

POLLOKSHAWS HERITAGE TRAIL



THE SEQUEL TO THE QUEER FOLK O' THE SHAWS

YOU TOOK IT IN YOUR HEAD, MY LAD,
TO GANG AND SEE A RACE,
YOU DIDNA MIND YOUR MITHER'S WORD,
WHICH SHEWS YOU HAD NAE GRACE,
YOU WASHED YOUR FACE, YOU RIGGED YOURSEL',
YOU SET OUT FOR THE SHAWS;

IN A DUDDY DRESS NEW AFF THE PIN,
OH MAN WHAT SUNDAY BRAWS!
THEN TO THE TENTS, THAT FAVOURITE SPOT,
WHERE A' SUCH KEELIES DRAW;

THE BIGGEST CROWD, THE BEST FOR WARK,
AT YOU TRADE IN THE SHAWS.
THE LASS THAT TOOK YOU IN TO DRINK,
I'M SURE YOU KNOW HER WELL,
A CHIEF COMPANION DAY AND NIGHT,
A KEELIE LIKE YOURSEL'.
YOU SAID WE FELL A-KICKING YOU,
BUT DIDNA TELL THE CAUSE;

YOUR FINGERS GAED FRAE POUCH TO POUCH,
YOU ROBBED US IN THE SHAWS.
WITH THE POLICE YOUR ACQUAINT,
YOU'RE OFTEN IN THEIR PAWS;

THOUGH QUEER FOLK AS YOU CA' US HERE,
WE'VE BUT TWA IN THE SHAWS.
YOU SAID YOU SUFFERED SAIR ABUSE,
BY OUR BIT COLLIE DOG;

THE REASON HE ATTACKED YOU,
HE TOOK YOU FOR A ROGUE.
YOU NEEDNA BOAST ABOUT YOUR WATCH,
YOU NE'ER HAD ANE BEFORE;

YOU NIPT IT FRAE AN HONEST CHIEL,
JUST AT THE WINNING SCORE.
YOU SAID THE HORSES RAN SO FAST,
YOU THOUGHT THE MAIST DID FLEE;

YOUR EEN WERE SWELLED AND GLOWERING FOU,
I'M SURE YOU DIDNA SEE.
GLASGOW IS AN UNCO TOWN,
WHERE EVERYBODY CA'S;

IF YOU WANT TO LIVE A KEELIE LIFE,
NE'ER COME OUT TO THE SHAWS.
FOR THE VERY NEXT TIME YOU COME OUT
TO SEE OUR RACES HERE;

WE'LL KICK YOU UP AND DOWN THE COURSE,
WE'LL MAK' YOU QUAKE WI' FEAR.
AND WITH A LABEL ON YOUR BACK
TO TELL THE FOLK THE CAUSE;

FOR PICKING POCKETS ON THE COURSE,
WE DRUMMED YOU OUT THE SHAWS.

Welcome to Pollokshaws

Pollokshaws is situated in the south of Glasgow some three miles from the city centre. It has a long history as an independent, vibrant and proud Burgh with an economy based on the textile industry. What you see today is far removed from the thriving community of small shops and other businesses, the often primitive housing, cottages and tenements.

The 1960's regeneration scheme of mainly high-rise buildings has started to make way for new mainly low-rise modern housing. Unfortunately there is hardly any industry remaining in the area.

The Queer Folk

The Queer Folk of the Shaws has its origins in the song by Glasgow writer James Fisher (born 1818). Published in 1850 the song tells the tale of a young Glasgow lad who attends the Pollokshaws races. Before he sets off his mother has some words of warning;

***My mither tichtly coonsell'd me before that I
gaed oot,
To tak' gude care and mind my e'e wi' what I
was about;
Said she, "ye may be trod to death beneath
the horses' Paws;***

***An' mind ye, lad, the sayin's true – 'There's
queer folk I' The Shaws'.***

With his mother's words ringing in his ears the young lad sets off for Pollokshaws Races where as the song relates he drinks far too much whisky and takes liberties with a friendly local lass which provokes a fight with a local lad who comes to her rescue. As the fight ensues he is attacked by his assailants Collie dog;

***Aroused at last, I drew my fist, and gied him
on the lug,
Though sairly I was worried for't by his big
collie dog;
It bit my legs, it bit my airms, it tore my Sunday
braws,
And in the row I lost my watch, wi' the queer
folk I' the Shaws.***

Finally he is arrested by the local Police, fined one pound and sent on his way.

Pollokshaws Race was the main attraction of the Pollokshaws Fair and took place on the last Friday in May. In 1837 the Burgh Council decided to change the day of the Pollokshaws Fair to the second Friday after the first Monday in July to coincide with the Glasgow Fair. In the New Statistical Account for Renfrewshire (compiled 1835-45), the Rev. George Logan, Minister of Eastwood commented that there were no fairs held in Pollokshaws and the only gathering of sorts was the Pollokshaws races which he observed as serving no purpose other than to 'assemble a number of idle people and promote the sale of whisky'. The course ran along the

old Barrhead Road (Cowglen Road) from Green Knowe to near Kennishead and although the race outlasted the fair it too soon faded into memory.

