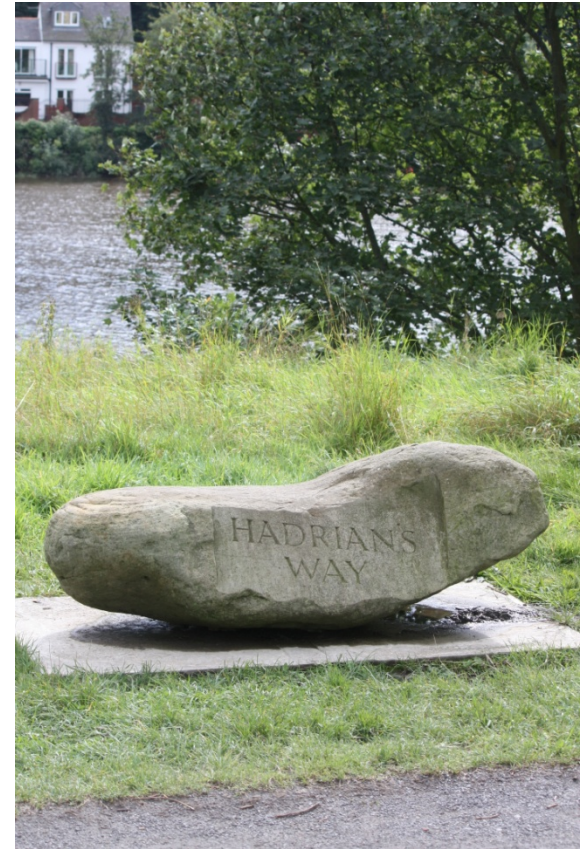
Leaving Newcastle



Urban renewal along the Tyne



Lemington and Newburn



Newburn



Heddon



Heddon: The Wall



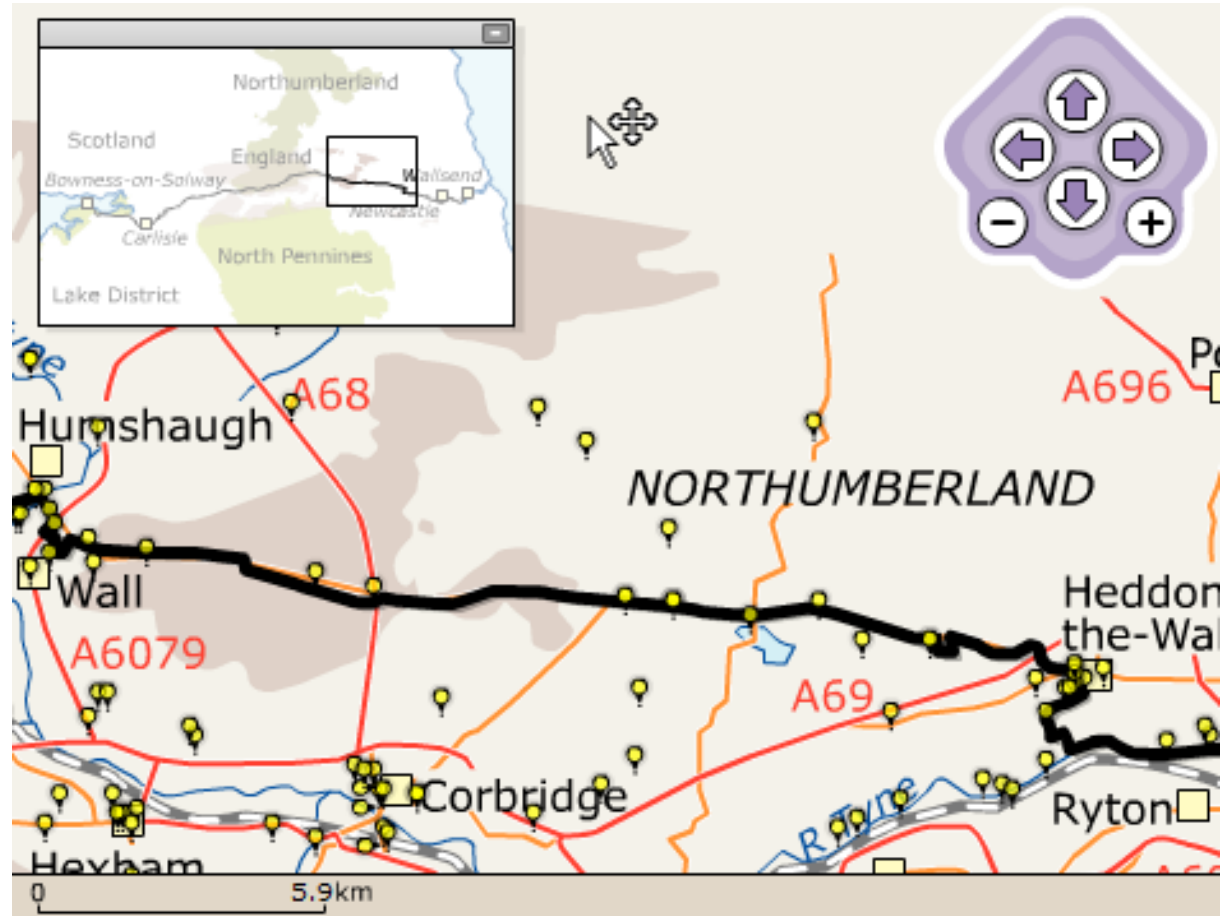
The Keelman's Lodge and The Keelman Public House



