GRINSDALE

**Grinsdale Bridge**

Bridge over canal, later railway bridge. 1819-23 for the Carlisle Canal; additions of 1853-4 for the Port Carlisle Dock and Railway Company. Squared and coursed red and calciferous sandstone; cast-iron central parapet on supporting wooden pillars. Plinth with rounded corners was originally the supporting structure for a canal drawbridge. Increased in height to convert this to a railway bridge, when the canal closed. When the railway closed in 1964, the wooden supports were placed under the bridge. In 2014 the bridge was filled in underneath for support.

**St Kentigern Church**

Church. On medieval site, present church mentioned in 1703, restorations of 1740 and 1896. Cement render on chamfered plinth, graduated greenslate roof with coped gables, kneelers and cross finial. Small square 2-storey west tower, 3-bay nave, single-bay chancel. Tower has ground-floor slit vents, bell chamber has louvred vents in segmental red sandstone arch. Battlemented parapet with merlons. Nave has wooden south porch and door of 1896, leaded-pane windows in nave and chancel in segmental red sandstone arch. External aedicule wall plaque to John Forster, died 1819. Interior has C19 marble wall plaques, one to Flora Steel by George Nelson of Carlisle; painted wooden panel of Royal Arms on west wall of nave.

GEORGE SIBSON TOMB CHEST SOUTH WEST OF CHURCH OF ST KENTIGERN

Tomb chest. 1715 with later inscriptions, to members of the Sibson family. Red sandstone ashlar. Rectangular; chamfered plinth, plain side panels. Slab has chamfered moulded edge. Carved coat of arms with inscription to George Sibson died 1715, also his father Thomas Sibson died 1726 and other members of the family

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JOHN SIBSON TOMB CHEST SOUTH WEST OF CHURCH OF ST KENTIGERN

Tomb chest. 1734 with later inscriptions up to 1901, to members of the Sibson family. Red sandstone ashlar. Rectangular; chamfered plinth, plain side panels. Slab has chamfered moulded edge. Inscription to John Sibson died 1734 and his wife.

Grinsdale lies beside the river Eden near Carlisle. Four Roman military marching camps were set up in the area. The rich loamy soil encouraged farming around Grinsdale. Linen manufacture and weaving once provided employment in the hamlet

Grinsdale’s church, St Kentigern, was built in 1740 outside the village and just above the river on the site where a 12th century church once stood. It has a small west tower, a three bay nave, and a two bay chancel with arched windows. The church was restored in 1895.

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* described Grinsdale like this:

*GRINSDALE, a parish in Carlisle district, Cumberland; on the river Eden, the Roman wall, and the Carlisle and Silloth railway, 2¾ miles NW of Carlisle. Posttown, Carlisle. Acres, 890. Real property, £1, 174. Pop., 100. house, 23. The property is divided among a few. The manor formerly belonged to the family of De Grinsdale. The traces of the Roman wall here are now very slight. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Carlisle. Value, £108. Patron, Joseph Dacre, Esq. The church was rebuilt in 1739, and is not good.*

**GRINSDALE: township and ancient parish, in Cumberland ward, Cumberland.**

Part of Belle Vue added to the CP in 1913. Grinsdale was absorbed into Beaumont CP by Cumberland Review Order of 1934.

Acreage of administrative unit: 838 acres [339 ha], increased to 1425 acres [577 ha] as a result of boundary changes in 1913.

Date of Enclosure:  Grinsdale Common (350 acres; 142 ha) was enclosed in 1808

Population:  86 in 1801 rising to 164 after increase in parish size.

Land ownership: Within Barony of Burgh. Udart de Grinsdale’s line until reign of John. Daughters married Thomas de Newton and William de la Sands. First moity came to Martindale and Richard Dacre. Forfeit after rebellion to Elizabeth and granted to Whitmoor.  John Studholme (d.1847) sold this moity to tenants. Second sold to Dentons of Cardew temp. Henry IV. George Denton sold his moity to Sir James Lowther c.1636.

Economic activity: Milling implied by place name *Millbeck.* Henry Orman, later Dennis Hughes, manure manufacturers at Grinsdale Bridge, still there in 1938. Messrs Wm Metcalfe Ltd tar distillers at Grinsdale Bridge.

Places of worship:  Parish church of St Kentigern, ruinous before rebuilding in 1738-40. Further restoration in 1895

Institutions: No school in 1818 list but 20-25 children taught by citizens on Sundays. Parish subscribed to school at Kirkandrews on Eden and were beneficiaries of the Pattinson Charity.

Additional sources used: T.H.B. Graham *CW* 1932; Hudleston and Boumphrey, *Cumberland Families & Heraldry*

"GRINSDALE, a parish in the ward and county of Cumberland, 3 miles N.W. of Carlisle, its post town. It is situated on the banks of the river Eden, and the Caledonian railway, as well as the ship canal, pass through the neighbourhood. The De Grinsdale family formerly held the manor. The living is a perpetual curacy in the diocese of Carlisle, value £108. The church is a small edifice of freestone dedicated to St. Kentigern. It has monuments of the Gray, Steele, and other families. Here are still traces of Roman encampments, and part of the great Roman wall."