Enjoy the Trail as it tells the story of our Community.

Pollokshaws was erected into a Burgh of Barony in 1812 when a charter under the Great Seal was granted to Sir John Maxwell. This meant it was a free burgh governed by a provost, a Bailie and six councillors. It became a Police Burgh in 1858 and under the Burgh Police Acts of 1892 it adopted a common seal.



Pollokshaws Coat of Arms

The arms are those of Stirling Maxwell of Pollok family hence the first part of the name Pollokshaws. The inclusion of the Oak Tree alludes to the Old Scots word shaw or schaw which means a wooded area and is used to indicate that the surrounding area was once thickly wooded. Together they make up - Pollokshaws.

 *On leaving the Pollokshaws West Station turn left and proceed for 400 meters. Coming from Shawlands Station turn right and walk for about 600 meters to*

1 Pollokshaws Burgh Hall

*Architect: Sir Robert Rowand Anderson
(1834-1921)
A Listed*




Pollokshaws Burgh Hall was commissioned by Sir John Stirling Maxwell (1866-1956) at a cost of £20,000. He employed Edinburgh architect Sir Robert Rowand Anderson who drew up designs that reproduced details of the Glasgow College buildings on High Street.

The Hall reflects the style of the 17th century Scottish Renaissance period

with strap work pediments, crowstepped gables and a distinctive square tower much like the Glasgow College buildings. Accommodation comprises a large hall, a small hall and several small rooms. The interior was modernised in 1968-69 and 1973-74 but the large hall retains its original vaulted ceiling.

Sir John Stirling Maxwell gifted the hall to the Burgh of Pollokshaws for local individuals and organisations to use and he generously provided an endowment of £100 per annum for 25 years towards its running expenses or until such times as the Burgh was annexed to Glasgow. The official ceremony took place on 7th December 1898 to which he invited the Burgh's Lord Provost, Magistrates, Town Council and Officials.

The Burgh Hall has had a variety of uses in its history including being pressed into service as a 'British Restaurant' during World War II. At the front of the building is the Pollokshaws War Memorial in memory of those who lost their lives in the World War I. The Hall is now run and managed by Pollokshaws Burgh Hall Trust.

 *Leave the Burgh Hall by the side gate onto Christian Street and turn left towards Pollokshaws Road. Turn right and follow the main road to the junction with Haggs Road and Pollokshaws Road.*

2 The Swan Inn

Architect: MacWhannell & Rogerson



The 1901 public house that stands on the corner of Haggs Road and Pollokshaws Road formerly known as Maxwell Street has been the site of an inn for over well 100 years. It is more commonly known as the site of the Old Swan Inn which first appeared on an Ordnance survey map of 1892-94.

The Swan Inn building was rebuilt on the site of the previous inn by Glasgow Spirit Merchant John Hunter Gilmour between 1898 and 1901. In 1971 it became one of the first major conservation works undertaken by Glasgow City Council.

 Turn right from Pollokshaws Road into Greenview Street. 50 metres along on the left is the former bank building.

3 The Bank Building

*Architect: Thomas Baird (1862 -1953)
C Listed*



This tenement building is one of the few survivors of the 1960s redevelopment scheme in what used to be known as Pollok Street. It was built in 1902 for John Campbell Esq. and provided accommodation for the Commercial Bank of Scotland which had formerly been housed in the Toonhouse building and Prentice and Frew solicitor's office, with six dwellings above.

The Commercial Bank of Scotland merged with the National Bank of Scotland in 1959 and subsequently with the Royal

Bank of Scotland in 1969. During the Clydeside blitz of 13th and 14th of March 1941 an unexploded bomb landed behind the building, but it was safely defused and removed. In the 1960s there was an attempted robbery at the bank when a firearm was discharged. Fortunately no one was wounded, but a bullet hole was visible in the ceiling. The building is now residential flats.

👉 *Proceed further along Greenview Street towards the 'Stag Bar'.*

4 **The Stag Building**

Architect: Thomas Baird (1862 -1953)



In the New Statistical Account for the Parish of Eastwood, the Rev. George Logan remarks that there are '56 licensed alehouses or whisky shops in the parish.'. The Stag Inn on what is now Greenview Street is first mentioned by that name

in the Glasgow Post Office Directory of 1889-90 and then on an Ordnance Survey map from 1892-94.

The licensee at this time was Wine and Spirit Merchant John Lyons who took over the premises in 1888-89 from Wine and Spirit Merchant D. McCafferty who was the licensee between 1886 and 1888 at what was then numbers 12/14 Pollok Street. In 1905 John Lyons erected a new tenement incorporating numbers 12/18 Pollok Street to be used as dwellings and shops.

The Stag Inn remained at numbers 12/14 Pollok Street. The other two shops seen here were Carmichael's the chemist and Dougie's dairy, now Nico's Deli.



