

BROTHERSWATER



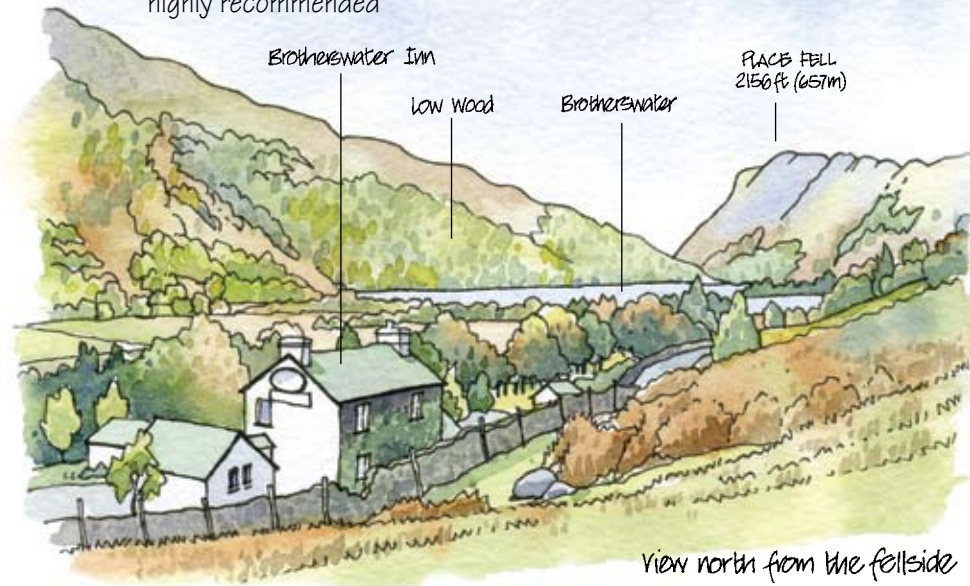
BROTHERSWATER

Length	0.4 miles
Maximum width	0.25 mile
Maximum depth	70ft

A curious, almost square-shaped lake whose width entirely fills the valley floor, Brotherswater used to be called Broadwater, and is said to have got its present name after two brothers drowned in it on separate occasions during the 18th century.

Old Hartsop Hall lies across the fields from the road. A building has stood here since the 13th century, with the present one dating from the 16th. Originally part of the Lowther estate, it's now owned by the National Trust.

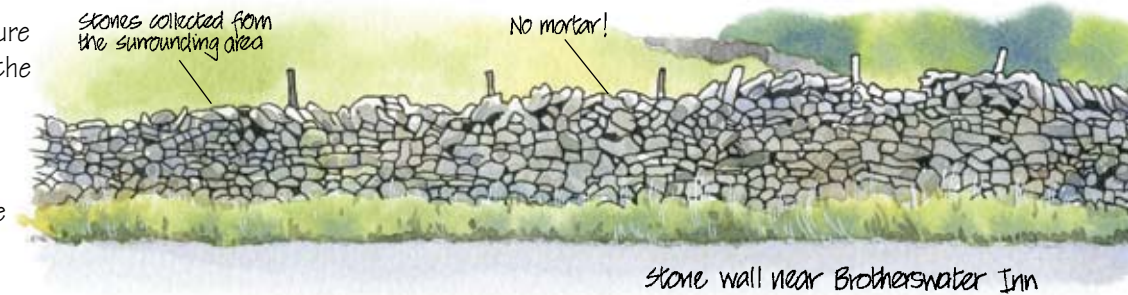
A walk around the lake environment, taking in the Hall, Hartsop and the magnificent rock architecture at the head of Dovedale, is highly recommended