Our B&B in Newburn

Day 3 Heddon on the Wall to Chollerford

15 ¼ miles



Leaving Heddon



Rural England along the route



In the Ditch



21st Century
Farming





Roman Engineering

The Vallum

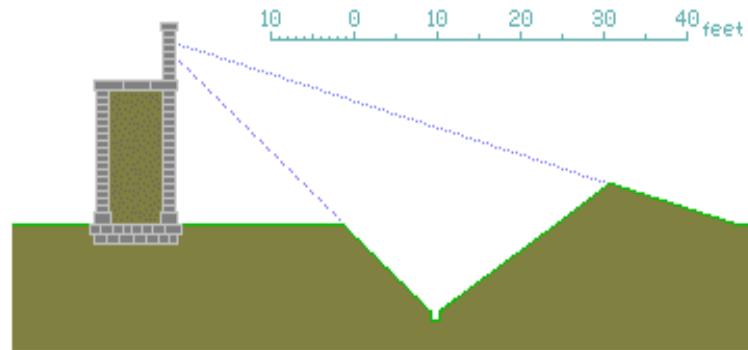


Quarry

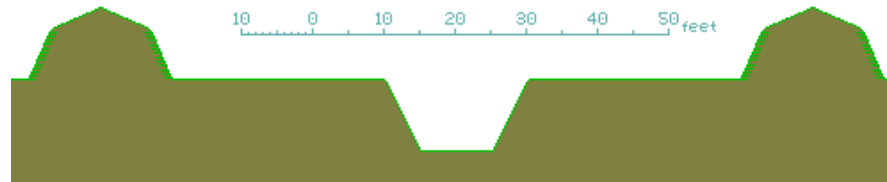


The Structure

The Wall and Ditch



The Vallum

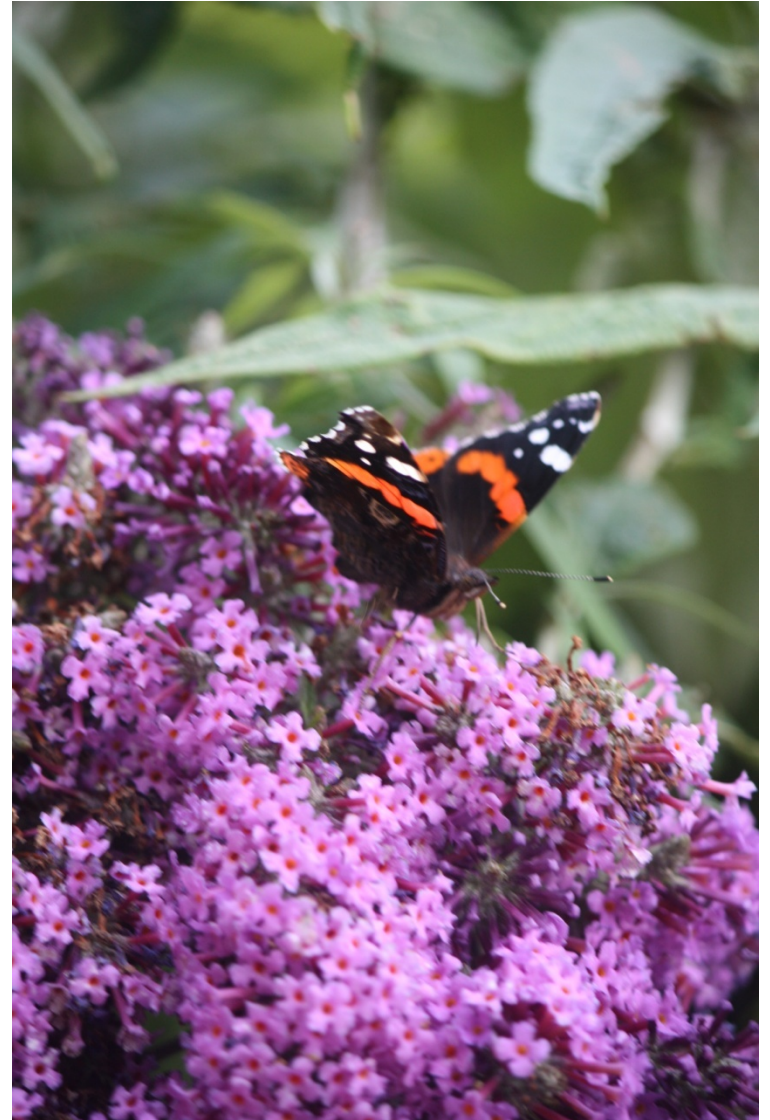


Planetrees



Wall goes from 3 meters to 2 meters wide





Roman Britain in Sound Bites

- 55 BC Julius Caesar lands in Britain, but fails to hold it
 - 54 BC British tribes surrender after Roman 2nd attempt
 - AD 43 Claudius imposes Roman Authority
 - Agricola becomes Governor
 - AD 61 Boudica leads a rebellion while the governor in Wales
 - AD 83 Northern Frontier along line formed by Rivers Forth and Clyde, but it fails to hold
 - AD 122 Hadrian builds a wall along line formed by rivers Tyne and Solway
 - AD 138 Hadrian dies
 - AD 142 Antonius Pius builds the Antonine Wall
 - Forth-Clyde, but Caledonian tribes are always a problem
 - AD 410 Romans leave Britain
-