Turn left at the corner and proceed along Shawhill Road.

5 **St Mary Immaculate**

Architect: William Nicholson

North aisle extension: Pugin & Pugin

B Listed



There was no Roman Catholic presence in Pollokshaws until the beginning of the 19th century when Irish workers on the Glasgow, Paisley and Johnstone canal (1807-1810) began to settle in the area. They used to walk to Glasgow to attend mass.

From 1829 onward a service was conducted in a room in a building used as a Roman Catholic school which stood on the site of where The Stag Inn is now. In 1849 the Parish of St. Mary Immaculate was formed and its congregation was drawn from Pollokshaws, Thornliebank, Crossmyloof, Shawlands, Cathcart, Newton Mearns, Eaglesham and Busby. In 1850 they moved into a converted blacksmiths building at the riverside in Lillybank Place (Riverbank Street), where they attended services until 1859.

In 1859 a distinctive three-storey building with a conical tower was erected at Shawhill on ground bought for a modest sum from Sir John Maxwell, who ignored a local petition against the sale of the site to Catholics. The ground floor was used as a dwelling by the clergy, the first floor as a school and the top floor as a Chapel. This temporary arrangement served until 1864 when the new Chapel of St Mary Immaculate was constructed on land again gifted to the Church by Sir John Maxwell. The foundation stone was laid on 18th June 1864 and the Church was officially opened on 9th September 1865. The presbytery was added in 1879 whilst the north aisle was extended in 1900.

The late Cardinal Winning's great-grandparents were married here in 1885. The present Chapel building was renovated in 1967 and underwent further restoration in 2008.



In the church grounds is the category 'B' listed war memorial in remembrance of those parishioners who lost their lives in the Great War.

St Mary Immaculate has now been floodlit as part of Glasgow City Council's Lighting Strategy.

 Continue along Shawhill Road and turn left into Prospect Road.

6 St Conval's School

*Architect: Walter Robert Watson
(c.1873-1932)*



By 1829 the Catholic population had grown to such an extent that proper provision had to be made for the education of children. An early attempt at establishing a small school in Brewery Close, Main Street had to be abandoned through lack of funds.

The next accommodation, a room in a building where the Stag Inn now stands, proved to be more successful and remained there until 1859, when a distinctive three storey building was erected on land at Shawhill.



The building served as a school and place of worship until the

completion of St Mary's in 1865 and thereafter it was used exclusively as a school.

By the beginning of the 20th century the old school building was insufficient to meet the needs of the growing Catholic population and in 1906 a new red-sandstone building was erected on land leased for the sum of one farthing from Sir John Stirling Maxwell.

It was built on the crown of Shawhill at a cost of £8000. The older building continued in use as an infant school until it was demolished in 1978 to make way for the car park.



Return downhill and cross Pleasance Street, turn right and the Toonhouse is ahead on the left.

7 The Toonhouse

Architect: Unknown

B Listed



The clock tower is all that remains of the former Pollokshaws Burgh Halls. Erected in 1803 to administer the affairs of the town and to provide a place for meetings, it took ten years to complete. It included a distinctive clock tower much to the envy of neighbouring councils.

It covered about half the area of the square, and over the years extensions were added with shops located externally in parts of the old building. One of them was occupied by McClurg's the Fishmonger who until recently operated a business in The Stag Inn building.

By 1880 the building had been in use as a burgh school, a Justice of the Peace Court, a library and even a public house called 'The Maxwell Arms Inn'.

According to Fowlers Commercial Directory for Renfrewshire (1834-35) the licensee was James Struthers. It was partly demolished in 1895 as a result of the opening of the new burgh hall (see No.1) and the main part was demolished in 1934 leaving only the squat tower containing the vestibule. It is still affectionately known by locals as The Toonhouse.



Walk through the square to the rear of the Toonhouse and you will come to the memorial to John Maclean.

8 **John MacLean 1879-1923**

Sculptors: J & G Mossman



John MacLean was born on 26th August 1879 at 59 King Street, Pollokshaws and was educated at Queens Park Secondary School and Pollok Academy. In 1900 he graduated from the Free Church Teacher's College and his first full-time teaching appointment was at Strathbungo School, Craigie Street, Govanhill (now St Bride's Primary School). He continued his studies and attended Glasgow University as a part-time student graduating with an M.A. in Political Economy in 1904. After graduating from Glasgow University he attended the Glasgow Technical College where he studied chemistry, mathematics and physics until 1907.

In 1900 he joined the Pollokshaws branch of the Progressive Union which was a debating society that discussed issues such as socialism and anarchism and campaigned for social reform. In 1903 he joined the Social Democratic Federation and in 1905 was a founding member of the Glasgow Teachers Society. In 1906 he launched the Pollokshaws branch of the

SDF at a meeting held outside the old Town House. The local branch produced a newspaper called 'The Pollokshaws Review' which they distributed on street corners and at meetings held outside the burgh hall.