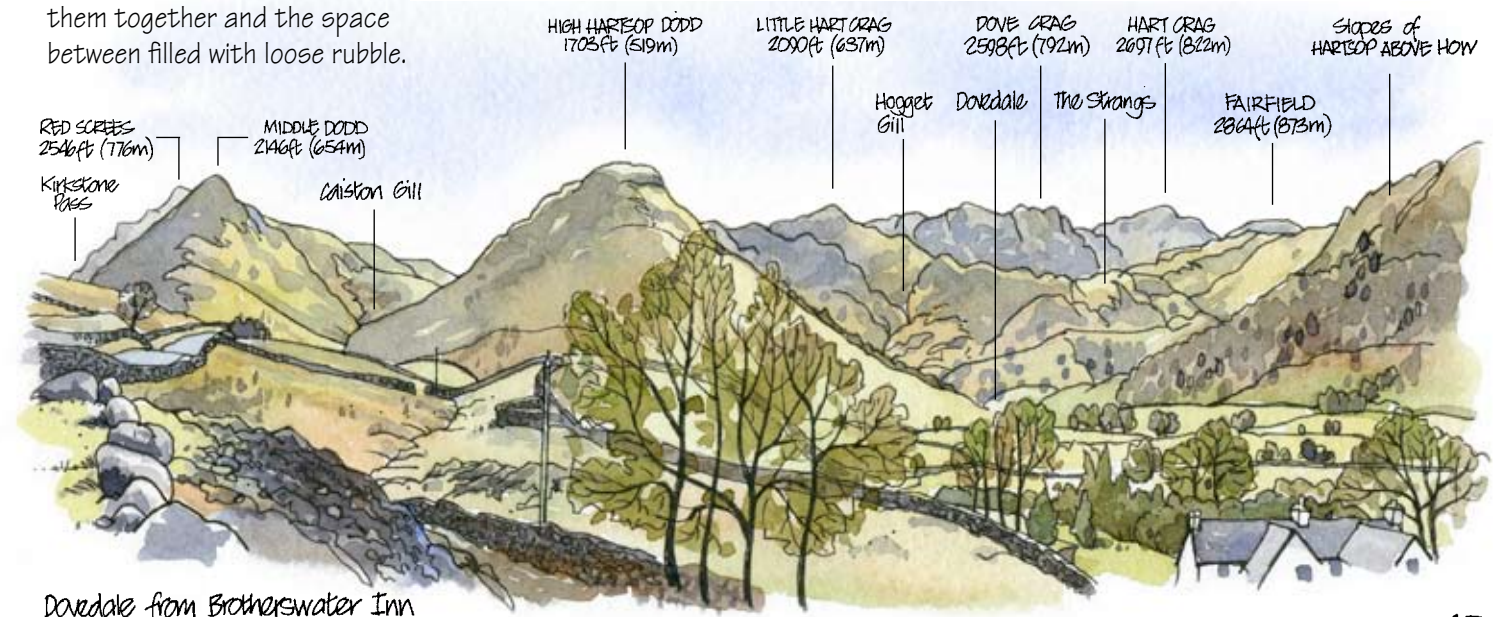
View north from the fellside

Dry stone walls are a huge feature of the district, snaking across the valleys and climbing all over the fells, sometimes into seemingly impossible situations.

Most date from the Enclosure Act of 1801. They were built by itinerant wallers, basically two walls with through stones to bind them together and the space between filled with loose rubble.



Stone wall near Brotherswater Inn



Dovedale from Brotherswater Inn

HARTSOP

A delightful hamlet, snuggled between steep fells in a cul-de-sac at the southern end of Patterdale, Hartsop was once the biggest settlement and centre of industry in the valley. Renowned for wool spinning, it also had corn and cloth mills with tailors, cobblers and blacksmiths looking after the needs of the locally-based miners.

These days the 17th century, grey-stone cottages are quiet, their spinning galleries prettified with potted plants; only the sounds of sheep, the tinkling of Pasture Beck and the occasional yap of a farm dog disturbs the refined air.