Day 4 Rest Day

Corbridge Roman Town
Vindolanda Roman Fort

Dilston Mill



Our B&B for two nights

Corbridge

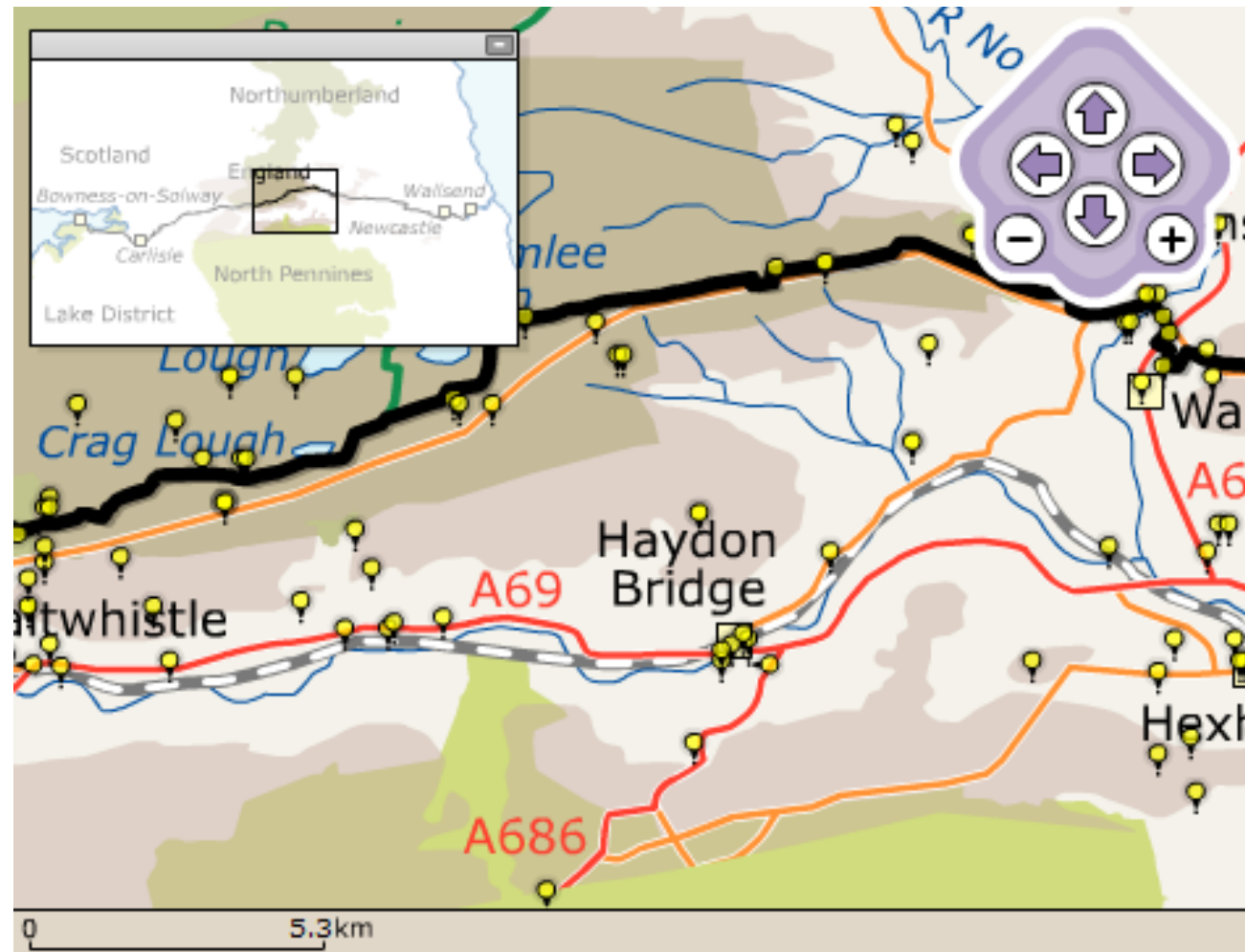


Vindolanda



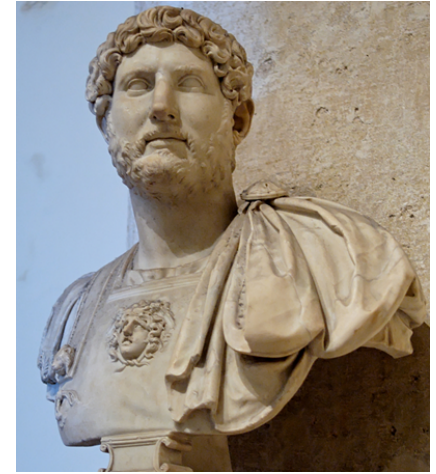
Day 5 Chollerford to Steel Rigg

12 Miles



Hadrian's Wall Statistics

- 84 miles long (80 Roman Miles)
- 12 forts at approximately 7 mile intervals
- 5 meters high
- 2-3 meters wide
- Milecastle (up to 32 troops) every Roman mile (~1,617 yds)
- 2 turrets evenly spaced between milecastles
- 6 Legions of regular troops took 7 years to build the Wall
- Manned by men from Gaul (modern Belgium, France, etc.)
- Vallum (20 ft deep) on South side
- Ditch (20 ft deep) on North side