In 1908 he began teaching classes in Marxist economics and industrial history at various locations throughout Glasgow. He also organised and led a demonstration of the unemployed through the Glasgow Stock Exchange and in 1910 organised striking female workers at Neilston thread mill. In 1911 he became involved with the striking workers at the Singer Machine Co in Clydebank where he came into contact with the Independent Workers of the World. The Independent Workers of the World believed that only a united front could save the world from Capitalism. He became increasingly opposed to the pro-war stance of the SDF and joined the newly created British Socialist Party and became further involved in strikes and industrial disputes.

John MacLean's vigorous opposition to the First World War brought confrontation with the Police and he was arrested for the first time in October under the Defence of the Realm Act (1915). He was found guilty of speeches that would prejudice army recruitment and was fined £5 but his refusal to pay earned him 5 days in jail and dismissal from his teaching

post. He was arrested again in 1916 and imprisoned for 3 years but was released in 1917 having served 14 months. His support for the Russian Revolution saw him appointed Consul for Soviet Affairs in Great Britain and he set up a Consulate Office at 12 Portland Street, Glasgow. In 1918 the authorities raided his office and arrested him and charged him with sedition. He was sentenced to 5 years in Peterhead Prison.



John Maclean died from pneumonia, aged 44, at his home at 42 Auldhouse Road on the 30th November 1923. On the day of his funeral, in tribute to his memory, thousands of Clydeside workers gathered outside his house and led by the Clyde Works band marched to Eastwood Cemetery. Thereafter thousands took part in a silent march on the first Sunday in December each year from Eglinton Toll to the cemetery. However as time passed the numbers decreased until in 1947 only 50 attended and thereafter the march was discontinued.

On the 2nd December 1973 a granite

commemorative
cairn was unveiled
by MacLean's two
daughters on the
site of the old Town
House in Pollokshaws
attended amongst
others by the
Provosts of Glasgow
and Edinburgh. The
inscription on the
cairn describes John MacLean with the
words



FAMOUS PIONEER OF WORKING
CLASS EDUCATION. HE FORGED THE
SCOTTISH LINK IN THE GOLDEN CHAIN
OF WORLD SOCIALISM.

In 1979 the Russian Government
issued a commemorative
postage stamp to mark the
centenary of his birth.



 *Continue across the square and cross over Ashtree
Road to the library building on the right.*

9 The Library

Architect: Archibald G Jury (1907 - 2003)



According to Fowler's 1829-30 Commercial Directory for Renfrewshire the first recorded library in Pollokshaws was established in 1818 in the Town buildings. Books were issued every alternative Saturday evening for two hours between 6 and 8pm. Fowlers 1834-35 directory and the New Statistical Account for Eastwood compiled by Rev. George Logan make no mention of the library in the parish.

It was in 1844 through the efforts of then Provost and Chief Magistrate, Mr William Hector, that a public library was re-established within the Council Chambers. Despite several donations the library never attained financial security until 1877, when Mr Robert Campbell generously bequeathed the rental from two tenements off Main Street to establish the Pollokshaws Campbell Library. In 1968 the library relocated to its present building.

👉 *On leaving the library turn left into Ashtree Road to the building behind the library.*

10 The Baths and Steamie

Architects: Glasgow Office of Public Works



In 1908, Pollokshaws Burgh Council commissioned the local architectural partnership of Ninian McWhannell (1860-1939) and John Rogerson (c.1862-1930) to erect a fire station, baths and dwelling houses on the corner of Factory Street and McDougall Street. The old tenement on the corner of Riverford Road (formerly Factory Street) and McDougall Street marks the site. In the space between the corner and the newer tenement in McDougall Street there is a low building which was the first Pollokshaws baths, not swimming but personal washing cubicles, six for men and two for women.

In 1924 public baths, washhouses and a swimming pool were constructed

following a successful campaign by local people to improve the former town during the controversial 1912 annexation of some of Pollokshaws to Glasgow. The building housing the former sports facilities and swimming pool was converted into a private health club in 2002 which has since closed. The building is scheduled for demolition in the near future.

 *Follow Ashtree Road (or walk through Ashtree Park) to the junction with Christian Street. To the left is the three-storey red sandstone Sir John Maxwell Primary School.*

11 Sir John Maxwell Primary School

Architect: John H Hamilton (1851-1935)



The Parish of Eastwood originally provided education as a charitable service, which later came under the auspices of the local authority in the 1872 Education Act.


In August 1854 following a public meeting, Sir John Maxwell provided funds to build

a successful Industrial School which enabled local children to access free basic education and trade lessons specific to each gender. To help raise funds, the school sold the children's work from the trade lessons as well as the vegetables they grew. In 1872 Eastwood School Board eventually took on responsibility for the provision of education services and renamed the school the Sir John Maxwell Primary School. In 1873, architect David Thomson was commissioned by Eastwood School Board to build an extension.

