



Southern Necropolis Heritage Trail





Eastern Section

Central Section

Caledonia Street

Central Path

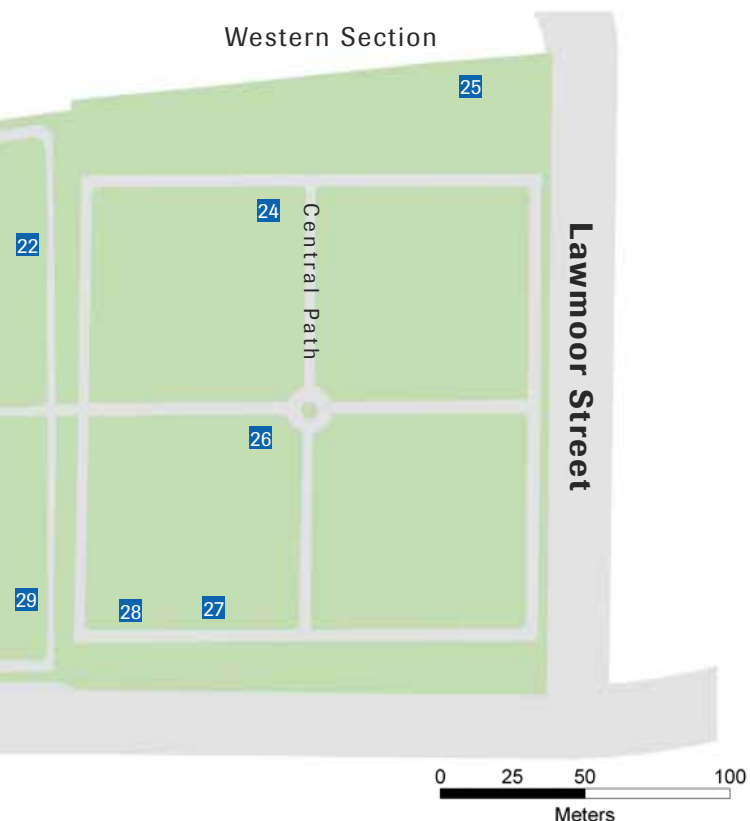
Caledonia Road

Based upon the Ordnance Survey available mapping with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown copyright reserved. Licence 100023379. Unauthorised reproduction infringes copyright and may result in prosecution or civil proceedings. LS-GIS-OJP

- 1** Dr. Nathaniel Paterson D.D.
- 2** Peter Ferguson
- 3** Thomas Bollen Seath
- 4** William S Williams
- 5** Franciscan Benefactors
- 6** Malcolm MacFarlane
- 7** Agnes Harkness
- 8** William Cameron
- 9** Sir Thomas Lipton
- 10** Archibald Sinclair
- 11** James Napier Cousland
- 12** James Banks McNeil
- 13** John Begg
- 14** Charles Wilson
- 15** Reverend James E Smith
- 16** George Thomson



Western Section

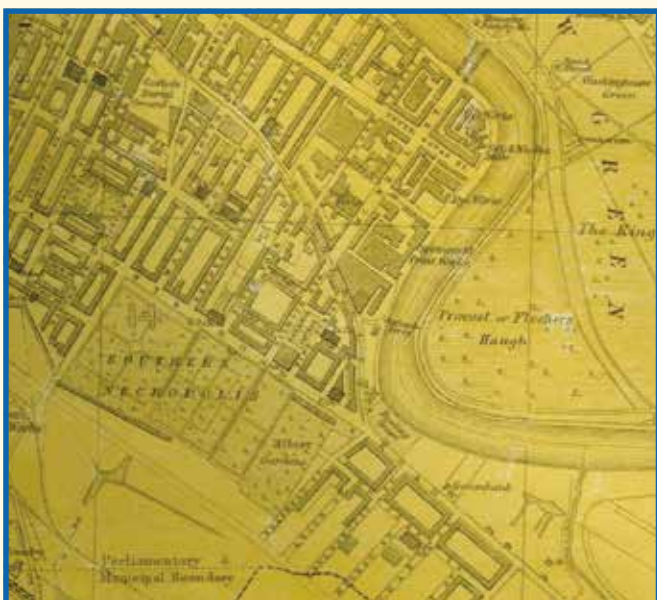


- 17** John Robertson
- 18** Captain James Smart
- 19** Lieutenant Robert Alexander Bogue MC
- 20** James Salmon
- 21** The White Lady
- 22** Allan Glen
- 23** George Geddes and Family
- 24** Wee Willie White
- 25** George Rodgers VC
- 26** Alexander 'Greek' Thomson
- 27** Captain Samuel B Murray
- 28** William Hudson Birrell
- 29** Robert Paterson and Family
- 30** Janet Jack, Bridget Ward and Margaret Jack Adams
- 31** James Goldie

Introduction

On the behalf of Glasgow City Council, welcome to the Southern Necropolis – ‘The City of the Dead’. Please enjoy your visit. For your own safety please follow the route marked on this leaflet. It will take approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes to follow the Heritage Trail from the Gatehouse and back again. Please remember at all times that this is a cemetery. The Southern Necropolis is hallowed ground which contains the remains of around 250,000 people and as such should be treated respectfully.

The Southern Necropolis reflects a time when Glasgow was ‘the second city of the empire’ and evokes the days when this great merchant City rivalled London with the wealth generated by its residents. Many of the graves and headstones portray the merchants, traders, shipbuilders and architects who helped make the City world famous. There are celebrated soldiers, ministers, musicians, actors and the occasional ‘worthy’, surrounded in death by the working classes, artisans and tradesmen from Glasgow’s shipyards, factories and shops who are all equally well represented in this exquisite cemetery.



John Barholemew's map of the Southern Necropolis in 1890



The Establishment of the Southern Necropolis

The Southern Necropolis was officially opened in July 1840. The first burial, that of the 16-month old daughter of Archibald Cochran who died of croup, took place on 21st July. By 1846 all the lairs of the central section were sold and a further two and a half acres at a price of £2063 was purchased from William Gilmour to form the eastern section. The following year an additional one and a quarter acres were purchased at a cost of £1000. The demand for lairs continued and in 1850 nine and a half acres of land at a cost of £4858 were purchased from the Trustees of George Jardine, former Professor of Logic at the College of Glasgow, to form the western section. The City of Glasgow took over responsibility for the Southern Necropolis in 1952. For a more detailed account of the founding of the Southern Necropolis readers are advised to borrow a copy of the book 'The City of the Dead' by Charlotte Hutt from their local library.

Guide to the Southern Necropolis

As you enter the Southern Necropolis you do so through the impressive castellated Norman-style gatehouse designed by Charles Wilson in 1848 (refer to item 14 on this heritage trail). As you enter you will be facing the central path of the central section. There are markers around the graveyard to point you in the direction of graves of interest. There are also grave markers to indicate the graves, thereby making your route round the graveyard easier.