Low House Farm



High Becks

The 17th century Low House Farm on the approach to the village is a splendid example of a vernacular architecture Lakeland farmstead, where a barn and cattle shed were built at the opposite ends of the house to keep the humans warm.

Fell Yeat was once the Bunch o' Birks Inn on a pack horse trail that still crosses the beck at a ford, before winding its sinuous way to Kirkstone Pass.



A cottage with a stepped spinning gallery



Fell Yeat

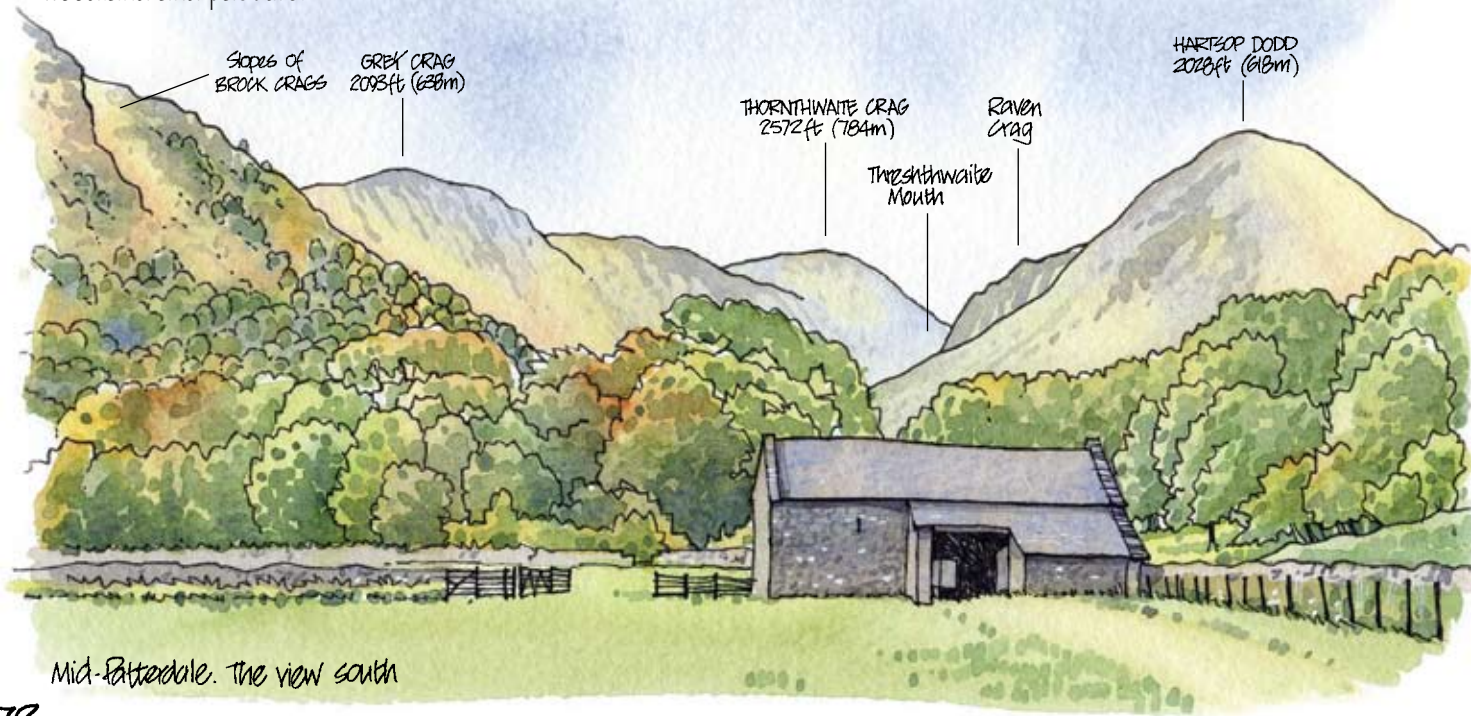
Apart from a rough car park at the farthest end of the village, where a wide track sweeps up the valley to Hayeswater, there are no other facilities. But with a place as picturesque as Hartsop, 'facilities' would only be a vulgar intrusion.