By 1906 the school couldn't cope with the number of children requiring education and proposals were drawn up by Eastwood Parish School Board to replace the school with a new building on the same site. On January 9th 1909, Sir John Stirling Maxwell officially opened a modern three storey, red sandstone building built from stone hewn from the Locharbriggs Quarry in Dumfriesshire.

At a cost of £16,600 the new Sir John Maxwell School provided 22 classrooms, heating and ventilation systems and two large central halls that could accommodate up to 550 pupils. Sir Robert Rowand Anderson (architect of Pollokshaws Burgh Hall and Pollok House) was unhappy with the design of the school and commented that it should have been designed in keeping with the Pollokshaws Burgh Hall.

Night classes were also held at the school and from 1908 to 1915 John Maclean taught classes in Marxism.

 *Walk through the car park at the rear of Pollokshaws Burgh Hall, directly in front of the Sir John Maxwell Primary School building (this area was originally know as Crum Street and is now a right of way between Christian Street and Bengal Street). Go through the gate in the wall ahead and turn left.*

12 The Salvation Army Hall

Architect: John H Hamilton (1851-1935)




The Salvation Army Hall was built in 1909 to assist with the ongoing activities of the Army and was also used to provide hot meals and other services for the community. It closed in 2000 and is now a privately run nursery.

On either side of the main entrance are three foundation stones laid by dignitaries on 13th September 1909.

Dr Munro Campbell;
Robert Wilson, ex Provost
of Pollokshaws (1903-
05); Mrs H.E. Gordon of
Aitkenhead; the Chief
Secretary of 'Hallelujah';
John Hamilton, Esq and
Mrs John Bennie of
Auldhousefield.



 *Walk along Bengal Street and cross at the pedestrian lights on Shawbridge Street and turn right. Walk forward and turn left onto Riverbank Street. Walk approximately 100 metres to the gate of the former Kirk Lane Cemetery on the left side.*

13 The Vennel

Opened: 1770



In 1739 a group of Seceders (people who disagreed with the theological direction of the Established Church of Scotland and who left to form an opposing congregation and church.) who had formed a Praying Society in the Parish of Eastwood joined the Associate Presbytery and became instrumental in establishing the first

Secession congregation in Glasgow.

In 1763, these Seceders, who had settled in Pollokshaws, disjoined from the Glasgow congregation to form one of their own. In 1764, they built a church with sittings for 770 and in 1770 a graveyard was laid out around the church. Despite several splits the congregation remained at Kirk Lane until 1871 when they moved into a new church in Leckie Street.

The graveyard is the only place of interment in Pollokshaws and is the final resting place of Robert Burns' daughter Betty and her family.

Elizabeth Burns (1790-1873) married soldier John Thomson in Dumfries on 29th May 1808. John sent his new wife to live with his family in Pollokshaws where he joined her on leaving the army.


Her daughter Margaret (1833-1896) married miner David Wingate (1828-1892) a local poet who was widely known as the 'Collier Poet'. Many of the gravestones are some 230 years old and show the older name of the area as 'Pollockshaws'.



Thomson family gravestone

Other notable figures from Pollokshaws interred in the Vennel are former Provost and Surgeon Thomas Corbett (1778-1855) who was Provost from 1838-44 and 1852-56 and died while in office. He was also a local Councillor and land and property owner in Pollokshaws. The Corbett family have been doctors in the Pollokshaws area for over 6 generations starting with Thomas Corbett in 1820.

Robert Campbell (1797-1877) was a local land and property owner who bequeathed the rental income from two tenements in Pollokshaws Main Street to provide financial support for Pollokshaws Library and a large area of ground to the rear on which a new library could be built. The new Pollokshaws Campbell Library was completed on 4th November 1882.

 *On leaving the graveyard turn right and cross the road, continue along Riverbank Street and as you near Shawbridge Street on your left you will see the weir.*

14 The Weir



Pollokshaws probably grew up around the Meal Mill and the Shaw's Bridge. The weir which was built in 1790's is the only part of the water-powered mill visible today. The remains of the old meal mill can be seen in the photograph below.



 *Return to Shawbridge Street and cross the bridge over the White Cart Water and turn into the lane on the left.*

15 The Meal Mill and Millers House



The grinding of meal was probably the earliest form of industry in Pollokshaws. Every tenant who worked the Pollok Estate was obliged to have their grain ground at the Shaw Mill, which stood on the left bank of the River Cart close to the Shaw Bridge. According to 'Pollokshaws: Village and Burgh' by Andrew McCallum, the Millers house forms the main part of the Pollokshaws Orange Lodge, which relocated here from Pollokshaws Road in 1966. The triangle of ground opposite the Lodge is known as the shilling ground and was provided by the laird for the tenant farmers to winnow the husks from the grain, a practice known as shilling.



 *Return to Shawbridge Street.*

16 The Shilling Ground



Opposite the Millers House is an enclosed triangular area of ground known as 'The Shilling Ground' that was given to the people of Pollokshaws by the Maxwell family. It was here that local farmers would 'winnow' their grain by tossing it into the air for the breeze to blow away the chaff allowing the heavier grain to fall to the ground. This time consuming process was later replaced by machines called 'Fanners'.