As you pass through the Charles Wilson gatehouse turn left and walk towards the first directional marker on your left.

Welcome to the Southern Necropolis

Your tour starts here

1. Dr. Nathaniel Paterson D.D. (1787-1871)

The eldest son of Walter Paterson, stone engraver of Balmaclellan and Mary Locke, Nathaniel Paterson was born on 3rd July 1787 at Kells in Kirkcudbright. On the 23rd October 1833 the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow offered him the position of minister at St Andrews Church on Greendyke Street, immediately adjacent to the Glasgow Green.



The Deed of Demission at Tanfield Hall in May 1843

In 1843 things came to a head and those who could no longer accept the control lay patrons imposed on church appointments, swept out of the General Assembly and declared themselves the Free Church of Scotland. A famous photograph by David Octavius Hill exists representing those ministers who signed the Act of Separation and the



Dr. Nathaniel Paterson's Monument



Deed of Demission at Tanfield Hall - the good Reverend Nathaniel Paterson D.D. can be recognised sitting in front of the left pillar.

On his return to Glasgow almost his entire congregation came out in support and together they joined the Free Church of Scotland. They worshipped in the hall of the Black Bull Inn on Trongate until 1844 when a new Church was opened in Hanover Square. He was appointed Moderator of the General Assembly of the



Free Church in 1850. Nathaniel Paterson had many interests outside his ministry and is said to have been the inventor of the Riddle Lifeboat. He published many works such as 'The Manse Garden' (Glasgow 1836) and 'The Cry of the Perishing' (Edinburgh, 1842). Dr. Nathaniel Paterson died at Helensburgh on 25th April 1871.

Continue along the path and round the bend to the next directional marker on the right.

2. Peter Ferguson

Peter Ferguson (1801-1885) was one of the leaders of the Temperance Movement. He was 'missionary' to the Gorbals Total Abstinence Society but is remembered mainly as the founder of the Band of Hope Union in



Temperance Rally on Glasgow Green



Ferguson's Obelisk

Glasgow which was formed in November, 1870. The Band of Hope specialised in presenting the message of Temperance as emotionally as possible in the hope of swaying the young towards total abstinence.

The message of Temperance was broadcast through the use of song, stories and illustrations which were full of images of starving families and weeping women and repentant deathbed scenes. The objective of the Temperance Movement was the 'absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of all intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage'. 'Signing the Pledge' may have helped to save many an individual and family from considerable unhappiness. Peter was an elder at Renfield Street Free Church (which stood on the site now occupied by British Home Stores) and in later life became known as Father Ferguson. He died by result of an accident and was called to the heavenly host at the ripe old age of 84.



Abstinence Association Certificate 1836



Return along the path to the central path in front of the gatehouse. If you decide to cross between the stones then be careful and watch your footing. Walk along the central path to the next directional marker, on the left hand side. You will be directed, between the stones, to the next grave marker.

3. Thomas Bollen Seath



T.B. Seath

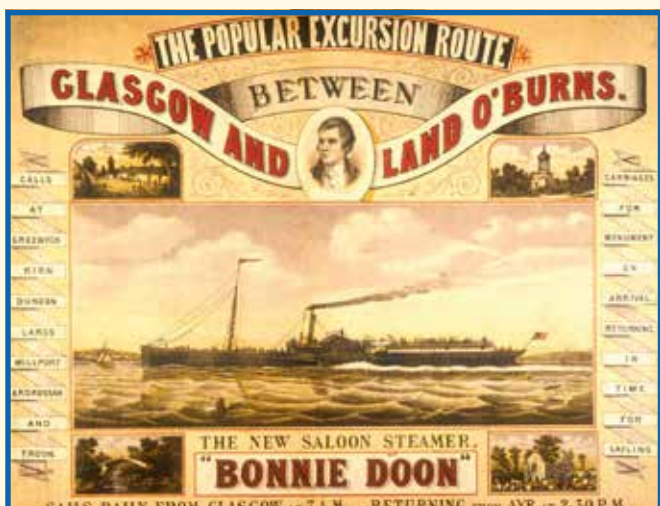
Thomas started his own shipbuilding yard at Meadowside, Partick at the mouth of the river Kelvin in 1853 and in 1856 moved to Rutherglen. Seath built, owned and even operated the small steamer 'Artizan', which had pioneering engine controls on the bridge, between Rutherglen and

Glasgow. He designed and built the first of six of what were to become known as 'Cluthas', small steamships of shallow draft marine omnibuses that ferried workmen up and down river. The age of the 'Clutha' came to an end at the turn of the century with the construction of the Glasgow subway and the world's largest tramway network.

Seath built steamships for Loch Lomond and Loch Maree, Windermere and Ullswater. He also provided luxurious steam yachts, most notably 'The Fairy' for the



Seath's Clutha No. 5



Seath's Poster for a "trip doon the water"

King of Burma and the 'Little Eastern' for the King of Siam, both commissioned in 1872. Almost all of the ships he produced were iron-hulled and this proved to be a factor in their longevity. Thomas Bollen Seath was a major influence in the design and production of high quality small ships which were renowned world wide.



The paddle steamer 'Isle of Arran' – built in Rutherglen

Unfortunately the shipyard that he leased for 47 years from Rutherglen Corporation finally closed when access to the sea was closed off by a weir at Glasgow Green. By then Seath had built over 300 ships, an average of one every eight weeks. This output included the paddle steamer 'Isle of Arran'.

Return to the central path and continue to the next directional marker on the left, again you will be directed between the stones to the next marker.



4. William S Williams



William S Williams Monument

William S Williams (1790-1842) was born in Glasgow and went by the stage name 'Scotch Williams'. His origins are obscure but he may well have been a relative of the 'Williams' who ran Glasgow's Alston Street Theatre from 1768-1771 and managed travelling stock companies.

