Images of the past

Everyone likes to picture a place and here you are able to do just that. Some pictures are of modern Dunfermline, for people who don't know the town, and some are of Dunfermline in the past. We hope you enjoy browsing through them.

If you have a picture you would like us to include, please get in touch with us..

Images of the past.

Long Gone.

Westwood Water Colours

Two Parks.

Dunfermline Abbey

Then and Now.

Long Gone

Drawings by Daniel Thomson made in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, of buildings in Dunfermline which have now been demolished.

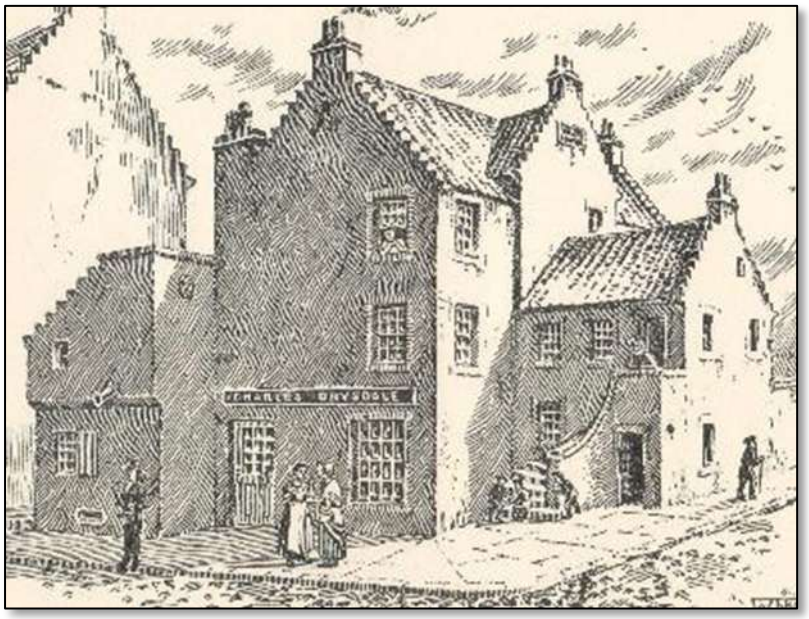

Figure 01. A house in East Port on the northeast corner of High Street and Bonnar Street.
A stone in the wall is inscribed with the initials WC and a William Cunningham owned a house on this spot in the 17th century.

Figure 02. A house in the High St, demolished in the19th century.

Figure 03. The 'Little Dam', below the mill at the top of Collier Row (Bruce St)

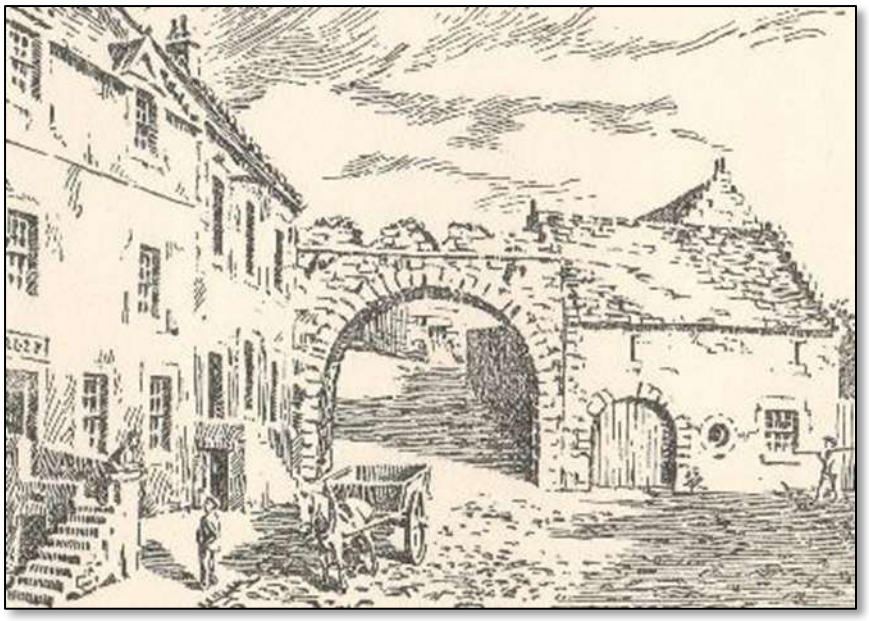

Figure 04. The other side of the Collier Row mill with the old Port (gateway)