Hadrian

Blackcarts



Wall and Ditch



Temple of Mithras





Photo by Chris Kalus

Navigation



Sewingshields crags



On the way to Housesteads



Milecastle 37





Looking back to
Housesteads Wood



Cuddy's Crag

Crossing the Pennine Way



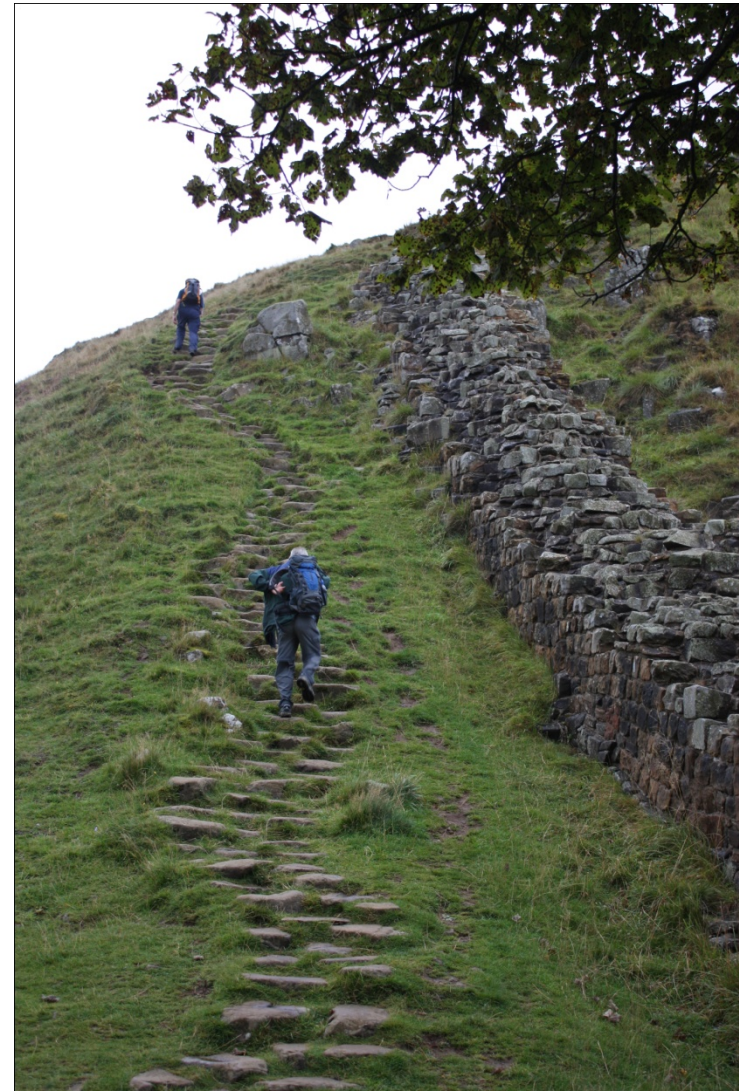


Crag
Lough

Broomlea Lough



Gordon

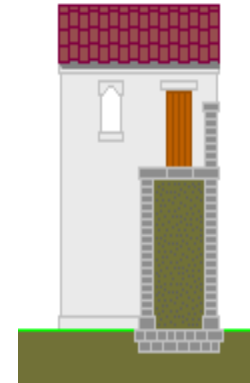
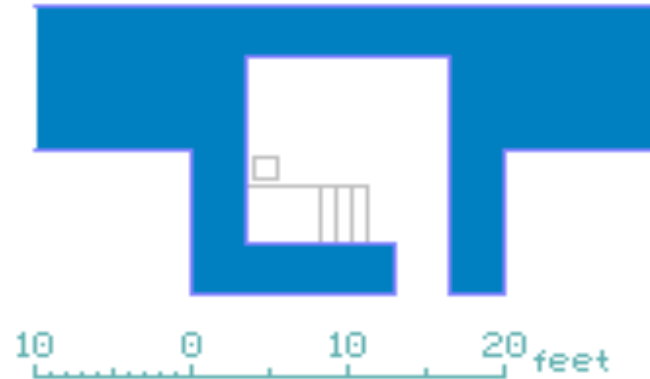