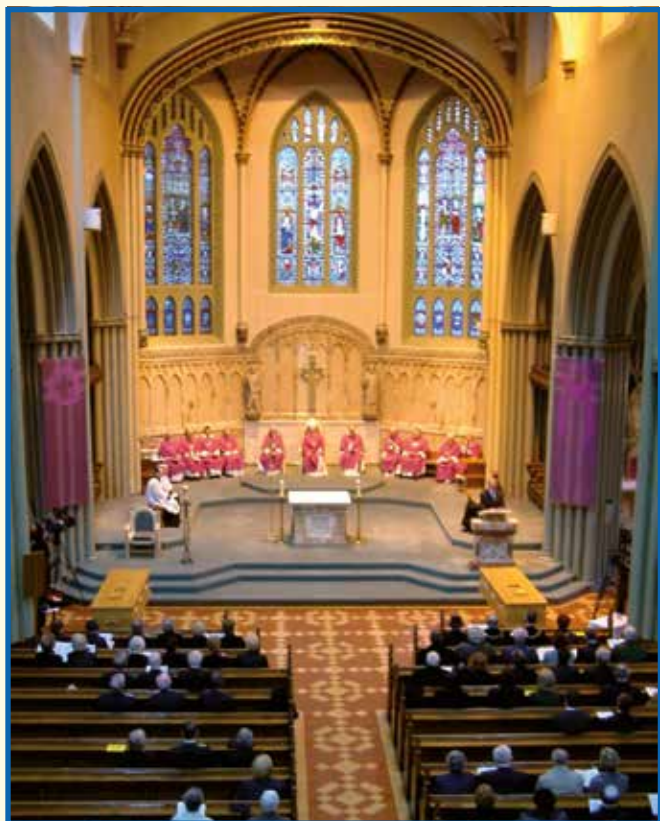
In his early years he was a favourite actor at the Theatres Royal in Dublin, Bath, Bristol, Liverpool and Birmingham and was widely known and much respected in the provinces. For a number of years he performed at the Haymarket in London. Latterly he trod the boards at smaller venues on account of his declining health. His final performance was at Sadler's Wells in June 1842.

Return the way you came to the central path and walk to the central circle. Here you will find the recent re-interment of the Franciscan Friars whose remains were discovered at an archaeological dig in the High Street.

5. Franciscan Benefactors

The Franciscans arrived in Glasgow in the early 14th century and built their first chapel in the George Street area of the city. A Franciscan presence remained on the High Street near the University until around 1559 when the forces of the Reformation led to their suppression.

Despite attempts to carry on their good work in dangerous conditions the Franciscans did not re-establish themselves in the city until 1868 when they established a small mission in Calton. In the same year the mission purchased a piece of land in Cumberland Street, Gorbals. The parish of Gorbals prospered and grew till soon a larger chapel was needed. The formal opening of the magnificent St Francis church took place on the 1st June 1881.



Franciscan burial ceremony at St. Andrew's Cathedral

During an archaeological excavation at the site of the new City Science Centre on High Street, the remains of twenty followers, or benefactors, of St Francis were discovered on the site of the aforementioned monastery. After a service by Archbishop Conti at St. Andrew's Cathedral on 18th March 2005 the historic remains of St Francis' faithful medieval followers were taken on the short journey to the Southern Necropolis.



Final Resting Place of St Francis' medieval followers



Standing at the central circle with your back to the gatehouse turn left and walk towards the eastern section. Further along you will find a marker to your right pointing in the direction of an obelisk.

6. Malcolm MacFarlane



Malcolm MacFarlane Monument

Malcolm MacFarlane was a cabinet maker and trade unionist and also one of the leaders of the Glasgow Chartist movement. The rise of Chartism sprang from the failure of the 1832 Reform Act to extend the vote beyond the middle classes. The political system was openly corrupt and it was common knowledge that wealth and power conferred political power through the buying of votes.

When the Chartist organisation collapsed Malcolm MacFarlane continued to work for the fledgling Temperance Movement and also for the abolition of slavery. Above all he strove to make people aware that the improvement in standards of living and labour for working class people depended on their ability to work together.

It is worth noting that Malcolm MacFarlane's revolutionary aims on voting, universal suffrage and slavery were ultimately achieved and that today we take the Chartist's accomplishments for granted.

From Malcolm MacFarlane's obelisk continue towards the eastern section and turn to your left on entry and follow the path round the corner to your right and straight ahead towards the left corner and the next marker.

7. Agnes Harkness

Agnes Harkness (1771-1856) is recorded on the monument to her husband James Reston as the 'Heroine of Matagorda'. Her actions are detailed in a rare book entitled 'The Eventful Life of a Soldier' by Joseph Donaldson. The small fort of Matagorda was part of the outlying defences of Cadiz, the capital of free Spain. It was occupied on the 22nd February 1810 by a detachment of British Artillery and the 94th (Scots Brigade) Regiment of Foot, aided by a small flotilla of Spanish Gunboats. Agnes Harkness and her four year old son, like many women and their families at this time, accompanied her husband on campaign.



Agnes Harkness



James Reston's stone

The order to withdraw from Matagorda was given by General Graham on the 22nd April 1810. There were 64 casualties out of an original force of 140 men. During their withdrawal Agnes made three forays across the battery, amid shot and shell, to retrieve her husband's and her own belongings and finally her last foray was for her four year old son. Agnes Harkness passed away after a short illness on the 24th of December 1856, aged 85 years.

It's just a short walk to the next marker, on your right, were again you will be directed between the stones to the next grave marker.

8. William Cameron

William Cameron (1801-1877) the son of John Cameron and Jean McAdam was born in Dunipace, Stirlingshire on 3rd December 1801. It was hoped that he would be



educated with the focus of joining the ministry and his studies in divinity progressed to this end. However, when William was just 17 years old the death of his father ended any thoughts of the church as a career. Turning his attention to the teaching profession, he was appointed as a schoolmaster at Bathgate in 1826 and spent over 10 years in that position. It was here that his inspiration for poetry and song writing began. Around 1836 he left for Glasgow where he became a pawnbroker and the first Chairman of the Glasgow Pawnbrokers Association.

Found in a handwritten manuscript containing 56 songs and 50 poems his works include the songs 'Gourock Bay', 'My Ain Wife', 'Gowan Lea' (also the name of his cottage in Dunoon) and "Morag's Fairy Glen". The glen located to the south of Dunoon towards Innellan, was gifted to the town in 1929.

Return through the gravestones to the path and just ahead, on the right, will be a marker pointing to a draped urn on a square pedestal, in front of which is the coped stone monument of

9. Sir Thomas Lipton

Sir Thomas Lipton (1850-1931) Born in Gorbals, Lipton became a multi-millionaire and is remembered as an iconic and much loved figure of the late Victorian era. Sir Thomas was a tall dapper figure, instantly recognisable to the public thanks to his signature polka-dot bow-tie and sailing cap. He was a teetotal, non-smoking confirmed bachelor. Throughout his life Lipton remained a humble man, an extremely generous



Sir Thomas Lipton circa 1920



Sir Thomas Lipton's Monument

benefactor to the poor who never forgot his working class origins. Most of his donations were carried out anonymously and the sheer scale of his benevolence only became apparent after his death.

He was born of Irish parentage, from County Monaghan, at Crown Street Gorbals in 1850. The Australian editor and multi-millionaire Kennedy Jones was born in the same close. Living across the landing from Lipton were the Dick brothers, who became pioneers of retail shoe shops in the United Kingdom.