PATTERDALE

Many people's favourite Lakeland valley, Patterdale stretches for three miles from Kirkstone Pass to Ullswater. The narrow band of farmland twists through an avenue of fells, while Goldrill Beck flows attractively out of Brotherswater and the A592 road winds through mixed woodland and pasture.

It's always busy in summer, but there's a quiet walking track from Hartsop to Patterdale along the eastern side of the valley with fine views of the dale, Ullswater and the Helvellyn range of fells.

Patterdale is prone to flooding after heavy rain and was particularly badly hit by the big downpour of November 2009.

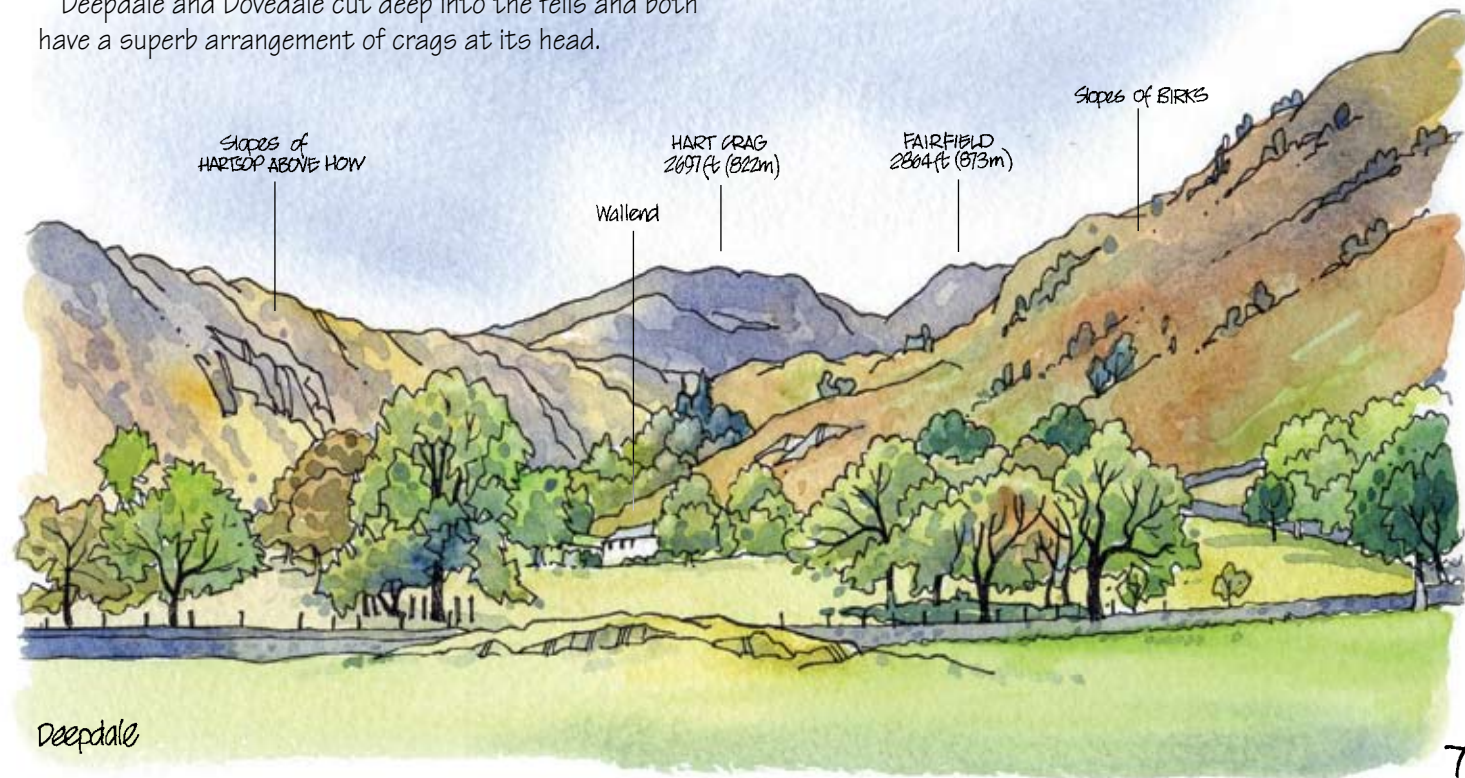


Mid-Patterdale. The view south

Three delightful small dales go off to the west of the main valley. Grisedale rises from the village of Patterdale and the track to the famous Striding Edge route to Helvellyn begins here. Grisedale Hause, between Fairfield and Seat Sandal, goes all the way over to Grasmere.

Deepdale and Dovedale cut deep into the fells and both have a superb arrangement of crags at its head.

Deepdale begins at Deepdale Bridge which crosses a lively beck flowing out of the valley. The lower end has a flat strath of pasture and a few habitations, but beyond the last farm, Wallend, the landscape becomes a savage rocky extravaganza as awesome as neighbouring Dovedale.



