

The image shows the top portion of a press release. It features a blue banner at the top with the text 'Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd' in white. Below the banner is a photograph of Hadrian's Wall, a stone wall built by the Romans, stretching across a green landscape under a clear sky. The text 'PRESS RELEASE' is written in blue below the photograph.

Hadrian's Wall
Heritage Ltd

PRESS RELEASE

HADRIAN'S WALL HERITAGE LTD WELCOMES THE ANTONINE WALL INTO THE 'FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE' FAMILY

Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd has welcomed the decision by the World Heritage Committee to grant the Antonine Wall, the Roman frontier in Scotland, World Heritage Site status.

The Antonine Wall becomes part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site, alongside Hadrian's Wall and the German Limes. The Antonine Wall and Hadrian's Wall together tell the story of the fluctuating northern frontier of the Empire, which was defended by boundaries created by the Romans that stretched across three continents and over 3000 miles.

Hadrian's Wall was added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1987. In 2005 it became part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site, when it was joined by two sections of the frontier in Germany covering a length of 340 miles from the north-west of the country to the Danube in the south-east.

Linda Tuttiett, Chief Executive of Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd, said:

We are delighted the Antonine Wall has been recognised by the World Heritage Committee for its international significance and is now able to join Hadrian's Wall as part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site. It is the result of a great deal of hard work by Historic Scotland and is richly deserved. We look forward to working closely with the Antonine Wall and Historic Scotland in the future.

The announcement strengthens the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site as a series of world-renowned cultural destinations and will help people to gain a better understanding of the Romans in Britain.

The Antonine Wall was the frontier built by the Roman army in the years following AD138 on the orders of the Emperor Antoninus Pius. It ran for about 36 miles (40 Roman miles) from the Firth of Forth to Old Kilpatrick on the River Clyde and consisted of a turf rampart fronted by a wide and deep ditch. The wall was abandoned after about twenty years, when the Roman legions withdrew to Hadrian's Wall.

Hadrian's Wall, Britain's longest monument, was built in AD122 by the Roman army on the orders of the emperor Hadrian. It is 73 miles (or 80 Roman miles) long and was once 15 feet high and up to 10 feet thick. Today the surviving masonry of the Wall is only a small part of the visible archaeology, which also includes earthworks, milecastles, turrets and forts.

For more information on Hadrian's Wall please visit www.hadrians-wall.org or call 01434 322002.

For more information on the Antonine Wall visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

Ends

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Notes for editors

1. Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd is a not for profit company with responsibility for the coordination, protection, development and marketing of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and the areas it passes through.
2. The organisation was set up in May 2006 in partnership with One NorthEast (ONE), the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), Natural England and English Heritage.
3. Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd works in partnership with a number of organisations. It brings together business and conservation, visitors and local communities in a uniquely focused way, with the overall aim of:
 - Creating jobs and enhancing the local economy
 - Attracting more visitors who will stay longer and spend more in the area
 - Creating a vibrant and sustainable visitor economy
 - Finding better ways to interpret and protect an internationally recognised monument
 - Making Hadrian's Wall a truly world-class destination