In the 1880's he set his sights on conquering the vast United States market, a daring venture which indirectly involved him in the tea business. Lipton's tea came to rival coffee as the United States favourite beverage. His product is still the best selling brand in America today, where some ten million cups of Lipton's tea are drunk every day.

Sir Thomas made his first million by the age of thirty, after less than ten year's trading. As indicated he went on to become an internationally famous multi-millionaire, an incredible achievement for a Glaswegian who had hardly completed his primary school education. Lipton was created a baronet in 1902 and died aged 81 on 2nd October 1931. It has been claimed that this fine man left as much as a million pounds in his will to various charities. The funeral cortege passed



Funeral Cortege of Sir Thomas Lipton



along Crown Street, where he was born, and thousands of mourners crowded the streets to say farewell. Sir Thomas was buried beside his beloved parents in the Southern Necropolis. Many of his yachting trophies are on view at the People's Palace and at Kelvingrove Art Galleries.

Return to the path and continue forward and on through the path which joins from the right and all the way along to the next marker on your right side.

10. Archibald Sinclair

Archibald Sinclair was born 27th May 1850 the son of Archibald Sinclair founder of the Celtic Press in Glasgow. In 1862, aged 12 he attended the inaugural meeting of the Glasgow Islay Association with his father who was its founding President. He would later follow in his fathers footsteps and become President of the Association which exists for the purpose of gathering and preserving the traditions, folk tales and poetry of Islay, and to bring together natives of the island who were resident in Glasgow and also to provide relief and assistance to the less fortunate.

He took over his father's role as head of the Celtic Press and continued to print and publish Gaelic books and to translate from English into Gaelic. He would become well-known for his anthology of Gaelic poetry called 'An t-Òranaiche' (the Gaelic Songster) published in 1876. In later years the Sinclair Memorial Fund was set up with the aim of purchasing Gaelic literature to encourage the studying of Gaelic in Islay schools. The Directors offered to refund the fees of students of Islay descent who did well with their Gaelic studies at Glasgow High School Continuation Classes.

In 1925, the Glasgow Islay Association erected a monument to his memory at the family resting place in the Southern Necropolis. The inscription is in both English and Gaelic (which is on the reverse). The impressive broken Celtic cross belonging to it lies in pieces nearby.

As you return to the path the impressive grey granite obelisk directly ahead of you in the corner marks the grave of

11. James Napier Cousland

James Cousland, Architect (1832-1866) was born the son of Alexander Cousland and Elizabeth Stark. His family were prosperous wire manufacturers with a business in Mitchell Street, Glasgow. While articled to Charles Wilson (refer to the Southern Necropolis gatehouse 1848 and also item 14 of this heritage trail), Cousland met up with James Boucher, who was seven years his senior, and together they formed a partnership in 1853. In 1857, they built for themselves a pair of semi-detached houses, Swiss Cottage at 35-37 St Andrews Drive, Pollokshields. James Boucher then built a similar Swiss Cottage for a holiday home at Coulport, Loch Long. Their designs included the Gothic Renfield Free Church on Bath Street, a large block of warehouses and shops at the corner of Gordon Street and Renfield Street (1857-58), the Romanesque Free Church at Kinning Park (1862-64) and a considerable number of ambitious villas which were exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in 1860 and the Glasgow Institute in 1861.

The Cousland family had business connections with John Kibble whose father owned a wire and metal warehouse at Turner's Court on Argyle Street. In the early 1860's Kibble built a large Italian Romanesque villa called Coulport House opposite James Boucher's Swiss Villa at Loch Long. Kibble engaged the partners to design his conservatory which in enlarged form became the Kibble Palace in the Botanic Gardens in



Exterior View of Cousland's Kibble Palace



The stunning dome of the Kibble Palace

J. Cousland's Obelisk

Kelvinside. James Cousland is said to have made a model of the Kibble Palace in wire to show John Kibble what it would look like. The ironwork for the Kibble Palace was undertaken by John Boyd of Paisley. He died at his home, the aforementioned Swiss Cottage, after several months of paralysis on 12th June 1866.

Continue along your route and round the corner to the next marker on your right. You will be directed through the stones to the grey granite headstone, with the carved relief of a sea rescue.

12. James Banks McNeil



Headstone of James Banks McNeil

James Banks McNeil (1831-1878) was connected with boating and swimming in Glasgow during the late 1800's. He built boats, hired them out and was the originator and first secretary of the City of Glasgow Regatta Club. At one time he was the contender for the post of officer at the Humane Society House. An able and powerful swimmer

McNeil saved over 70 people from drowning. This resulted in his recognition by the London Humane Society, who awarded him their silver medal at the

Tontine Hotel, (one of the more splendid buildings in Trongate during that era and a favourite haunt of the Tobacco Lords). James Banks McNeil was also a swimming instructor in both Glasgow and Paisley and was responsible for the building of St Andrew's Baths in Greendyke Street. This was later converted into a used clothes market and later demolished.

When standing in front of the McNeil headstone, take a few steps back, mind your footing, and look for the grave marker to your right.

13. John Begg

John Begg (1793-1867) was the nephew of our national bard Robert Burns. John was the son of Burns' youngest sister Isabella. Her husband John Begg (a land steward on the Blackwood estate in Lanarkshire) died after being thrown from a horse. Isabella later moved to East Lothian for a period of time and later went to Bridge House, Alloway where she spent the rest of her life.



Isabella Burns - sister of national bard

This completes the eastern section.

Return to the path and re-enter the central section, turning left as you enter and walk to the next marker on your right which will direct you on a path through the stones to an ornate obelisk.



14. Charles Wilson

Charles Wilson, (1810-1863). One of Glasgow's legendary architects and the man responsible for the Southern Necropolis Gatehouse. Born the son of a builder, Charles Wilson served his apprenticeship under the auspices of another great Glasgow architect David Hamilton. During the period from 1827 to 1837 he contributed to the design and building of Hamilton Palace, Lennox Castle and Toward Castle. In Glasgow, he worked with Hamilton on the conversion of the Cunningham Mansion into the Royal Exchange (now GOMA). In 1841, he designed and built the Glasgow Royal Asylum for Lunatics at Gartnavel. In 1842 Wilson designed the Mathew Montgomerie Monument at the Glasgow Necropolis, a prominent feature of that particular Heritage Trail.



Charles Wilson's breathtaking Woodlands Hill Development

Charles Wilson was commissioned to produce a revised plan for the Woodlands Hill and Park area. He entered into a joint venture with Sir Joseph Paxton and surveyor Thomas Kyle to produce a plan which would become Park Circus, Park Terrace and Kelvingrove Park which included the magnificent granite staircase - which is a main component of the Kelvingrove Park Heritage Trail.