Chris and Mike

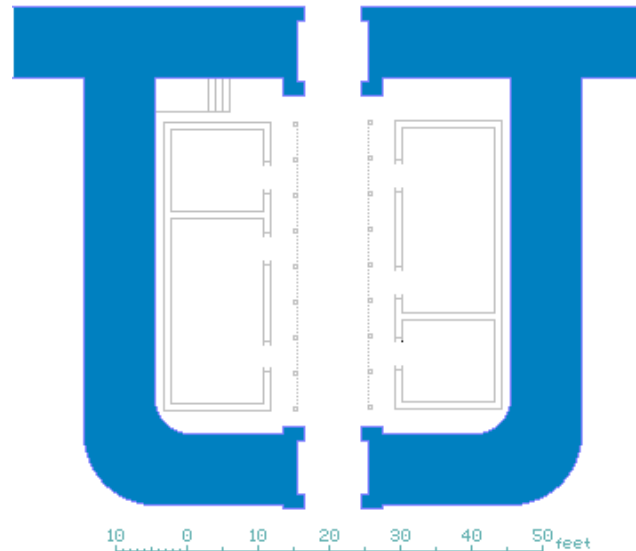
Sycamore Gap

Turrets and Milecastles

Turrets



Milecastles



Castle Nick: Milecastle 39



Turret below Peel Crag



Peel Crag



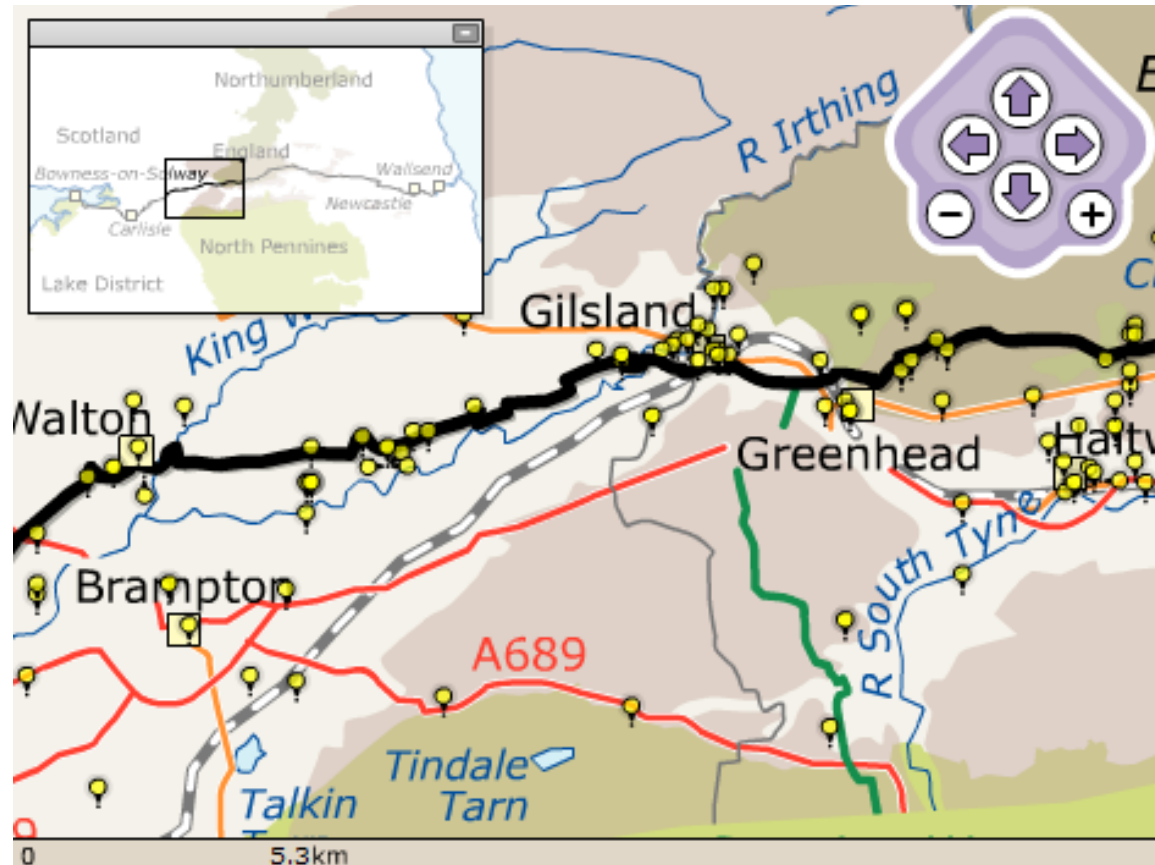
Gibbs Hill Farm



Our B&B at Steel Rigg

Day 6 Steel Rigg to Lanercost

13 1/2 miles





Milecastle 42

Cawfields

Approaching Walltown



Turret 44B



Descending to
Walltown

Great Chesters



Great Chesters Fort is buried in this field (and protected by a bull)