[Description(s) from *The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland* (1868)

GRINSDALE (St. Kentigern), a parish, in the union of Carlisle, Cumberland ward, E. division of the county of Cumberland, 2¾ miles (N. W. by W.) from Carlisle.[[1]](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Grinsdale%2C_Cumberland%22%20%5Cl%20%22cite_note-0)

Resources

Civil Registration

Birth, marriages and deaths were kept by the government, from July 1837 to the present day. The civil registration article tells more about these records. There are several Internet sites with name lists or indexes. A popular site is [FreeBMD](http://freebmd.org.uk/).

Church records

Parish registers for [Grinsdale, 1738-1937](https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/414728?availability=Family%20History%20Library)

Bishop's transcripts for [Grinsdale, 1688, 1749-1875](https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/313978?availability=Family%20History%20Library)

Non-Conformist Churches

None

Census records

Census records from 1841 to 1911 are available online. For access, see [England Census Records and Indexes Online](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/England_Census_Records_and_Indexes_Online). Census records from 1841 to 1891 are also available on film through a Family History Centre or at the Family History Library. The first film number is [241280](https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/results#count=20&query=%2Bfilm_number%3A241280).

Probate records

Records of wills, administrations, inventories, indexes, etc. were filed by the court with jurisdiction over this parish. Go to [Cumberland Probate Records](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Cumberland_Probate_Records) to find the name of the court having primary jurisdiction. Scroll down in the article to the section Court Jurisdictions by Parish.

The Grinsdale Camps

NY365572

These four camps all lie about 2½ miles east of Burgh by Sands, roughly half-way to Carlisle. The Boomby Lane camps both have their minor-axes aligned with the Wall and very likely post-date the Hadrianic barrier, though the earliest of these camps may belong to the Agricolan period. The Nowtler Hill camps sited as they are, protectively overlooking the Wall and Vallum, are probably contemporary with them.

Nowtler Hill 1 & 2 (a.k.a. Grinsdale 1 & 2)

These two camps were first identified by Daniel Lysons in 1800, and are visible nowadays only as crop-marks in fields to the south-west of Grinsdale, near Kockupworth. Lysons reported that all four gateways of both camps were protected by external *tituli*, most of which are still visible in modern AP's.

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| N.G.REF | DIMENSIONS | AREA | DESCRIPTION |
| Nowtler Hill 1, Grinsdale, Cumbria |
| NY36275701 | 210 x *c.*250 ft(64 x *c.*75 m) | c.1¼ acres(0.5 ha) | This camp occupies the summit of Nowtler Hill, is aligned SW-NE and was probably built before Camp-2. It is trapezoidal in outline, with longer sides measuring and feet (78 & 73 metres), and its short sides both (64m). There are gateways placed centrally in all sides save the SW, those to NW and SE protected by external *tituli* while extra defences outside the NE gate are obscured by a modern road which crosses the site from SW-NE, separating the E corner-angle from the rest of the camp. The camp apparently faced NE. |
| Nowtler Hill 2, Grinsdale, Cumbria |
| NY36005676 | 128 x 187 ft(39 x 57 m) | ½ acre(0.2 ha) | This small rectangular camp occupies the SW slopes of Nowtler Hill about (300m) from Camp-1. There are four gates, those in the E & W sides places centrally and those in the N & S displaced towards the E, the camp therfore faced ESE. The gates are known to have been protected by external *tituli* on all sides save the E where details have been destroyed by a modern field-boundary. |

Boomby Lane 1 & 2 (a.k.a. Grinsdale 3 & 4)

Lying on the west bank of the River Eden between Grinsdale and Knockupworth between the Wall and Vallum, are two superimposed Roman encampments. Both camps are aligned roughly east-west but do not share any defensive elements, the smaller camp overlying the western defences of the larger and misaligned with it. The relationship and building sequence of these two camps has yet to be determined.

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| N.G.REF | DIMENSIONS | AREA | DESCRIPTION |
| Boomby Lane 1, Grinsdale, Cumbria |
| NY36875739 | 460 x 545 ft(140 x 166 m) | 5¾ acres(2.3 ha) | This camp is the larger of the two at Boomby Lane and has two gates, set centrally in the north and the south sides, both of which were protected by external *titulum* defences. The camp faced ENE. |
| Boomby Lane 2, Grinsdale, Cumbria |
| NY36835740 | 236 x 466 ft(72 x 142 m) | *c.*3 acres(1.2 ha) | This small camp lies almost entirely within Boomby Lane-1 and has more pronounced crop-marks. No gateways are visible on A.P.'s. |