The years following the Disruption of the Church of Scotland (1843) involved Wilson in the construction of many Free Churches, such as the Italianate style Free Church Training College on Lymedoch Street (Trinity College), Glasgow (1855-61). Other notable churches worth mentioning are the Rothesay Free Church (1845), Maryhill Free Church (1847) and Rutherglen

Free Church (1849). All were built in different styles, most notably Romanesque and the early English gothic style. In 1845 Wilson designed Kirklee Terrace and in 1855 completed his part of the Park Circus layout. In 1857 he laid out the Queen's Rooms at La Belle Place just opposite Kelvingrove Park and added the adjacent houses that same year.

Turn round and face the path once again. Look a little to the right where you will see another grave marker identifying a grey granite tomb.

15. Reverend James E. Smith

The Reverend James E. Smith (1801-1857) was born in Glasgow the son of John Smith of London and his wife Janet. His father, a well-educated man, had strong ambitions to see all his sons in the ministry. After studying at Glasgow University, James Smith acquired a fair amount of general knowledge and a degree in Divinity. By the age of 17 he became a private tutor and probationer for the church. He continued to teach until 1829. Although preaching occasionally, he made no serious attempt to enter the church. After turning his talents to painting he managed to raise enough funds to take himself to London. In 1832, he opened a chapel, charging a penny for admission. He circulated tracts and gave lectures. At first he appeared to have considerable success but, as the novelty of his views wore off, he then connected himself with Robert Owen, the Socialist who developed New Lanark, and lectured at the Socialist Institution in Charlotte Street.

After a disagreement with Owen, James Smith established his own publication 'The Shepherd' in



Memorial to the Reverend James E. Smith



which he discussed subjects that interested him. After the publication ceased James turned his versatile hand to producing the 'The Family Herald', the first issue of which appeared in May 1843. This celebrated publication sold half a million copies every week at the cost of one penny and was mainly devoted to popular fiction. James 'Shepherd' Smith died in 1857.

Continue along and round the corner to the next directional marker on the left.

16. George Thomson

George Thomson (1815-1866) was born on 25th March 1815 in Partick. His first apprenticeship was as a "millwright" after which he entered the works of Robert Napier, the legendary engineer and shipbuilder who also trained the likes of William Denny, John Elder and William Pearce. During his time there Thomson developed considerable knowledge of marine and general engine work and became an assistant manager with the firm for several years. In 1846, along with his older brother James, he started a successful engineering company at Clyde Bank Foundry in Govan, from which they set up a shipbuilding branch at Bankton, just East of Govan in 1851. The first ship produced was the 'Mountaineer', launched on Thursday, 15th July 1852. This 175 ft paddle steamer was constructed for use on the West Highland trade routes, then run by David Hucheson, and later David MacBrayne. Around 40 vessels were made in total, with names such as Clansman, Columba and Claymore.



George Thomson's Memorial



'The Fingal' after conversion into warship 'USS Atlanta' cc.1864

Thomson's iron-hulled, schooner-rigged, screw steamer 'The Fingal' (1861) gained great notoriety during the American Civil War when the Confederate army used this ship to break through a Union blockade at Savannah. It was written that 'No single ship ever took into the Confederacy a cargo so entirely composed of military and naval supplies.' 'The Fingal' was later iron clad and converted into a confederate warship called 'The Atlanta'. Later in the war this ship was captured by the Union, then renamed the 'USS Atlanta' and subsequently used against Southern troops at Richmond and Fort Powhatan.

During his lifetime George Thomson remained heavily devoted to his business and was rarely seen in public. His yards employed more than 1,500 men. The last ship designed by George Thomson was a 3,000 ton steam powered vessel named the 'Russia' (1865), a mail ship for Cunard. At the time of its construction it was the largest and most important vessel operating on the Atlantic and was able to cross the ocean inside nine days. A kindly and modest man, despite his success it is recorded that Thomson never lost the broad Anderston "Doric" in his speech. He died on 29th June 1866, aged 51.

In 1871 his son James Roger Thomson purchased extensive lands at Barns of Clyde in Dunbartonshire, diagonally opposite the confluence with the Cart. The Govan yard and Thomson's entire operation was transferred across to the North Bank of the Clyde, bringing with it the name Clyde Bank - later to be taken up by the town that grew around it. In 1899 Thomson's magnificent shipyard was bought out by John Brown and Co. of Sheffield and arguably became the most famous yard on the Clyde.



Turn right at the next corner and just a few steps along is the next marker which directs you towards a bronze portrait and inscription in high relief encased in grey granite.

17. John Robertson

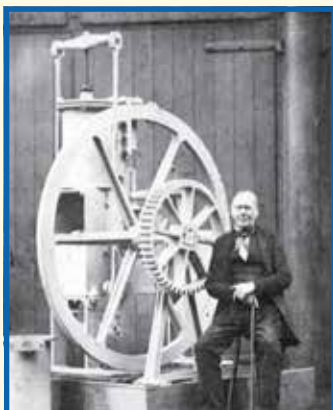
John Robertson (1782-1868) is recognised as the Clyde's earliest marine engineer and was responsible for the engines of Bell's 'Comet'. He was born on the 10th December 1782 in Neilston, Renfrewshire, the son of James Robertson, mill worker. John Robertson's career started at the age of fourteen when he became an apprentice to Mr Cuthbertson, a spinning wheelwright in Neilston. After his apprenticeship Robertson was employed as a turner at the Stanley Cotton Works in Perthshire where he worked for two years before moving to Glasgow. For the following eight years he worked in the machine shop of William Dunn at High John Street. Dunn of Duntocher was one of Glasgow's most famous entrepreneur capitalists and his magnificent Irish granite monument is a feature of the Glasgow Necropolis Heritage Trail.

With the death of his father in 1810, Robertson inherited a small engineering shop in Dempster Street, Glasgow. Robertson first met Henry Bell in 1808 when he was installing a small steam engine to pump sea water for the baths at Bell's Baths Hotel in Helensburgh. After their initial meeting Bell chose his engine to power the near complete 'Comet'.

Robertson's own description of 'The Comet' was the modest observation that it was 'prettily painted in



John Robertson's headstone



Robertson with engine of Comet

different colours, having the figurehead of a lady with red cheeks and coloured dress’.

Being a kindly and generous man John Robertson was prey to lenders and borrowers. His assets were tied up in steam boats and they were gradually disposed of at a considerable loss and by August 1826 he found himself in over £2,000 of debt. He was declared bankrupt and became dependant on the generosity of a few good friends. John Robertson died at Carrick Street, Glasgow on 19th November 1868.

On the right side of the path as you walk towards the central circle there is a marker which will lead you to the gravestone of

18. Captain James Smart

Born in Cathcart, Smart spent his early years in the City of Glasgow. In October 1831 he joined the Barony of Gorbals police as a day constable and ultimately served there as Sergeant.