Looking back at the crags we've climbed

Waltown Quarry



Thirlwall Castle



Photo by Chris Kalus

Gilsland

Milecastle 48



Willowford

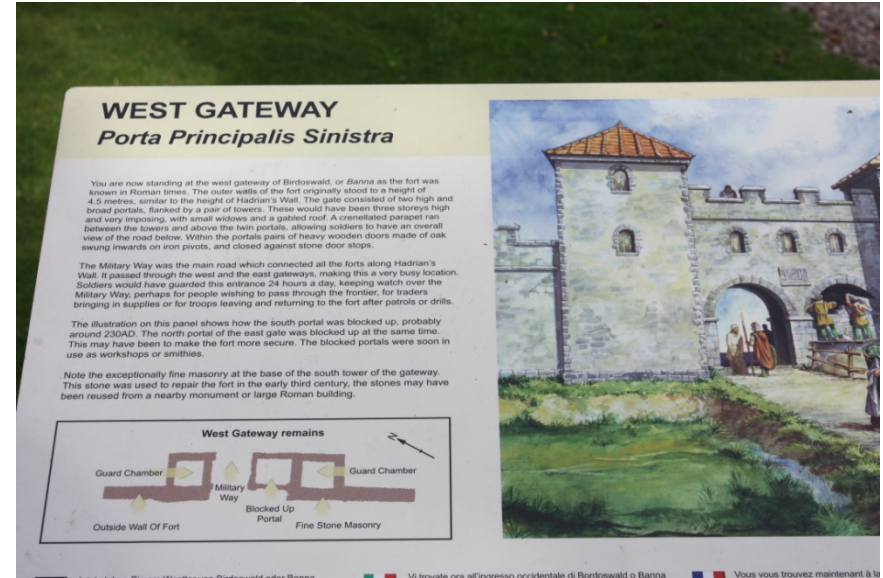


Farmhouse used
stone from wall
with Latin
inscription



Site of Roman Bridge

Birdoswald Roman Fort



Medieval farm built on the site from stone taken from the Fort and the Wall

On to Lanercost



Lanercost Priory



