

Ancient Monuments in this township

1923 List

PENRITH

Earthworks: two square enclosures, 20 yds. each way, with interments, 1m. N. of Penrith castle, close to Roman road (Hutchinson, i, 321).

Roman:

- (a) road from VOREDA southwards left the present highroad 2 m. N. of Penrith castle and made for Brougham.
- (b) Inscriptions on Penrith Beacon (C.I.L. vii, 329, 331).

Viking Age :

- (a) silver penannular brooch found " near Penrith," 1870 (Brit. Mus., a reproduction in Carlisle Museum).
- (b) Seven 10th cent. monuments, " The Giant's Grave " and " The Giant's Thumb," in the churchyard of Penrith parish church (W. G. Collingwood, N.S. XX, 53; xxiii, 115).

Church:

- (a) St. Andrew's; tower 12th and 13th cent. restored 15th cent. Body rebuilt 1720-22; restored 1863, 1887, 1922. Two grave-slabs in tower; in vestry are slabs to Sir Christopher Moresby, 1499, and wife; Sir Chris. Pickering, 1515 ; R. Coldall, 1462. Plague stone 1598. Hutton effigies 1638. Two old fonts. Glass in S. aisle with 15th cent. portraits, said to be parents of Richard III. Some of the bells are 18th cent. (D. Scott, *Hist. Penrith church*, 1922).
- (b) Christ Church, built c. 1850.
- (c) Site of 13th cent. Augustinian Priory at the Friarage; its chapel stood at Abbot Bank where a stone head and pillar remain (Dr. Haswell, N.S. iii 352).

Castles:

- (a) Maiden castle, mentioned 1268 (Inq. quoted N.S. vi, 162) ; site at Maiden Hill.
- (b) Penrith Castle, licence to crenellate 1397 to Bishop Strickland, who built a curtain wall 1399; Richard, duke of Gloucester (Richard III) built another tower and enlarged the castle; dismantled after 1648 (Dr. Haswell, N.S. iii, 403; vii, 281; xxii, 435, Curwen, *Castles*, 219; N.S. xviii, 182; xxii, 435)

Domestic :

- (a) Gerard Lowther's house, the Two Lions Hotel, built before 1585 (W. Jackson and M. W. Taylor, O.S. iv, 410; G. Watson, N.S., i, 94).
- (b) Hutton Hall, of the Huttons.
- (c) Carleton Hall of the Carletons.

(d) Old houses in Rowcliffe Lane; 16th cent, panel of royal arms removed 1911 (R. Morton Rigg, N.S. xiii, 285).

(e) Musgrave Hall, lintel 1615 (G. Watson, O.S. xv, 82).

(f) School, lintel " W. Robinson, 1670."

Bishop Strickland's Water course, c. 1400, from the Petteril, beside the railway to the town (F. H. M. Parker, N.S. xii, 6).

Old dykes : (Bounder temp. Eliz.,Jefferson, *Leath Ward*, 17)

(a) Ring dyke of the cornfield

(b) old casten dyke being the ancient bounder between Penrith and Catterlen .

(c) Plumpton dyke.

(d) Skeugh dyke

(e) In 1601 " the Town dyke at the over end of Penrith was newly casten by the townsmen for the defence of the town " (*ibid.* 20) .

Old roads :

(a) The bridge of " Amote " and road thence to " Palat " [hill], etc. mentioned 1300 in the Perambulation of Inglewood.

(b) Leland in 1539 found the road N. from Eamont Bridge running ½ m. to E. of Penrith.

Beacon on Beacon Hill used 1468 (N. and B. i, xlv). Later beacon erected 1719; repaired c. 1780.

Plague burials, 1598, in the Bishop's yard, schoolyard, gardens and on Penrith fell (Jefferson, *Leath Ward*, 18, 391) . " Plague Stone," (a cross-base ?) E. of road to Eamont bridge (W. G. C. in Calverley, *Crosses*, 252).

Site of "Battle of Penrith" 1715, on the fell. Lord Lonsdale's and Bishop Nicolson's levies ran from Gen. Forster and the Jacobites.

See [Pastscape](#) for much more detail on these and more entries (128 in total – though there may be some overlap with adjacent townships).