A political demonstration in March 1848 saw crowds making their way to Bridgeton to bring out the mill workers in support of an appeal for food for the unemployed. However police preparations had been made and the crowds were met at John Street (now Tullis Street) by James Smart with a number of police and 17 special constables who were armed with muskets. The special constables, several of whom were army pensioners, fired indiscriminately into the crowd. Four men were killed instantly and two more died later. The military continued to patrol the City yet angry crowds still lined the streets for some days. All public offices were securely guarded. This dreadful incident is remembered as the Bread Riots of 1848.

James Smart’s reward for the handling of the crisis was promotion to the rank of Chief Superintendent in December 1848. In the Police Act of 1862, he was designated as Chief Constable of Police in Glasgow and his appointment led to many practical innovations. He was responsible for the introduction of the Mounted Branch and oversaw the abolition of the police rattle in favour of a whistle and the issue of batons in place of sticks. Another noteworthy innovation was the installation of the magnetic telegraph between police stations and fire stations. James Smart died on 27th May, 1870.



Return to the path and turn to your left looking back along the path. Here you will notice a marker nearby on the opposite side which will direct you through the stones a blonde sandstone monument.

19. Lieutenant Robert Alexander Bogue MC

Lieutenant Bogue, (1888-1917) holder of the Military Cross, was an officer in a Company of the 16th Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry - affectionately known as the 'Boys' Brigade' Battalion. He was the son of John and Isabella McLaren Bogue, of 7 Radnor St. Glasgow and was the husband of Mary Risk Henderson Bogue, of 296 Bath St., Glasgow. Lieutenant Bogue MC is fondly remembered on this family headstone, although buried in New Kilpatrick (or Hillfoot) Cemetery, Bearsden.

Half a million Scots fought in the First World War; sadly more than 125,000 were killed in action – one sixth of the British casualty list. Thiepval, mentioned on the headstone, is the region in France where The Battle of the River Somme took place.

The 15th, 16th and 17th Battalions of the HLI were known as the 'Glasgow pals' battalions, as the recruits shared work or social associations. Men of the 15th Battalion were with the Glasgow Tramways, the 16th were ex-members of the Boys Brigade, and the 17th with the City of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

Within ten minutes of the dawn attack at Thiepval, some 550 men of the 17th HLI 'Chamber of Commerce' Battalion lay dead - almost half of its complement.



Church parade of the 16th HLI

A further 500 members of the 16th HLI 'Boys' Brigade' Battalion were also killed at the Somme. A monument to the 51st Highland Division looks to Beaumont Hamel where many of the 16th died. Its Gaelic inscription translates poignantly as 'Friends are good on the day of battle.'



17th Battalion HLI leaving the Stock Exchange

Lieutenant Robert Alexander Bogue MC was so severely wounded during the dawn attack at Thiepval that he died fifteen months later on the 26th Sept. 1917. The 16th Battalion of the HLI received one DSO, two MCs, eleven DCMs and twenty-two MMs at the Somme - the highest number of awards to any one battalion.

Return through the stones to the path and turn left walking towards the central circle. Turn left again and follow the path until you reach the next marker, which will direct you through the stones to a grave marker which identifies the polished granite monument to

20. James Salmon

James Salmon, Architect (1805-1888). As an architect, Salmon was most famous for his work in the Italian Renaissance style, and his buildings include the Woodilee Asylum, the Magdalen Institution and the restoration of Paisley Abbey. He was also respected for his involvement in civic affairs. Salmon was elected to the Town Council in 1860. He was the first convenor of the Glasgow Libraries Committee.

In 1853 Salmon was responsible for the design of the exquisite, high domed telling room of David Hamilton's former Union Bank of Scotland, now known as the Corinthian Restaurant & Club at 191 Ingram Street.



The Barony Parochial Asylum at Woodilee

Salmon's telling hall contains allegorical figures of Europe, Asia, Africa and America and a group representing Commerce, the Arts and Sciences and Agriculture, all by John Thomas of London. Between 1854 and 1861 Salmon designed, planned and supervised the development of the new suburb of Dennistoun, allegedly based on Paris, consisting of ornamental villas and self-contained houses mixed with terraces and open spaces. Although Salmon's original concept was never realised his much reduced scheme for the garden suburb forms the core of the Dennistoun Conservation Area.

James Salmon was the first president of the Glasgow Institute of Architects, his vice president being Alexander 'Greek' Thomson. He died in May 1888, in his home at 3 Broompark Circus, Dennistoun.

Return to the path and continue left along this route turning left just before the entrance to the western section. Continue to the next marker just passed the cast iron monument. Just next to this on the left is the next directional marker which will lead you through the stones once again to

21. The White Lady

Of all the many monuments in the Southern Necropolis The White Lady has gained a unique and mysterious reputation. It is the resting place of John S. Smith, carpet manufacturer, his wife Magdalene and their housekeeper Mary McNaughton.

In the form of a veiled woman beside a broken pillar, the ivy covered and much weathered memorial tells a fascinating story. Although the date of her husband's death is no longer visible on the stone the tragic story behind the accidental death of Magdalene and



White Lady

her housekeeper is poignantly told. On 29th October 1933 while returning from church to their home at Langside Avenue, sheltering from the heavy rain behind an umbrella, they walked into the path of a tramcar on Queen's Drive. Magdalene died on arrival at the Victoria Infirmary and Mrs McNaughton passed away two weeks later.

The monument is a solemn and fitting memorial to the tragedy. Local legend tells how the White Lady turns her head as you pass by.

Return to the path and continue on your way left until you come to the next marker on the right.

22. Allan Glen

Allan Glen was born the son of George Glen and Marion Mitchell who were married on 5th November



Allan Glen's Headstone

1771. The family farmed the lands of East Cowglen and Maudlans near Pollokshaws and Allan Glen was apprenticed to a carpenter. In 1810 he decided to set up business as a master wright within Glasgow.

Glen was one of the first members of the Unitarian Church which was established in 1808. Unitarians attached great value to education and Allan Glen reflected this in the foundation of his school. When he died in 1850 Glen left money for two charity schools, one for boys and one for girls. They were to be non-sectarian and industrial, meaning they should provide a general basic education as well as the skills on which

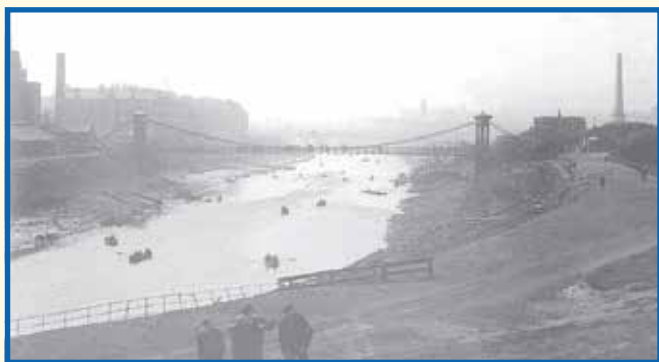


future trades might be built. Unfortunately, there was not enough money for the girls' school but the boys' school was built on ground belonging to Allan Glen at the corner of North Hanover Street and Cathedral Street. Allan Glen died of paralysis at his home in Gourock on the 18th February 1850.