Deepdale

PATTERDALE VILLAGE

Patterdale is a widely scattered village almost seamlessly joined to Glenridding. Though not unattractive, both villages are hugely popular for their location and teem with boot-shod visitors all the year round.

Patterdale retains a slightly old-fashioned air and still has a busy village store and post office. The wedge-shaped

White Lion Inn, set at a bottleneck in the main road, is a popular (though not with motorists!) landmark.

With the natural barriers of Kirkstone Pass at one end and Ullswater at the other, Patterdale is relatively inaccessible. It wasn't until 1920 that a metalled through road was established when part of Stybarrow Crag was blasted away to make room for a road alongside the lake.



74 The White Lion and Angleram Pikes

GLENRIDDING

Now a service area for the thousands of visitors who make the village their base for exploring the surrounding fells, during the 19th century Glenridding was the centre of a huge mining operation. Gold and silver were found but the Greenside mine, at the head of Glenridding Beck, was exceptionally rich in lead. The mines were finally worked

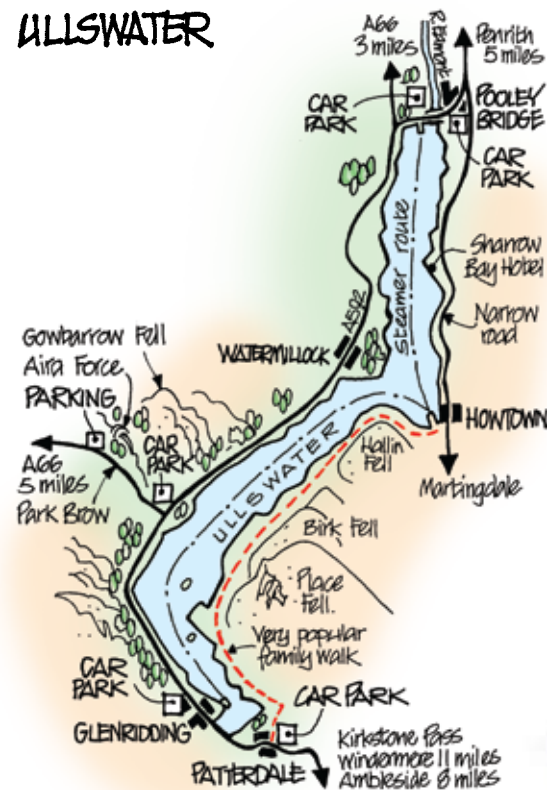
out in 1962. The last level ran for 3,000 feet (915m) into the Helvellyn range. Greenside was most productive of the Lake District mines, with a record 300 years of continuous production.

