

WAYPOINT 7

Skinningrove

There may not have been many people eking out a living down at the sea front, back in the 7th century, but we do know that the name 'Skinningrove' has a Viking/Danish influence. The village you see today and its surrounds hark back to its Ironstone beginnings.

WAYPOINT 8

Staithes

The magnificent seascapes and cliff scenery at Staithes are admired by all who love the North. To Saxon Christians, living close to the natural world was an aspect of devotion to the Creator.



WAYPOINT 9

Runswick Bay

One of the legends about St Hild has given rise to her most familiar symbol, the ammonite. This stretch of the North Yorkshire coast is famous as a hunting-ground for fossils. The cliffs at Staithes, Robin Hoods Bay, Whitby and here at Runswick are rich in these deposits, these fingerprints of prehistoric life that once flourished on the planet.



WAYPOINT 10

Sandsend

The original settlement at Sandsend ran inland along the side of Sandsend Beck, with a smaller settlement at East Row Beck. These locations provided some shelter from the sea, and are still marked by the presence of a number of pleasant 18th and 19th century fishermen's cottages.

WAYPOINT 11

St Hilda's Church, Whitby

Appropriately, the principal church on Whitby's West Cliff is dedicated to St Hild. Built in the 1880s, it's a noble church of dignity and presence, qualities we can no doubt associate with the saint herself.