Continue along the path, turn left at the corner till you come across the next marker on the left hand side

23. George Geddes and family

George Geddes (1826-1889) orphaned as a baby he was adopted by a family from Govan. At the age of seven he was sent to work 10 hours a day at a silk mill. In 1837 there was no St Andrew's Bridge at McNeil Street and a ferry took people across the river at that spot. George often helped his brother who was in charge of it. Aged 11 he saved a young girl from drowning which gave him a taste for rescuing people. He joined as an officer of the Humane Society in 1845 and in the first 15 years of his service saved no less than 35 lives.



Regatta on the Clyde before the existing Weir was built in 1901

His dedication to lifesaving was recognised by the award of a gold medal by the Glasgow Society. As might be expected of someone who rescued people from a river George was an able oarsman. In a contest on Kilbirnie Loch he once beat the then famous Bob Campbell - Champion of Scotland. George died on 17th January 1889 aged 63. His family headstone includes the inscription 'A faithful public servant for 45 years and rescuer of over 100 persons'. His post was taken over by his son George II that same year.

Return back along the path and enter the western section on the left hand side. On entering the western section turn left and follow the path along and around. Continue to the next directional marker on the left. The monument we are interested in is to the rear of the stone you are facing. If you are indeed tempted to clamber over the fallen stones to the row behind then be careful not to trip or twist an ankle. Your heroics will lead you to the grave of

24. Wee Willie White

Wee Willie White (died 1858) the blind flute and flageolet player. In a Glasgow so unlike the city we know today 'Wee Willie' White was indeed a 'character' and well respected. Entertaining his street audiences by playing popular and patriotic tunes White worked



Wee Willie White

his talents from Jamaica Street to the Trongate. The small sums that he collected allowed Willie to live in what was then referred to as 'respectable poverty'.

On 11th September 1858 while still by no means an old man, he suddenly took ill on Glasgow

Green. Willie lived long enough to be taken home to his lodgings at 102 Saltmarket, where he died later that same day. His friends and admirers provided for his decent burial in the far left row in Western Section of the Southern Necropolis, his resting place being marked by a simple headstone bearing a stone flute and the box in which it was carried.

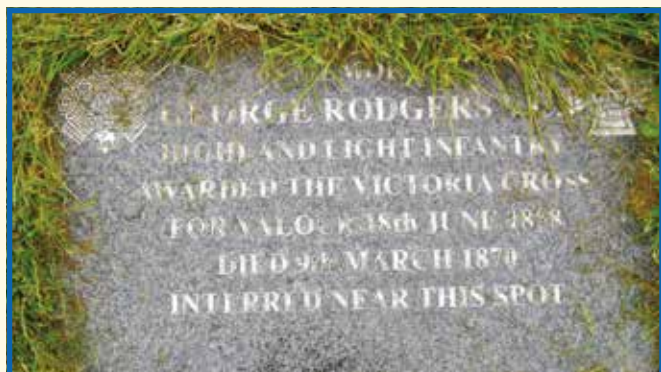
Carefully make your way back onto the path and continue along to the next marker on the left hand side just before you reach the wall. Here you will notice an open space between the monuments. Follow the markers up and over the slope towards the grave marker of

25. George Rodgers VC

George Rodgers VC (1829-1870) of the 71st Regiment of Foot (later the Highland Light Infantry) and holder of the Victoria Cross. The Victoria Cross is the highest



and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to British and Commonwealth forces. On 16th June 1858 at Marar, Gwalior in India, Private George Rodgers single-handedly attacked a party of seven enemy soldiers, one of whom he killed. This was a particularly vital act of bravery as the enemy were all armed and strongly posted in front of the line of advance of a detachment of the 71st Regiment.



George Rodgers VC Monument

This impressive act of valour was not the cause of George Rodgers demise. Ironically, his death occurred in a tragic accident 12 years later. Calling at his sister's house at 24 Govan Street, on the morning of 9th March 1870, George made repeated, unsuccessful attempts to obtain alcohol from her. She eventually persuaded him 'to have a lie down' instead. A short time later while she was out George got up and made his way into her kitchen where he found a bottle of what he thought contained spirits and promptly swallowed the contents. Unfortunately for him the bottle contained Vitriol (sulphuric acid), resulting in a painful death later that day. George was buried in 'accommodation ground' - a cheap grave that cost 36 shillings and nine pence.

George Rodgers' Victoria Cross is displayed at the Museum of The Royal Highland Fusiliers at 518 Sauchiehall Street. It should not be forgotten that five of the first ten Victoria Crosses awarded went to Scottish soldiers. A lovely monument to Glasgow recipients of the Victoria Cross proudly stands in the Kirk Lane adjacent to the Bridge of Sighs at the Glasgow Necropolis. A delightful monument to the beloved Highland Light Infantry stands in Kelvingrove Park.

Return to the path and continue forward with the wall on your left and turn right at the corner and along through the central circle to the next marker on the left hand side next to the black Irish granite memorial of

26. Alexander 'Greek' Thomson



Greek Thomson memorial monument 2006

Arguably the greatest of Glasgow's architects, Alexander Thomson (1817-1875) was born in the Stirlingshire village of Balfroun on 9th April 1817. He created

some of the most unique secular and ecclesiastical buildings of the Victorian era, blending neo-classical conventionality with Egyptian and oriental themes to produce buildings which have few equals anywhere when it comes to sheer originality. His exotic designs earned Alexander the sobriquet 'Greek'.

His father John Thomson was married twice, first to Christian Glass with whom he had 8 children and then



Greek Thomson's magnificent East UF Church – destroyed by enemy bombing during World War 2



to Alexander's mother, Elizabeth Cooper, with whom he had a further 11 children. Alexander was number 17. In Glasgow he trained as a lawyer's clerk but his potential as an architect was soon recognised by Glasgow architect Robert Foote who made him an apprentice after seeing some of his drawings. He left in 1849 to form a partnership with John Baird II and their first buildings began to appear from 1850, these included Seymour Lodge in Ardsloy, the Italian Villa in Cove and a series of villas in St Andrews Drive, Glasgow.



Thomson's Caledonia Road Church

In 1856, Alexander went into partnership with his Brother George to form the company of A&G Thomson. As he concentrated more on design and draughtsmanship his style became more distinctive and included terraces, villas, churches and warehouses.