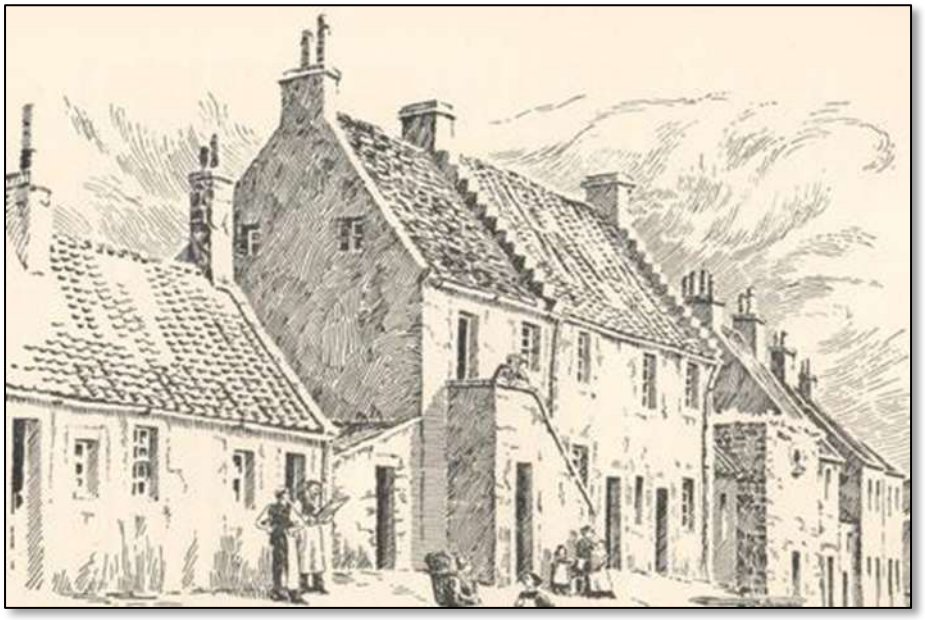

Figure 05. Houses in the Netherton

Figure 06. Regality House, Netherton

This house in the Netherton was called the Regality House because the Regality records were found in its attic in the 19th century. The Regality of Dunfermline (i.e. the former possessions of the Abbey in Fife) was abolished in 1748 when William Black was Clerk of the Regality. As Clerk he would have custody of the official documents and he may have owned this house at the time and stored the now redundant records here.

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Westwood Watercolours

Adam Westwood was a local man who painted a number of watercolour views in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Figure 07. The Abbey from the southwest

Figure 08. The Double Bridge in the Glen

Figure 09. Canmore Tower in the Glen

Figure 10. Kinnis Court in Bruce Street.
Now demolished, this property belonged to the major linen manufacturer William Kinnis who died in 1855. He had a warehouse and weaving works here. William Kinnis was at one time Provost of Dunfermline and he exhibited some of his damask linen at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

Figure 11. The baker's cart at Milesmark

Figure 12. St Margaret's stone, a rough boulder where Margaret is supposed to have rested as she journeyed from her landing at St Margaret's Bay to Dunfermline. It is now situated at the side of the Queensferry Road.

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Two Parks

Dunfermline has two fine parks. The larger of the two, Pittencrieff Park (known locally as The Glen) is at the western end of the town. Its play park is much used by families on fine days and it is the venu for exhibitions and events throughout the year. The small Public Park at the other end of the town also has a play park but is mainly used as a thoroughfare to the town. Its main attraction is a magnificent bandstand which was given to the town by Andrew Carnegie's wife Louise. Below are some 'today and yesterday' pictures of both parks.

Figure 13. The Play Park in the Glen 2007

Figure 14. Bandstand and Music Pavilion in the Glen 1935

Figure 15. The Glen Garden 1906

Figure 16. The Teahouse in the Glen 1909

Figure 17.The Public Park 1904

Figure 18.The Bandstand in the Public Park 2007

(For more detailed information about the parks go to the document Playing with the Past.)

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Dunfermline Abbey

The oldest part of the Abbey is the nave of the church built in the Norman style by order of David I, beginning in 1128, on the site of the earlier, smaller church where it is thought that Malcolm Canmore and Margaret were married. The original church was much longer, the monks' part, the choir, extending further eastward. In the thirteenth century the shrine of St Margaret was built at the east end of the choir. After the Reformation of 1560 the choir became derelict and was replaced by the present Gothic-style building in 1818.