The Ullswater steamer pier is based on a stoney peninsular left when a dam, built to provide power for the mines, burst at Kepple Cove in 1927. Tons of water and rubble swept down Glenridding Beck into the lake, bringing devastation to the village in its path.



The village from the lakeside

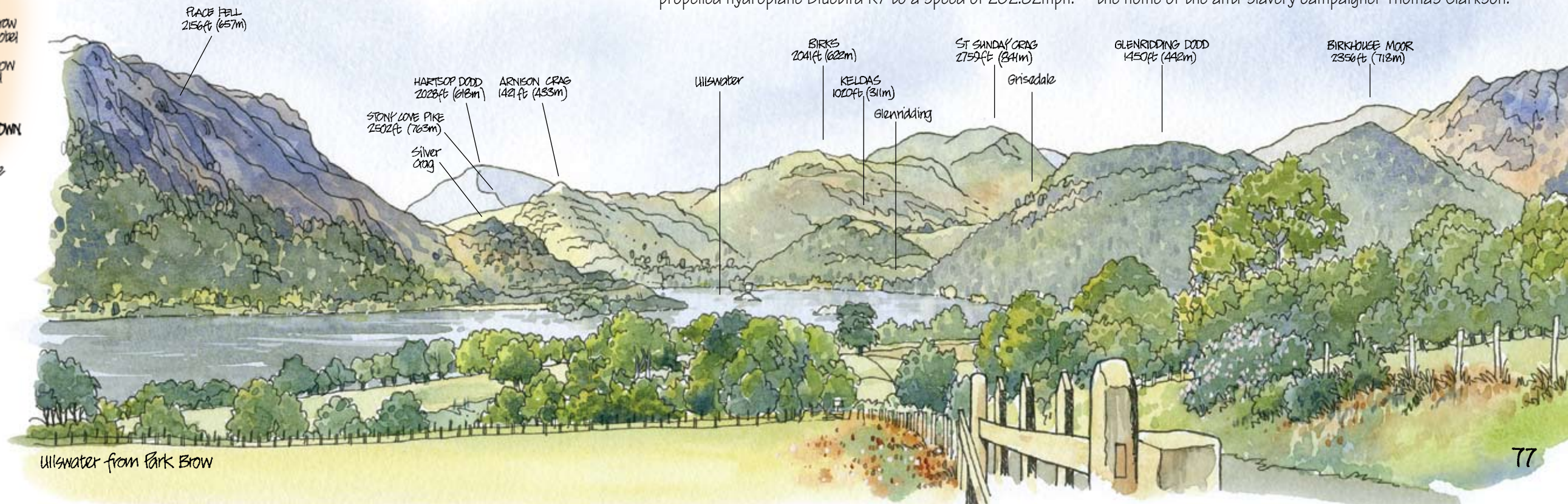
ULLSWATER



ULLSWATER

Length 7.5 miles
Maximum width 0.75 miles
Maximum depth 205ft
Five small islands

For many people the finest of all the lakes, Ullswater has the shape of an elongated 'Z' with three distinct reaches. There's the gentle, almost boring, landscape at the northern, Pooley Bridge end, the more scenic central section and the full on grandeur and magnificence of the southern part at Glenridding.



Ullswater from Park Brow

The view of the southern reach from Park Brow, on the Matterdale road near Aira Force, is justifiably famous and not just for its outstanding scenic qualities.

On this stretch of water in 1955 Donald Campbell set the world waterspeed record, when he piloted the jet-propelled hydroplane Bluebird K7 to a speed of 202.32mph.

The lakeshore below Aira Force is where in 1802 William and Dorothy Wordsworth are reputed to have seen the daffodils which inspired William's most famous piece of poetry. The couple were on their way back to Grasmere after visiting Eusmere, a country house near Pooley Bridge, the home of the anti-slavery campaigner Thomas Clarkson.