The five trees are reputed to commemorate the last five Provosts of Pollokshaws which was an independent burgh before being annexed by Glasgow in 1912, they include Donald McFarlane of Wellmeadow Laundry (1897-1900); David Wright Leckie of Thom & Cameron Ltd (1900-1903); Robert Wilson of John Horn Ltd, printers (1903-1905); James MacDougall, tailor and clothier (1905-11) and finally Robert Stirling Brown of Brown and Adam Ltd (1911-12).

In 1911 a proposal was put to Sir John Stirling Maxwell to take up the office of Provost prior to annexation by Glasgow so the burgh could end its independence as it had begun it with the Laird of Pollok as its civic chief. He declined the offer.



This 1932 photograph of the Shilling Ground with a view along Shawbridge Street illustrates the extent of the 1960's regeneration scheme.

 *Continue forward along Shawbridge Street and on the left is the Pollokshaws United Free Church.*

17 Pollokshaws United Free Church

Architect: Unknown

B Listed



As a result of the disruption in the Church of Scotland in 1843 a large number of members severed their connection with Eastwood Parish Church and formed their own congregation. This congregation worshipped in the open air and then in a joiners shop in Cogan Street until a temporary wooden church was erected in 1847 in Cartcraigs. This became known as the Spale Kirk and they remained here until a new church was built in Shawbridge Street. The church closed in 1994 with the building used primarily as a carpet shop and is now an indoor childrens' playcentre.

 Continue along Shawbridge Street and just after the row of shops on the left is Pollokshaws Parish Church.

18 Pollokshaws Parish Church

Architect: Unknown

B Listed



This church has been in existence since 1843 but its roots go back much further. It was formed from the membership of the original Pollokshaws Secession Congregation that settled in Pollokshaws in 1763 and built the first church in 1764.

When the second minister Rev. Finlay Stewart died in 1841 the membership split over the appointment of his successor resulting in a minority of members forming a separate congregation, which met with the approval of the Synod on 15th September 1842.

The new congregation of the Original Secession Church, as it became known, held its first place of worship in a

schoolhouse with its first minister Rev. James Milne Stewart ordained on the 3rd August 1843. A new church, constructed from Giffnock sandstone to a Georgian design and erected in 1843 still stands here today.

There was further disruption in 1863, when 100 members of the congregation, the elders and the minister emigrated to North Island, New Zealand. The new minister the Rev. William B. Gardner was ordained on 28th July 1864, and the remaining congregation grew in numbers due to their faith and determination.

The present Pollokshaws Parish Church building represents the last Original Secession Church building still in use within the Church of Scotland.

 *Continue along Shawbridge Street and turn left onto Nether Auldhouse Road. Walk along to the pedestrian lights, cross and turn right into Auldhouse Road.*

19 The Drill Hall

Architects: J W Laird & J Laird

In practice 1901-1925?

C Listed



The Eastwood and Cathcart Company of the Renfrewshire Volunteer Rifle Corps was raised in January 1860 with its headquarters in a hall in Cogan Street. Further companies were raised in Thornliebank, Barrhead, Neilston and Hurler and in April 1860 the 3rd Ad. Battalion Renfrew Rifle Volunteer Corps was organised made up of seven companies. In 1880 the Regiment became the 3rd Renfrew Rifle Volunteer Corps with the companies being rated according to seniority, with Pollokshaws identified as 'A' company.

Further changes were to take place in 1887 when the battalion became known as the 3rd (Renfrewshire) Volunteer Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In 1909 the Volunteers

became part of The Territorial Force as the Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders with headquarters in Paisley. The present drill hall was built in Auldhouse Road in which D Platoon of the Royal Highland Fusiliers (RHF) Army Cadet Force still meets regularly.

 *Cross Auldhouse Road at the Drill Hall and continue until you come to Eastwood Church.*

20 Eastwood Parish Church

Architect: Charles Wilson (1801-1863)

David Thomson (1831-1910)

B Listed



The first Eastwood Parish Church was situated in the Eastwood Old Cemetery


until 1781 when it was recognised that a larger church was necessary to accommodate the growth in population in the Pollokshaws, Bogleshall and Auldhouse Bridge areas of the parish.

Auldhouse was chosen as the site for the new church which was opened in 1782. By 1862 a new, more architecturally tasteful church was needed to replace the old unpretentious building and in that year Sir John Maxwell gifted the funds to build a new church on the same site.

Glasgow Architect Charles Wilson (see Southern Necropolis Heritage Trail by Glasgow City Council, Land and Environmental Services) was commissioned to undertake the work and the foundation stone was laid in November 1862 by Walter Crum Esq. of Thornliebank. Walter Crum, who has a memorial window in the church, later made a gift of the church bell made by John C Wilson and Company. Unfortunately, Charles Wilson died before the building was complete and his partner David Thomson undertook completion of the works. The church was opened on 6th September 1863.

