

Whitby Neighbourhood Plan - Non-Designated Heritage Asset

Name: Ruswarp Monk

NDHA No.: 23

Address/Location: High Street, Ruswarp

Type of NDHA	Age of NDHA Approximately	Local Significance Reason
1. A building or structure 2. A monument or site of archaeological remains 3. A group of buildings 4. A landscape 5. A place, street, lane, park/ parkland, formal garden or natural green space	Pre 1850 1851 - 1900 1901- 1950 1951 on	1. Design Value 2. Group Value 3. Archaeological Interest 4. Designed Landscape Value 5. Landmark Status 6. Rarity 7. Local Distinctiveness 8. Documentary Evidence 9. Historic Association 10. Social and Communal Value 11. Intactness

Detailed Description: The "Ruswarp Monk," was commissioned by Whitby in Bloom as part of the 2011 competition, with **Tommy Craggs**, an artist/sculptor carving the monk. Tommy is based in Co Durham, his passion in life is creating sculpture and giving a second life to trees and in this instance the tree used was a 500 year old tree sourced by the then Chair of Whitby in Bloom, Susan Davies.

Brother William, was a monk from Whitby Abbey who no doubt used the centuries old paths known as "trods" to get to his work at Ruswarp Mill. The chosen name is derived from a story about the Abbot, who came to check on two monks responsible for running the mill. He found them "imbibing string liquor and entering into nefarious activities with women folk". Both were sent back in disgrace to the Abbey, however residents have an affection for Brother William's memory and continue to ensure the surrounding flower bed and carving are well maintained.

Ruswarp was connected to the town of Whitby via a long "Crocus River" on Mayfield Road and then a "Snowdrop Stream" down to the heart of Ruswarp village where the statue of a monk named Brother William takes pride of place.

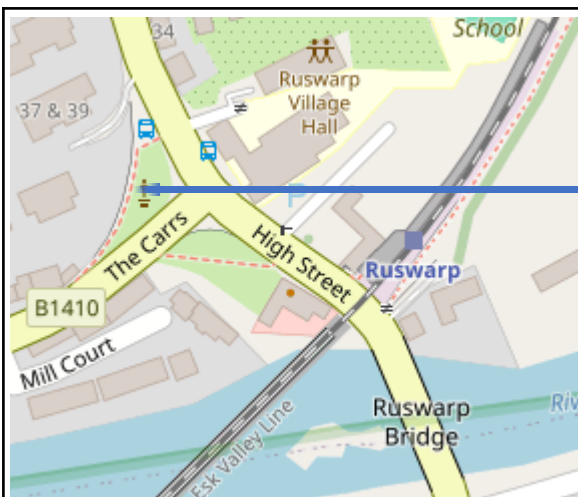
Statement of Special Interest:

Britain in Bloom - Britain's nationwide gardening competition is a powerful tool for building communities and tackling local issues together. It inspires community groups in towns, cities and villages to make positive changes to their local environment through horticultural, environmental and community action. Whitby won the Coastal up to 12k category and was awarded Gold & Category Winner in the Britain in Bloom 2011 competition.

Photo(s) of NDHA:



Map of NDHA:



Ruswarp Monk

List of Sources:

Growing Communities - The RhS Community Update, Autumn 2011

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/communities/archive/pdf/aff-socs/gc-newsletter/gc-autumn-2011.pdf>

Notes from Susan Davies, Past Chair of Whitby in Bloom & Honorary Citizen of Whitby

Owner Notification: Yes/No