Figure 19. The Abbey, view from the Palace

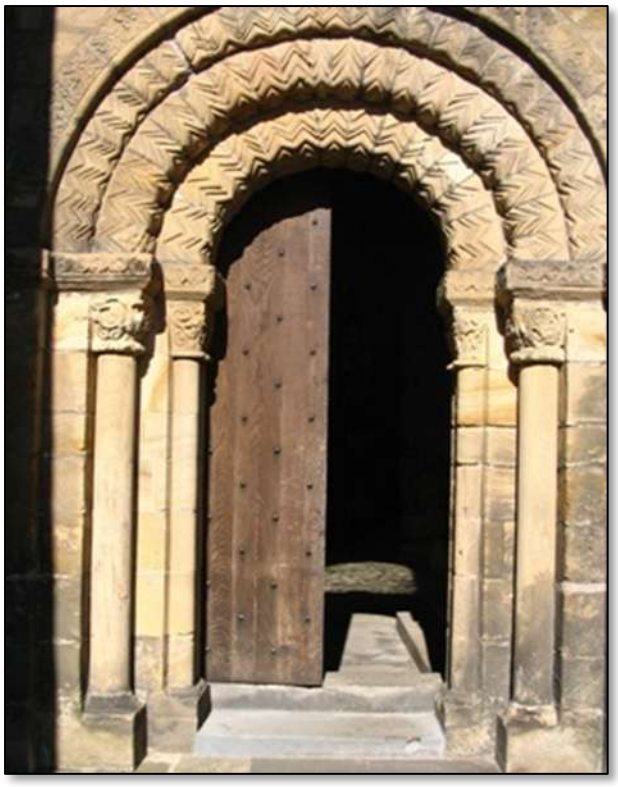

Figure 20. The southeast door, with Norman dogtooth arch

Figure 21. Memorial in the north porch, Robert Adie, bailie

Figure 22. Ceiling painting of St Paul in the North Aisle

Figure 23. Grave slab 1620, Margaret Leslie, wife of Mr John Murray who was the minister of Dunfermline at the time.

Figure 24. Old nave interior, with decorated columns like those at Durham

For more information about the Abbey see the document Playing With the Past.

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Then and Now

Compare scenes in Dunfermline as they were at the turn of the last century with the way they look now.

The High Street.

Figure 25. The High Street c1900.

Figure 26. The High Street 2007

The Kirkgate.

Figure 27. The Kirkgate c1900.

Figure 28. The Kirkgate 2007

The Maygate.

Figure 29. The Maygate c1900.

Figure 30. The Maygate 2007

Andrew Carnegie’s Birthplace

Figure 31. Andrew Carnegie's Birthplace c1900.

Figure 32. Andrew Carnegie’s Birthplace 2007.

Moodie Street.

Figure 32. Moodie St c1900.

Figure 33 Moodie St. 2007

The Netherton.

Figure 34. The Netherton from the West c1900.

Figure 35. The Netherton from the west 2007.

The New Row

Figure 36. The New Row c1900.

Figure 37. The New Row 2007.

Beveridgewell

Figure 38. Low Beveridgewell c1900.

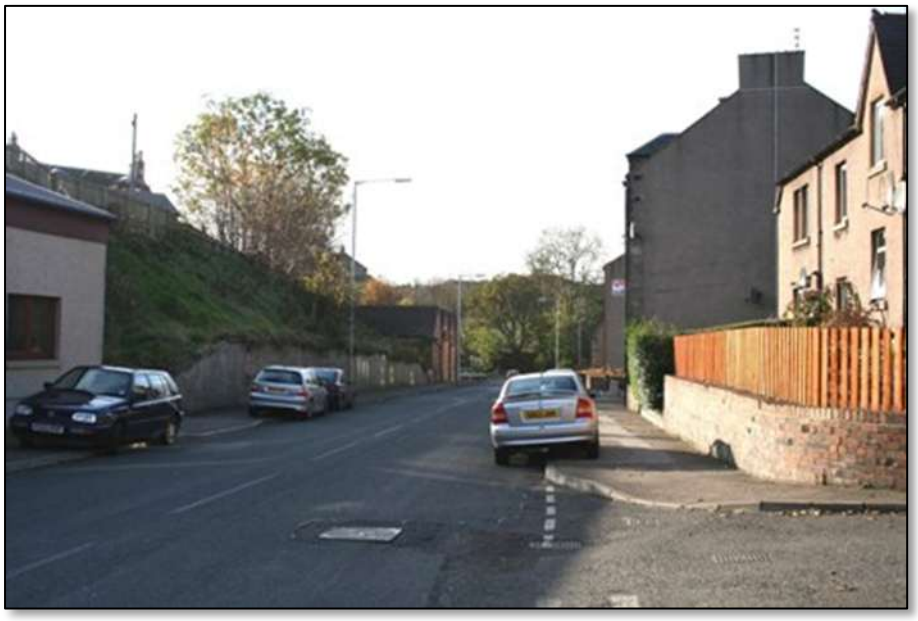

Figure 39 Low Beveridgewell 2007.

James Street.

Figure 40. James Street c1960

Figure 41. James Street 2007.

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