

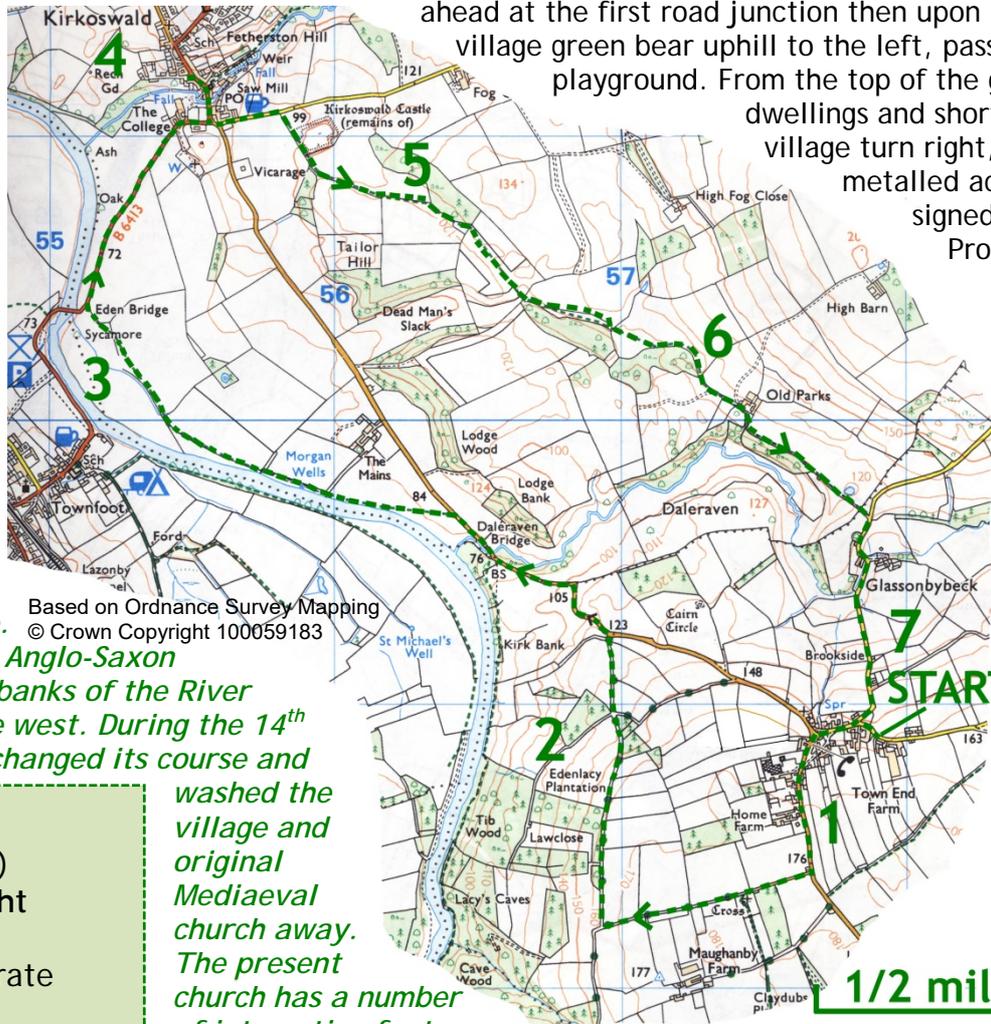
Walk 1-M Glassonby & Kirkoswald

History and riverside paths in the Eden valley

The walk begins in Glassonby. After leaving the village it passes by the historic Addingham Church associated with a lost settlement which was flooded by the River Eden. It then uses byway routes and drops down beside the River Eden at Daleraven Bridge. From there it keeps close to the river to the iconic Eden Bridge and then Kirkoswald. The route returns to Glassonby across field paths, passing by Kirkoswald Castle and the memorial at Old Parks to 'Romany of the BBC'.

The Walk

1. Commence the walk from the entranceway to Glassonby Old Hall by turning left along the local road. Keep ahead at the first road junction then upon reaching the small village green bear uphill to the left, passing the children's playground. From the top of the green dwellings and shortly after leaving the village turn right, just metalled access signed to Proceed



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Distance: 6 miles (13.75km)
Cumulative Height 700 ft.
Our rating: Moderate

Getting there: Sporadic public transport by Fellrunner is available to and from Glassonby and Kirkoswald. Parking by the village green close to the village shelter.

Local services: Shops and public houses in Lazonby & Kirkoswald

Start grid: NY576389

Map: OS Explorer OL5 The English Lakes North-Eastern area

washed the village and original Mediaeval church away. The present church has a number of interesting features including an Anglo-Saxon hammer-head cross and a Viking hog-back tombstone which once featured in the original churchyard. Pass by the church and a 'Byway' sign onto a grass centred track and continue ahead to reach a signed path 'T' junction.