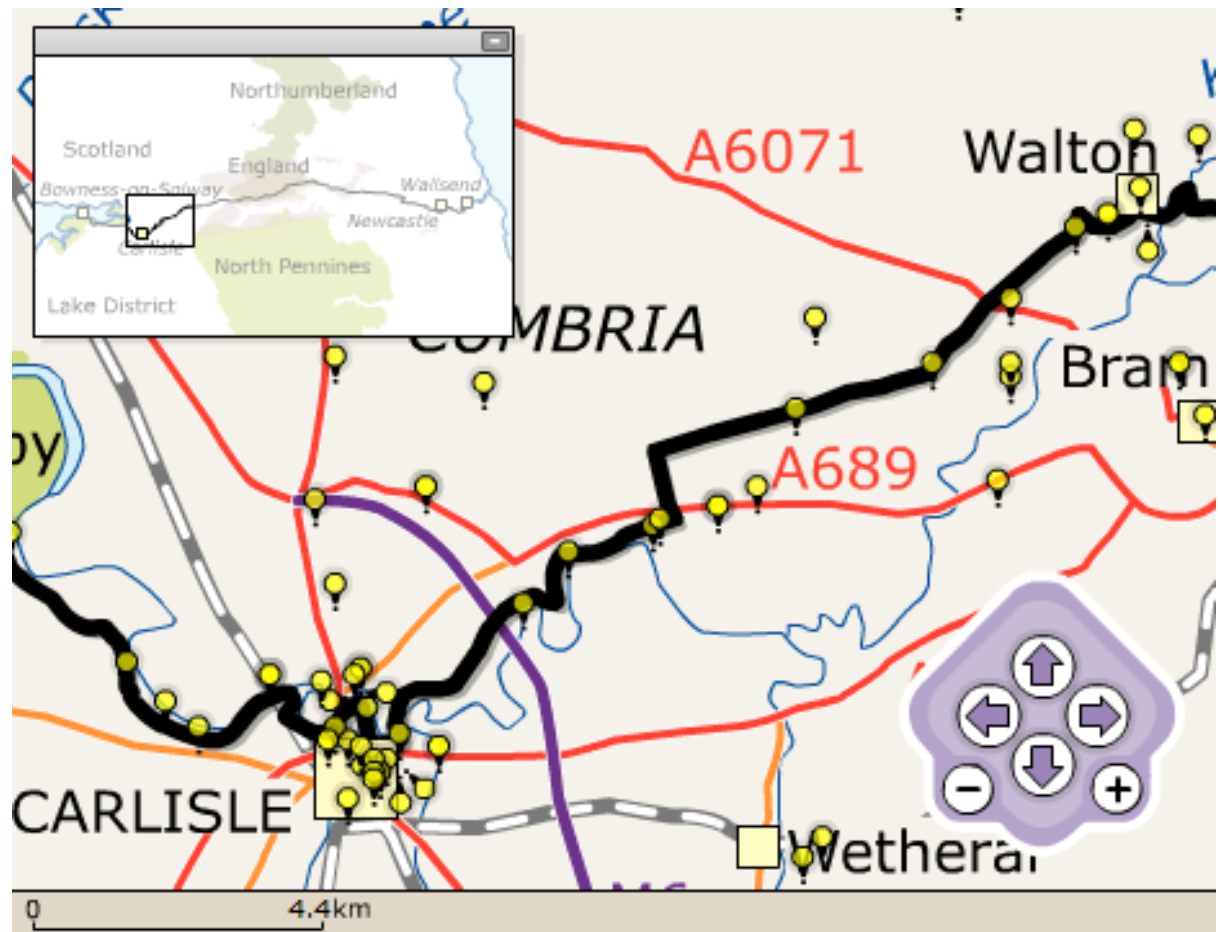
Blacksmiths at Lanercost



Our B&B at Lanercost

Day 7 Lanercost to Carlisle

13 1/2 Miles



The Molecatcher's Bounty



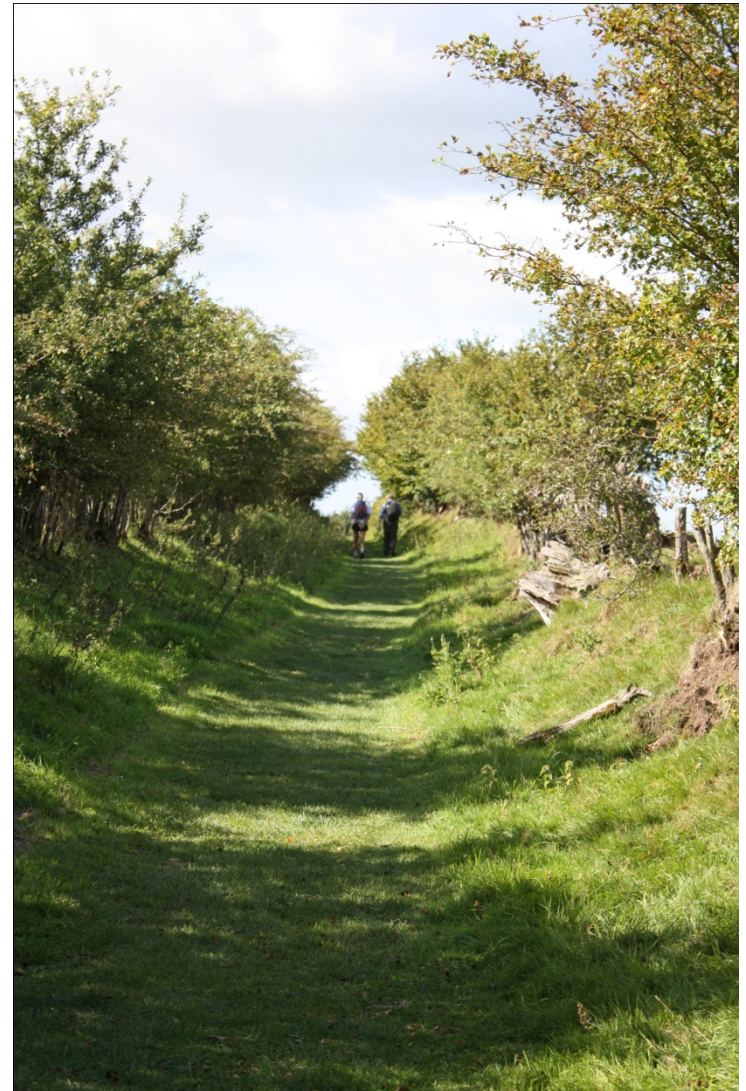
Near Walton



The Beck Farm



Victorian post box, Newtown



Leafy lane, Crosby on Eden



River Eden

Crossing the M6



George Head Head's Folly



Rickerby

George Head Head's Gatehouse.