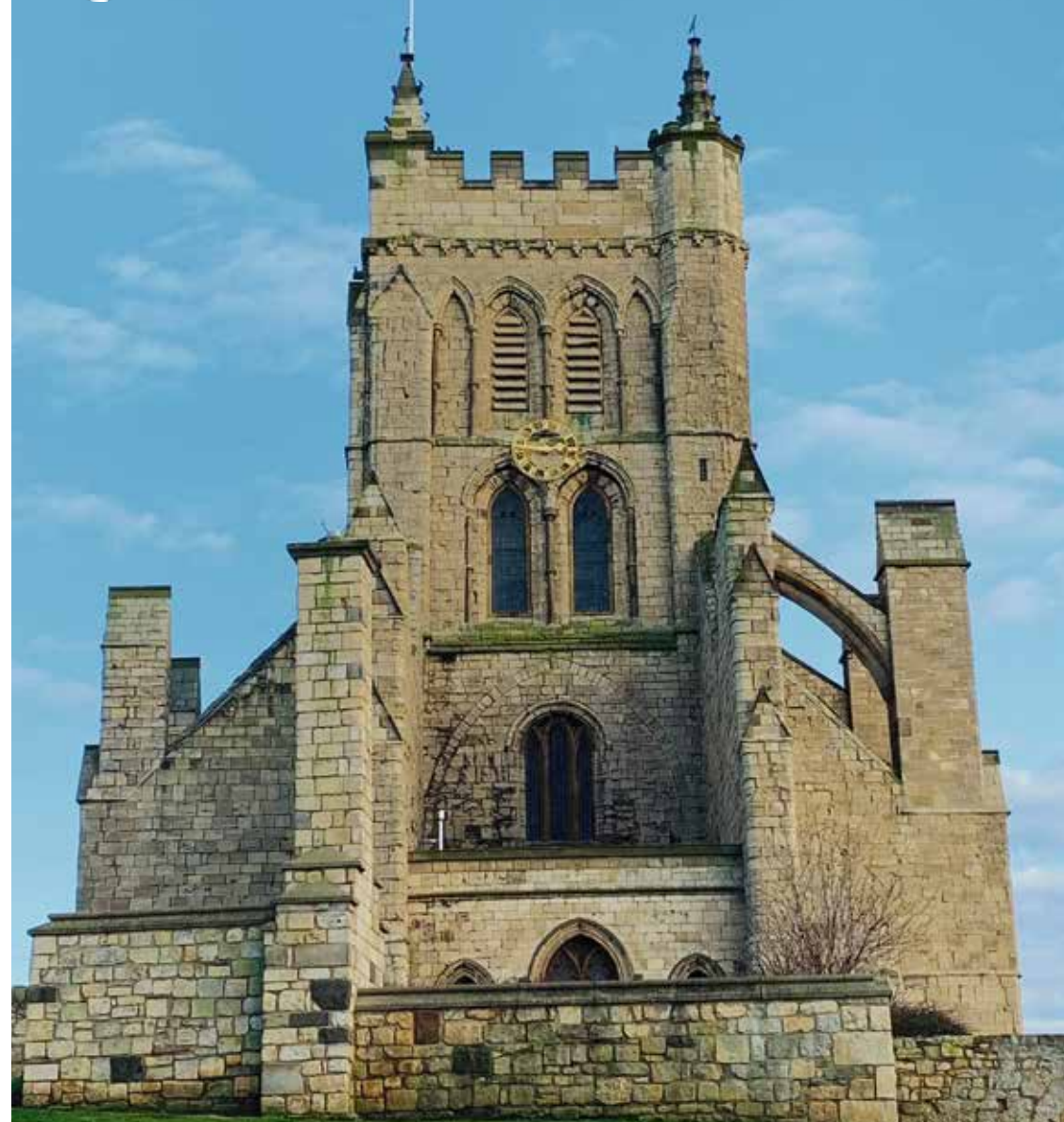
WAYPOINT 12

Whitby Abbey

Whitby Abbey: the goal of our pilgrimage and the end of our journey. In this place Hild's remarkable life came to a climax in the Abbey she founded and led with such distinction. The Anglo-Saxon Abbey at Whitby would have looked nothing like the present, medieval ruins, as with its twin monastery at Hartlepool it was spread across the cliff top with areas devoted to craft working and at least one cemetery.

THE WAY
OF
ST HILD.

A UNIQUE
PILGRIMAGE TRAIL



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Find out more at hartlepool.gov.uk/way-of-st-hild

The Way of St Hild is a new pilgrimage trail linking Hartlepool with Whitby

Due to open in spring 2020, the route will celebrate the importance of Hild to both Hartlepool and Whitby and recognise the contribution she made to the Christian heritage of the North East and further afield.

However, unlike many pilgrimage trails, The Way of St Hild will not rely solely on maps and booklets as the primary source of assistance for walkers, instead it will feature 12 augmented reality waypoints.

At each waypoint, walkers will be able to access a series of subcategories to find out information about:

- St Hild
- Landscape & Nature
- History & Human Life
- Faith & Spirituality

Each station also features an opportunity for reflection.



Distance between Waypoints

1 to 2	6.04 miles
2 to 3	4.20 miles
3 to 4	3.11 miles
4 to 5	13.70 miles
5 to 6	1.60 miles
6 to 7	2.15 miles
7 to 8	5.16 miles
8 to 9	3.37 miles
9 to 10	5.37 miles
10 to 11	2.34 miles
11 to 12	1.03 miles

WAYPOINT 1

St Hilda's Church, The Headland

The Headland is one of the most ancient centres of Christianity in England. Its fame rests on the location here of the Anglo-Saxon monastery in the 640s AD. The second abbess was Hild (also known by her Latin name Hilda) from AD 649 to at least 657. She may have continued to oversee it, perhaps even up to her death in 680, along with her more famous foundation at Whitby.



WAYPOINT 2

Seaton Carew

The small community of Seaton may have been established by the time of St Hild and was probably a fishing village with good provision of food from the sea, as well as simple produce from cultivated fields inland. Looking back at the Headland you may have seen the prominent Hartlepool Abbey, founded in 640 AD by St Aidan, surrounded by low wooden buildings in a green landscape.

WAYPOINT 3

Greatham Creek

Today as you look at the creek and surrounding tidal wetlands, up stream of the bridge, you get a glimpse of what it was like 1400 years ago. Greatham Creek, or Greatham Fleet as it was once named, was part of a great system of ditches, channels, streams and creeks, draining the vast mudflats exposed at low tide.

WAYPOINT 4

Transporter Bridge

The Transporter straddles the River Tees at a point that 1400 years ago may have been where the old river, proper, entered into the vast estuary of mudflats and water channels before discharging into the North Sea. Today it shows how man has continued to look to 'cross waters' safely to allow human traffic to move more freely – keeping their feet dry!



WAYPOINT 5

Saltburn

So much has changed since St Hild's time, 1400 years ago! Today, much of Saltburn's activities centre on recreation and eating, close to where Skelton Beck flows into the sea. 1400 years ago, it would have been an isolated place where people eked out a living by fishing and harvesting anything washed up or gathered in rock pools. It was a hard life trying to feed families back then.



WAYPOINT 6

Huntcliff Roman Signal Station

Hild's name, "Battle", recalls the turbulent times in which she lived. The North was a violent place, always subject to attack from land or sea, often fought over right up to early modern times. Huntcliff was a Roman fort, a reminder that during the Roman occupation the North was one vast militarised zone, an army garrison on a grand scale.