Some reconstruction work was undertaken by architect William Baillie (1875-1951) in 1932 which consisted of a modern building containing a large suite of halls in front of the church.

The church has many memorial stained glass windows dating from the 1870's to 1964 which includes work by Guthrie and Wells, J G and C E Stewart.

 *Continue along Thornliebank Road to the pedestrian lights facing Garvock Drive, cross and walk along Garvock Drive taking the first on the right and follow the road round until you come to the Auldhouse.*

21 The Auldhouse

B Listed



Built in 1631 the Auldhouse is of historical importance since it is reputedly the third oldest house in Glasgow, only predated by the Provand's Lordship, near Glasgow Cathedral and Provan Hall in the east end of the City.

Like many older buildings it was used by a religious order and in its cellar are niches in the walls, said to be used by monks as places to sleep. The house came into the ownership of the Maxwell family who

leased it out. The lintel from the original fireplace is still in the building and bears an inscription in old Scots which reads:

'The body for the soul was framed, this house the body for, In heaven both my named is framed, In bliss my God to adore' (1631)

The local area was heavily wooded and probably gave rise to the use of local names such as Eastwood, Westwood and Mansewood.

 *Return to Thornliebank Road via Garvock Drive and walk approximately 500 metres downhill to the Well meadow area until you come to Wellmeadow Road on your left.*

22 The Laundry

Architect: John H Hamilton (1851-1935)



Pollokshaws had a laundry business at Govanhaugh as early as 1833 which became the Greenholm Laundry. In 1891, the more famous Wellmeadow Laundry

was relocated from Newton Mearns to Pollokshaws by future Provost Donald McFarlane, a one time employee at the Newlandsfield Bleach Works.

The business was established in Harriet Street, and carpet beating and French cleaning were later added to the firm's operations. The works were destroyed by fire in 1902 and reconstructed on the same site on a considerably larger scale. The bell-gable frontage was the only one of its kind in the Pollokshaws area. Built in 1899 as part of the original building it remained a feature until damaged by storms c.1997. It was removed by Glasgow City Council for fear of collapse.

Before the laundry arrived there had been bleachfields laid out for the sun to whiten the cloth, and employees had to stand by to take in the cloth if it rained. Today the Sunlight Laundry operates from this building. They rent and launder linen for the hotel trade.



 Continue along Thornliebank Road toward the multi storey block of flats to the left of the roundabout, known as Cartcraigs.

23 Cartcraigs



Cartcraigs was the site of the old Eastwood Parish School. It was in 1790 that Eastwood Kirk Session took the decision to move the parish school from its original site at Bogle's Bridge to a new site at Cartcraigs. Bogle's Bridge or Bogle's Hall was a village stretching south from Shaw's Bridge to Cross Street at the old Toll House. As Pollokshaws grew through the establishment of industry it absorbed

both Bogle's Bridge and the neighbouring village of Auldhouse.

The head teacher at both the Bogle's Bridge and Cartcraigs school was Alexander Loudon. His name appears alongside the name of the school on the 1796 map of the County of Renfrew by John Ainslie (1745-1828) and the 1795 map of the City of Glasgow and environs by Thomas Richardson (1772-1829).

The Reverend Stevenson McGill, author of the Statistical Account for the Parish of Eastwood written in 1796, remarks that Mr Loudon enjoyed a salary of 100 Scots pounds which came with free house and garden. He oversaw the teaching of 105 fee paying pupils in English at a cost of 2 shillings per quarter, writing 2s 6d, arithmetic 3s, book-keeping at one guinea, mathematics 5s and Latin 4s. The school also provided board for 17 pupils at £20 per annum. Mr Loudon was followed as head teacher by Mr Archibald McIntyre, who was later succeeded by his son Robert McIntyre.

Cartcraigs became Kennishead Road but the present alignment of the junction with Barrhead Road was laid out during the 1960's regeneration of Pollokshaws. To gain an understanding of the changes this area has gone through, look at the tree in the main photograph above, it is the exact same tree as the one seen

between the two taller trees in the centre of the photograph below of the Toll and Cartcraigs taken in 1910.



 *look toward the roundabout and the round Tollhouse.*

24 The Round Toll

B Listed



The Tollhouse, located on the roundabout, was built in c.1750 when tolls to assist road-building were introduced. Farm produce, cattle and coaches travelling between Glasgow and Ayrshire passed through the busy Toll with monies collected through the still visible small window. A small plaque on the wall of the Methodist Church gives a historical description.

Once licensed as a hostelry, the Tollhouse thrived on the days of the annual Pollokshaws Races, which were an integral part of the Pollokshaws Fair. The Tollhouse has been floodlit as part of Glasgow City Council's Lighting Strategy for the city.



