

Frontier Thoughts @ Tullie House 1 is the original artwork on display at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery from November in the Roman Frontier Gallery.

Frontier Thoughts @ Tullie House 2 is a photomontage of the original work with variations, on display at The Sill National Landscape Discovery Centre until 31st January 2023.

Concept by artist Karen MacDougall. Artwork made by Clare, Edward, Irene, Karen, Sue, Rob, and Tina from Tullie House Art Group, working with Karen MacDougall, staff from Tullie House and English Heritage.

Borders and Frontiers mean different things to the people on either side. We explored identity, the Romans and the Celts 1900 year ago and ourselves here and now. There was much debate on the Wall and what it achieved and how frontiers shape our lives today. We visited Tullie House's Roman galleries and imagined Carlisle as a Roman town. We contrasted this by visiting Birdoswald Fort and handling Roman artefacts. We saw the Wall marching across the landscape and were inspired. We chose words, wrote postcards recycled from the Vindolanda project, chose poems from the Birdoswald poetry project and celebrated popular culture today with song lyrics relating to walls, learned how to emboss metal foil and added found objects symbolic of love and loss. Add to this representations of Roman coins and phalera, exposed meshing stopping entry beyond and the yellow ribbons of loss as our work incorporates more modern themes. This wall is a culmination of our Frontier journey.