2. At this point turn sharp right onto the track signed as leading towards 'Daleraven Bridge'. Keep along this track, which is puddly in places, for a little under ½ mile to reach a further track junction, having just descended through woodland. Continue on from here along an enclosed 'sunken' path to emerge onto a track close to its junction with the Glassonby to Kirkoswald road. Turn left, along the road and drop downhill for about ⅓ mile to reach Daleraven Bridge at the foot of the hill.

3. Cross over the bridge then continue along the road for a further few yards, to reach a gate on the left at the beginning of a public footpath signed to Eden Bridge. Once through the gate proceed ahead across a field towards the River Eden, then with

the river on the left side continue along the top edge of the bluff to a gate in the far corner. Once through the gate continue along a grassy riverside access track to reach a gate and stile. From here the path moves away from the river along the left edge of a field. At the further corner pass through a gate, cross a bridge and continue along the left edge of the next field. A stile and gate are located at a point, some distance along the edge, close to a clump of trees. Climb over the stile (or pass through the gate) into the field which is closer to the river. Ahead will be the Eden Bridge, built in 1762 Continue then along the right edge of this field and over a stile that leads onto the B6413 (Lazonby to Kirkoswald) road at the end of the bridge abutment. Turn right, along the road and after a distance of about ½ mile enter Kirkoswald village beside the walls of 'The College' and access to St Oswald's Church. *St Oswald's Church has the unique feature of its bell tower being perched on a hill top about 200 yards from the Church itself. The bell was probably used to warn villagers of the approach of Scots raiders, as well as summoning them to Church. One of Kirkoswald's most notable buildings is the College, the name recalling the days when St Oswald's Church was a collegiate church. The two storied house was originally built in 1450 as a Pele Tower and converted into the college for priests in the 1520's. It had a short life ending with the Dissolution in 1547, becoming home to the Fetherstonhaugh family.* The road then reaches a junction with another road in front of a prominent former Manor House.

4. Turn left at the junction (signed to Croglin) and continue by crossing the bridge over the Raven Beck, to shortly reach Kirkoswald's Central Square, near which are the various eating, drinking and social facilities of the village. After visiting the village centre return back to the junction beside the former Manor House. Turn left at this junction. **NOTE From here Glassonby is signed as being 2 miles directly along the road.**

5. If continuing back to Glassonby along the less direct field path route turn left again at a second junction which is signed Park House 2, Alston 13. Proceed along this road for a little over 200 yards then turn off to the right at a gate and stile signed as a Public Footpath to Glassonby. Pass to the right side of Kirkoswald Castle to a further gate and stile. *Kirkoswald castle was a medieval fortress, built in the 11th Century by Randolph Engayn, just after the Norman Conquest. Over the years it was devastated and rebuilt several times following Scottish raids. Lord Dacre ordered the castle to be dismantled in 1688 and stone was then used in some of Kirkoswald's buildings.* Once through (or over) continue ahead towards the left side of a plantation. When level with the plantation veer left along a rising grassy path which is set into a low hillside. Upon reaching a gate ahead don't go through but sidestep to the left and continue along the right edge of the existing field to reach a pair of gates in the further corner. Turn right and pass through the left gate, onto an enclosed grassy track, with woodland now to the left. Upon nearing a pond pass through a further gate then skirt around the left side of the pond. Once past the pond pass through another gate into a field. Continue ahead along the low lying centre part of this field towards some woodland, then upon nearing the further boundary drop down to a gate (adjoining stile) by the corner of the woodland.

6. Once through the gate proceed along the right edge of the next field. Pass by a stile in the fence and, further on, a second stile before reaching a gate (adjoining stile) in the field corner. Pass through the gate then, if the ground conditions are acceptable, cross the narrow section of the field ahead towards a further section of woodland. *Note: Due to some boggy areas close to a gill it may, as an alternative, be more appropriate to skirt around the field edge to the right.* Upon reaching the boundary fence the path then veers left and continues around the left edge of the woodland. It then rises gently uphill to a gate at the further extremity of the woodland. Pass through the gate and continue along the left edge of a field to another gate that leads into the farmstead area of Old Parks. Once through this gate a small notice board to the right records the life of 'Romany of the BBC' (1884-1943). *Romany (Rev. George Bramwell Evens, 1884-1942), was a Methodist Minister, stationed for a time in Carlisle. He spent much of his spare time exploring the lower Eden valley with his wife Eunice, dog(s) Raq and horse Comma. He became well known for the pioneering Children's Hour BBC programme 'Out with Romany' which, with 13 million listeners, paved the way for modern naturalist radio and television broadcasting. Romany visited Old Parks regularly for 22 years and his ashes were scattered on the small hillock where the nearby memorial bird bath is located.*

7. Continue through the farmstead and out onto the main metalled farm access road. Follow this road to reach the Renwick to Glassonby road after about ⅓ mile. Turn right, drop downhill to Glassonby Beck, then continue uphill to reach a junction at the entrance to Glassonby village. Turn left here and return to the entranceway to Glassonby Old Hall and the end of the walk.