Motto "Study Quiet"



Peacock totem pole,
Rickerby



Entering Carlisle



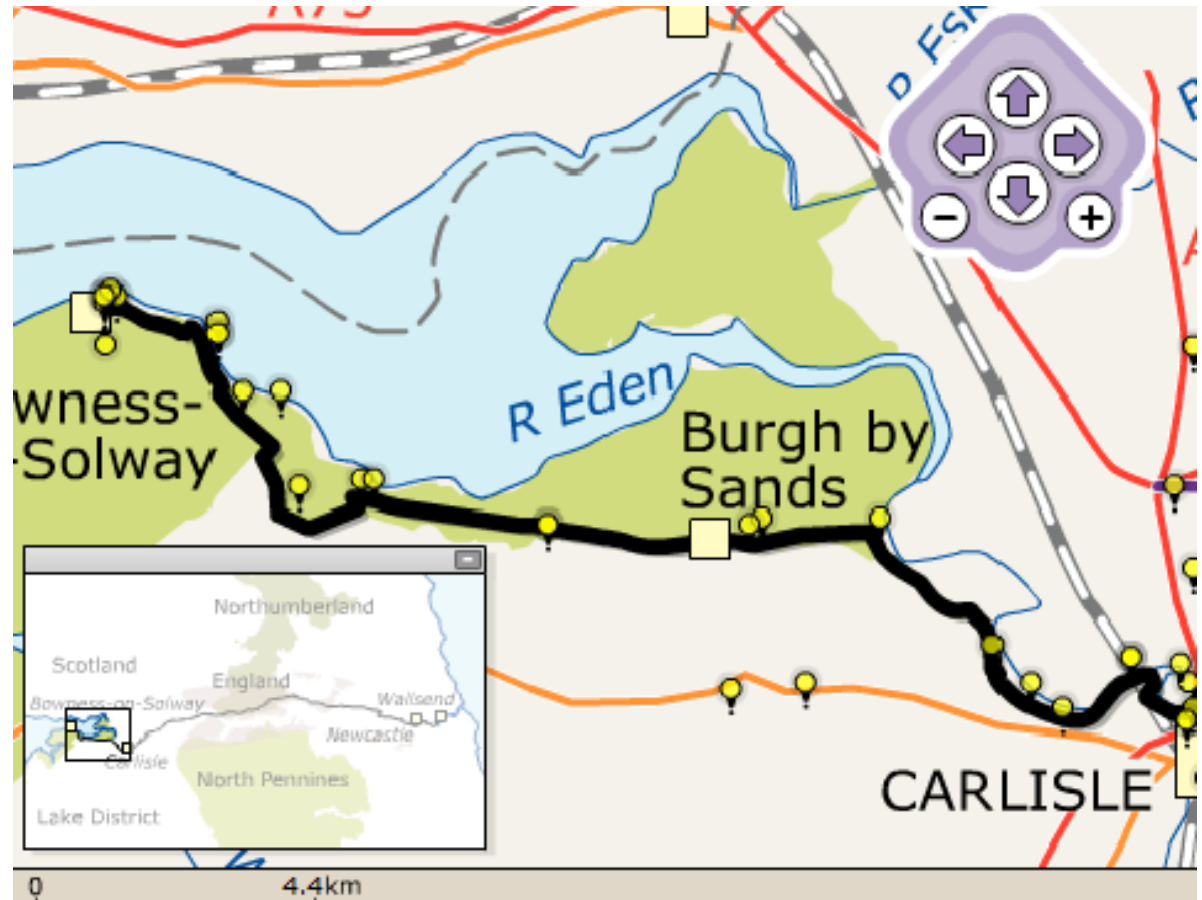
Ashleigh Guest House, Carlisle



Our B&B for three nights in Carlisle

Day 8 Carlisle to Bowness on Solway

14 ³/₄ miles



Leaving Carlisle in the rain



Photo by Chris Kalus

Lunch in the rain



Photo
by Chris
Kalus

Dave, Bob, Gordon, Betsy

Scotland across the Solway





Chris, Gordon, Betsy, Bob



How about walking back to the start?

Day 9

Rest and recover in Carlisle

Carlisle



Commemorative pillar box

Carlisle Cathedral



Town motto at the Tullie Museum



Carlisle Castle



Finis