Thomson's work was inspired by the driving force of religion. His great-grandfather had been a Covenanter and Thomson was an elder of one of his own churches (Caledonia Road). He insisted that 'Religion has been the soul of art from the beginning.'

Return to the central circle and turn right and continue along and around the next corner to the first marker on the left hand side of the path.

27. Captain Samuel B. Murray

(not far along on the left from Captain Murray is the grave of his shipmate). Please refer to No. 28.

28. William Hudson Birrell

Both Captain Samuel B. Murray (1862-1893) and his third engineer William Hudson Birrell (1869-1893) drowned on board the passenger cargo vessel "SS Trinacria" when it sank off the coast of Spain on 8th February 1893. Robert Duncan & Company of Port Glasgow built the 2,256 ton steamship in the year 1871,

and her maiden voyage took place under the ownership of the Anchor Line in September of that year. The steamship had accommodation for 69 first class and 910 third class passengers.



W H Birrell Monument

Tragically, the Trinacria was wrecked near Cape Vilano, Spain in February 1893. The ship had left Greenock on 2nd February 1893, heading for the Mediterranean with Gibraltar the first port of call. Suffering rough seas and poor visibility, the ship was grounded 4 miles from the Cape Villano lighthouse near Finisterre. The Trinacria immediately started to

break up and the four female passengers were put into the only lifeboat it was possible to launch, but they were drowned when it capsized. Then a massive sea burst into the Trinacria, collapsing the funnels and ventilators onto the ship. At the same time, the masts went overboard. Thirty crew were swept away, including Hudson Birrell and Captain Murray, to bring the death toll to 34. Only seven survivors managed to reach shore.

This completes the western section.

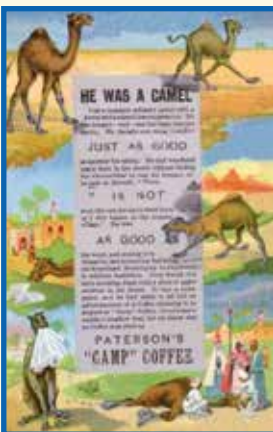
Follow the path until you return to the entrance to central section once more. As you enter the central section, turn left and continue to the marker on the right hand side, this will direct you to the grey granite headstone of

29. Robert Paterson and family

Robert Paterson (1820-1882) and family were merchants who provided preservatives, essential items for Victorian households. In 1868 he was joined by his son Campbell and began to diversify into sauces, ketchup and fruit wines. Eight years later, following the death of its founder, the Paterson Company was catapulted to fame with the first instant coffee: Camp Coffee (an essence of coffee-beans, chicory and sugar poured from a distinctive bottle).



The Charlotte Street Factory



Paterson's marketing of Camp Coffee

The origin of Camp Coffee is believed to have come from a request from the Gordon Highlanders to Campbell Paterson for a coffee drink that could be used easily by the army on field campaigns in India.

The label of the product is said to bear the portrait of Sir Hector MacDonal, a hero of many wars in India. The Charlotte Street factory was founded in 1891 and the product proved so successful that three large additions were made between 1893 and 1908, in Charlotte Street and Greendyke Street. The Glasgow works closed in the 1970s and Camp coffee is now produced in Paisley.

Return to the path and make your way towards the gatehouse and turn right and walk along the central path until you come to the first marker on your right. The marker will direct you through the stones to the monument to

30. Janet Jack, Bridget Ward and Margaret Jack Adams

Janet Jack, Bridget Ward and Margaret Jack Adams lost their lives on the morning of 11th October 1895, in a fire at Higginbotham's and Company Ltd., Calico Printers, McNeil St, Glasgow. The works covered a large area extending from McNeil Street to the River Clyde and had been the scene of several fires. A workforce of around 800 people, mainly women, was employed there at this time.



A night painting of Higginbotham's Mill - by William Simpson 1847

It is thought that the fire started in the drying box. Cloth which came from the printing tables was passed through the drying box then on through an aperture and carried along the underside of a wooden floor. At first it was thought that everyone had escaped from the building, but soon the startling news spread that three women were missing; namely Janet Jack (36) of 271 Cumberland Street, Bridget Ward (18) of 263 Caledonia Street and Margaret Jack Adams (15) of 50 Old Dalmarnock Road. On entering the partially destroyed building the fireman discovered the remains of three bodies, which were taken to the mortuary at the Southern Police Office.

Return through the stones to the central path and continue towards the marker situated on the right. This is the final directional marker on the trail and it directs you to the grave of



31. James Goldie



*Exquisite Brickwork on
Main Façade of Templeton's
Carpet Factory*

The noted builder James Goldie (1844-1913) was born in Hutchesontown and was educated at Gorbals Parish School. The work of Goldie and Son was linked to the growth of the City and at least two of the buildings they were responsible for can still be admired today - Fairfield's Yard at Govan and Templeton's Carpet Factory, recently converted into private apartments. Templeton's Carpet Factory, built in 1888 was designed by William Leiper.

Goldie's intention at Templeton's factory was to mimic the brilliant colours of the carpets woven there and reflect these hues in the exterior of the building, particularly the section derived from the Doge's Palace in Venice. The colours chosen were crimson, red, deep blue, sand, white, green and yellow and the textiles equally varied: brick, terracotta, enamel, sandstone and glazed bricks. This was Goldie's masterpiece and for many years bricklayers' apprentices were brought to study the techniques he had used. In 1903 he became Deacon-Convenor of the Trades House and after his term in office Goldie became manager of the Royal Infirmary and many other charitable institutions. One significant post was that of Honorary President of the Building Trades Exchange which organised the great Scottish National Exhibition of 1911, held in Kelvingrove Park and which attracted some nine and a half million visitors.

You have now reached the end of the Southern Necropolis trail.

**Glasgow City Council
Land and Environmental Services
Richmond Exchange
231 George Street
Glasgow G1 1RX**

**Phone 0141 287 2000
www.glasgow.gov.uk/parks**



Acknowledgements

The information contained in this leaflet was provided from various sources – in particular 'The City of the Dead'

by Charlotte Hutt
ISBN 0-906169-42-9

Other reference sources include;

Glasgow City Council
Development and Regeneration
Services, Heritage and Design

Culture and Sport Glasgow
Glasgow Museums
Mitchell Library
Glasgow Collection
www.theglasgowstory.com

James Stevens Curl – 'The
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds
of Glasgow' - 1975 Strathclyde
Regional Printing Works

This leaflet was made possible by
the dedication of many people
– in particular The South Glasgow
Heritage Environment Trust with
valuable contributions from Paul
O'Cuinn, Colin Mackie and Isobel
Barrett.

Useful websites include:
www.southernnecropolis.com
www.sghet.org

**For a free guided
tour of the Southern
Necropolis, conducted
by Park Rangers phone
0141 287 2000.**