

# Historic Cabus

Drawn by L. Jackson

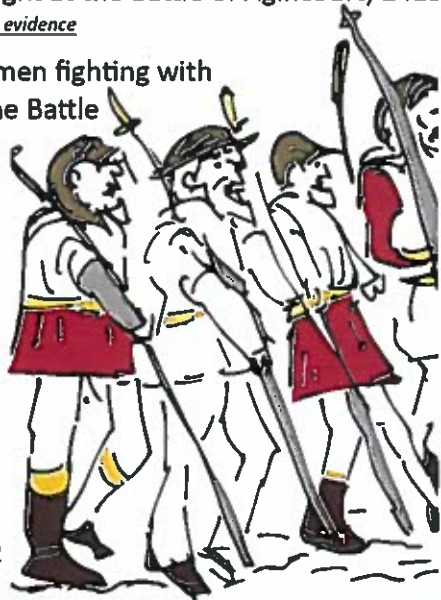
Cabus is a rural parish lying eight miles south of Lancaster. Even though Cabus has no natural village centre, it has a long and interesting history. It was first mentioned in 1513 in respect to the Rigmaden family and referred to as 'Baygus' in 17th century maps. Use this leaflet to walk around the parish and discover some of the amazing things that have happened here in the past.

## 1. Green Lane East or Hangman's Lane

Walk down Green Lane East and imagine the men of Scorton marching along, carrying their pikes and longbows, off to fight at the Battle of Agincourt, 1415.

*Local tradition / Anecdotal evidence*

It is thought that men fighting with the Jacobites at the Battle of Preston 1715 were hanged on Hangman's Lane, which is possibly how the lane was named. Some of the hedgerows along there are thought to be 400 years old!



[www.bna-naturalists.org/hedges.pdf](http://www.bna-naturalists.org/hedges.pdf)

Written and illustrated by Louise Jackson with graphics by Alison Romaine. With contributions from local historians Anthony Coppin and Paul G. Smith.

## 2. Toll House and Bar

In the 18th and 19th century, travellers had to pay Turnpike Trusts to use their roads - the money raised helped to maintain their upkeep. Travellers were stopped by a turnpike across the road. Once the toll had been paid, the pike was lifted so they could go on their way. The Garstang & Heron Syke Turnpike Trust opened in 1750. The current toll house was built in 1824 and replaced the original one which was at Fowler Hill. Across the road from this toll house is a Roman milestone.



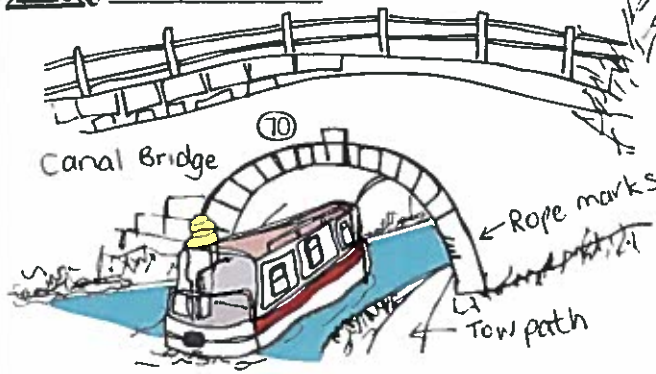
[www.romanroads.org/gazetteer/M70d.htm](http://www.romanroads.org/gazetteer/M70d.htm)

## 3. Lancaster Canal

The canal was designed and built by the engineer, John Rennie in 1797. It is nicknamed 'The Black and White' because it transported limestone south from Cumbria and coal north from the Lancashire coal fields. The canal was very prosperous until the Lancaster to Preston railway was built in 1840.



[www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/canal-and-river-network/lancaster-canal](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/canal-and-river-network/lancaster-canal)



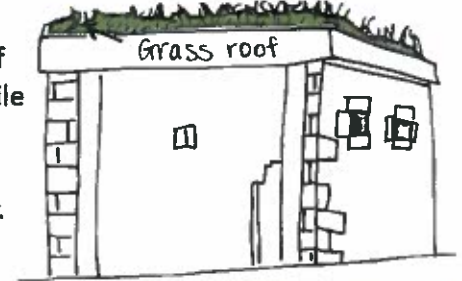
## 4. Canal Bridges

Walk along the towpath and look out for the rope marks on the side of the canal bridges. Before narrow boats were mechanised, horses pulled the boats along the canal. The marks are made by the ropes rubbing in to the sides of the bridge as horses tugged the narrow boats through. All of the canal bridges are numbered and originally had their arches limewashed to assist the barges at night.

## 5. WW2 Home Guard observation post

Look for the Home Guard observation post on the other side of the canal. Here, volunteers kept watch for any possible invasion coming along the canal. Sandbags were placed in front of the entrance while the grass roof camouflaged the post from the air.

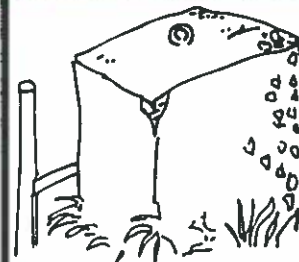
*Anecdotal evidence*



## 6. Kiln Trees Farm (1720 - 30)

King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (later to become The Queen Mother) visited the farm house in April 1951 when it was a Duchy of Lancaster property.

