



Wetheral Village Green

Village Green

A good place to start your exploration of Wetheral where there is a parish map to assist your visit.

There are few situations more strikingly picturesque and beautiful than that in which the village of Wetheral stands. It is built along the side of a hill... a fine and extensive prospect of hill and valley, wood and water meets the eye.

George Gleig, 1830

This glimpse of Eden alongside the river has shaped and been shaped by Christian witness giving a special sense of place. Buildings, trees, landforms, water, light and colour, diverse flora and fauna derive a special meaning from what has gone before. The evidence of its spiritual history over more than thirteen centuries is reflected in the living landscape, which the church people living here today invite you to share and enjoy.

Other nearby churches

A mile or so downstream is the spire of the 19th century St. Paul's Church, Holme Eden. Beyond, in Warwick Bridge is the sole Augustus Pugin church in Cumbria, dedicated by Roman Catholics to Our Lady and St. Wilfrid.



St. Leonard's Church

Across the A69 road bridge you can visit St. Leonard's Warwick on Eden, described by Nikolaus Pevsner as 'the most memorable Norman Village Church in Cumberland'. It is no longer used for worship. On one of the chancel buttresses is the pictorial symbol of Prior Thornton; a tun (or barrel) and a thorn. Across this sweep of Debatable border land the Christian message was carried in several directions. Cuthbert, Patrick, Ninian, Kentigern and others feature in bringing the Gospel to Cumbria.



1 Holy Spring

WETHERAL & THE RIVER EDEN

FROM CELL TO THE WELL
1,300 YEARS OF HISTORY IN 1,300 YARDS

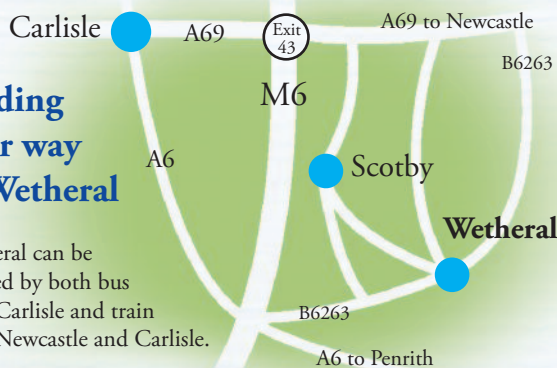


WETHERAL & THE RIVER EDEN

Facilities: Hotel, Restaurant, Shop,
Post Office, Café and Pub.



design & print: dbgraphicsltd.com



Finding your way to Wetheral

Wetheral can be reached by both bus from Carlisle and train from Newcastle and Carlisle.

Website: www.edenchurches.co.uk

Sat Nav: CA4 8HA • OS reference: NY 468 543

See: Wetheral Priory Gatehouse/ English Heritage

WALKS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FAITH



‘...a fine and Extensive Prospect of hill and valley, wood and water meet the eye’

George Gleig, 1830



2 View from the Viaduct

1 Holy Spring

St. Cuthbert's holy spring or well, recorded in 1200 A.D. may have been linked to the saint's visit to Carlisle in the 7th century.

2 Viaduct

The Corby-Wetheral viaduct (1830-1834) asserted to have been the largest railway bridge in the world on completion, provides a spectacular view of sacred spaces. Upstream Corby Castle, the ferry crossing, Church and Priory Gatehouse are visible. Downstream are the Priory Mill and St. Cuthbert's well, beyond which lie the Debateable lands crossed by Ninian, Cuthbert, and Patrick bringing the Gospel to Cumbria.

3 Church

The church, dedicated to The Holy Trinity and St. Constantine (and the Virgin Mary pre-reformation), stands on a religious site probably dating from the dark ages (476- c.800A.D.).

The exterior is essentially early 16th century with later additions. The peaceful interior reveals 13th century arcades and a medieval west window of exceptional beauty.



3 Medieval West Window

Wetheral

Note the numbered sites on the map as they are linked to the images and text in this leaflet.

All sites are within easy walking distance.

Scale of map: Approximately one mile North to South.



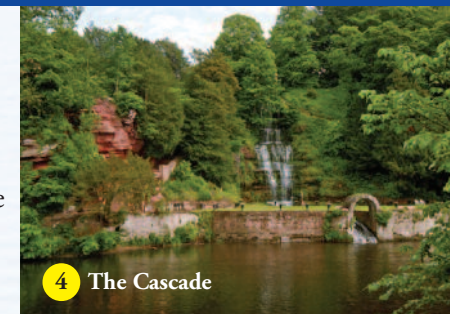
There are a number of welcoming eating places in the village

3 Nollekens Sculpture

In 1791 a mausoleum for the Catholic Howard family of Corby Castle was added in memory of Lady Maria Howard who died in childbirth aged 23. The tribute to the dying mother is one of the greatest sculptures of the 18th century, and the finest work of Joseph Nollekens R.A. which moved Wordsworth to compose a sonnet.

4 Corby Castle

Originally a Border tower, with overlain additions, reflecting the movement to more peaceful times. Its grounds were set out c.1740 with classical features, notably the cascade, best seen from the path to Wetheral's National Trust woods. With mermaids at the head, water cascades down 140 feet in four leaps, ending in a basin.



4 The Cascade

5 Priory Gatehouse

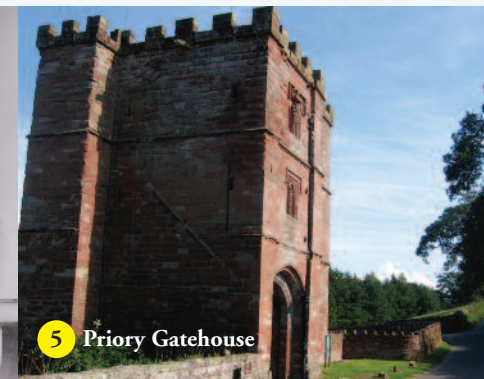
The Gatehouse is almost all that remains visible of the 12th century Benedictine Priory. Yet it retains a sense of place and beauty, sitting in a tranquil setting with sufficient food, water and wood. Contemplation and prayer can still be imagined and experienced.

6 Monastic Cells

St Constantine's cells, dramatically perched above the river, may have been a refuge for the Priory monks and their treasures in times conflict and unrest. On the opposite side just downstream are monastic salmon coops, which are thought to be the oldest fish traps in Britain. Fishing rights granted to the Priory date from the 12th century.



3 Nollkens Sculpture



5 Priory Gatehouse