## 7. Anti-tank cubes



Known as 'Dragon's Teeth' in WW2, thousands of these concrete cubes were placed along the canals to stop German tanks from breaking through defence lines. More are located



[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British\\_anti-invasion\\_preparations\\_of\\_the\\_Second\\_World\\_War#CITEREFRuddy2003](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_anti-invasion_preparations_of_the_Second_World_War#CITEREFRuddy2003)

## 8. Cabus Cross (behind the hedge)

This is a Grade II listed item. Its origins are contested- it is thought to be either the remains of a Roman signpost or a Norse cross.



[wyresearchaeology.blogspot.co.uk/2006/10/keills-around-wyre-part-two.html](http://wyresearchaeology.blogspot.co.uk/2006/10/keills-around-wyre-part-two.html)

## 9. Roman Road

Walk over the canal bridge, up the farm track by Kiln Tree Farm, past Cabus Cross and along Fowler Hill Lane. This follows the route of the possible Roman Road which runs from Lancaster to Cockerham, along the bridleway through Fowler Hill Wood and on to Walton-le-Dale.

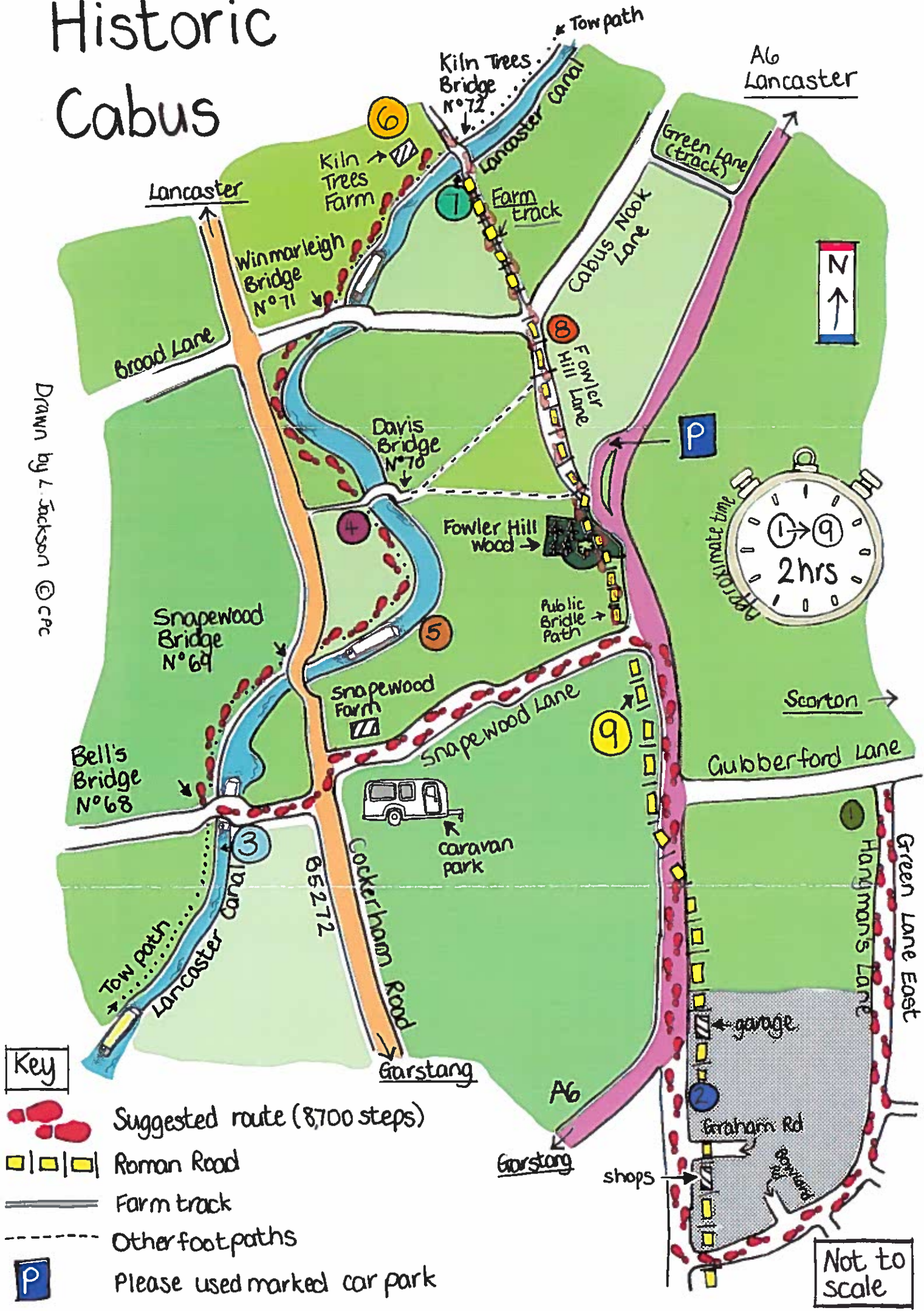


[www.romanroads.org/gazetteer/M70d.htm](http://www.romanroads.org/gazetteer/M70d.htm)




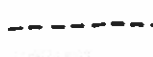



# Historic Cabus

Drawn by L. Jackson © CFC



## Key

-  Suggested route (8,700 steps)
-  Roman Road
-  Farm track
-  Other footpaths
-  Please use marked car park

Not to scale