 *Cross to the right hand side of Thornliebank Road on the opposite side of the roundabout and then cross Nether Auldhouse Road to the Methodist Church.*

25 The Methodist Church

Architects: Glasgow Corporation



Pollokshaws Methodist congregation was established in 1880 and at first held service's in the Tontine Hall in King Street until 1883. They commissioned Paisley-born architect John Gordon (1835-1912) to build a church, at a cost of £1100, at

the corner of Cross Street and Barrhead Road.

In the mid 1960s the site occupied by the building was required for road widening and was acquired by Glasgow Corporation Roads Department. The present church, which opened in 1967, was built on ground to the north of the original building.



 *Further along from the Methodist Church is a row of tenements.*

26 Afton Terrace

Architect: Unknown



This building of four closes is one of five old style good quality tenements to survive the Pollokshaws redevelopment scheme of the 1960s. Three of the five are mentioned above, the fourth is Mannering Court which is in the same area as the Swan Inn (see No.2).

In the Glasgow Valuation Roll of 1913/14 the proprietor is Glasgow Tobacco Manufacturer Stephen Mitchell (1789-1874). Stephen Mitchell's family had been involved in the manufacturing of tobacco in his home town of Linlithgow since 1723 and in Glasgow since 1825. He left the residue from his estate to the City of Glasgow to establish a large reference library known today as the Mitchell Library, the largest reference library in Europe.

A tenant of number one Afton Terrace in the 1913/14 valuation roll is reporter Andrew McCallum, author of 'Pollokshaws: village and burgh 1600-1912'.

 Continue along Pollokshaws Road towards Pollokshaws Burgh Hall. On the left you will notice Pollokshaws West Railway Station.

27 Pollokshaws Railway Station

B Listed



The Glasgow, Barrhead and Neilston Direct Railway was incorporated by an Act of Parliament on 4th August 1845. On the 2nd July 1847 the company purchased the Glasgow Southern Terminal Railway and subsequently the board of directors – which included Sir John Maxwell – leased both companies in perpetuity to the Caledonian Railway Company.

The British Rail network was made up of over 100 different companies and was brought under state control during the First World War. This continued until 1921 when in order to stem losses by many of the companies the Government considered the complete nationalisation of the railways. This idea was rejected, but the companies were grouped together on a regional basis to form four large companies

which came into effect on 1st January 1923. The Caledonian Railway Company itself was amalgamated into the London Midland and Scottish Railway in the 1921 Railways Act. Complete nationalisation of the railways was subsequently carried out after the Second World War through the 1947 Transport Act.

Pollokshaws Station was built by the Glasgow, Barrhead and Neilston Direct Railway in 1847 and opened on 27th September 1848. The lower floor was constructed as houses for the Station Master and other railway employees, with the ticket office and other rooms above at platform level. Passengers could wait on each platform in a coal fired waiting room. It is one of the oldest station buildings in the city. It was renamed Pollokshaws West Station on 5th May 1952.

28 **Railway Viaduct**

Engineer: Neil Robson (1807/8-1869)

B Listed



The viaduct was completed on 5th October 1847 as part of the Glasgow, Barrhead & Neilston Direct Railway. The engineer was Neil Robson (c1808-1869). It is a viaduct of three skewed and two straight ashlar (a facing of dressed stone) arches which carries the railway over the River Cart and the driveway that leads to Pollok House.

Neil Robson was born in Ayrshire and worked as a civil engineer and surveyor, surveying the mineral workings in Lanarkshire and Ayrshire. He was appointed engineer for the Glasgow, Barrhead and Neilston Direct Railway in 1844.

He was also responsible for the Glasgow to Dumbarton and Helensburgh line which opened in 1858 and the Lesmahagow Railway which opened up the mineral

fields in and around Hamilton, Dalserf and Lesmahagow.

He was a director of the Forth and Clyde Navigation Company and carried out many smaller engineering works such as bridges, roads and waterworks. He built the St Andrews suspension bridge across the Clyde at Glasgow Green.

 *From the Railway Station it is a short walk to Pollokshaws Burgh Hall and the end of the trail.*

We hope that you enjoyed your walk through our community and that you return again in the near future.

Pollokshaws Heritage Trail Site List.

1. Pollokshaws Burgh Hall.
2. The Swan Inn.
3. The Bank Building.
4. The Stag Building.
5. St Mary Immaculate.
6. St Conval's School.
7. The Toonhouse.
8. John MacLean 1879-1923.
9. The Library.
10. The Baths and Steamie.
11. Sir John Maxwell Primary School.
12. The Salvation Army Hall.
13. The Vennel.
14. The Weir.
15. The Meal Mill and Millers House.
16. The Shilling Ground.
17. Pollokshaws United Free Church.
18. Pollokshaws Parish Church.
19. The Drill Hall.
20. Eastwood Parish Church.
21. The Auldhouse.
22. The Laundry.
23. Cartcraigs.
24. The Round Toll.
25. The Methodist Church.
26. Afton Terrace.
27. Pollokshaws West Railway
Station.
28. Railway Viaduct.

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Acknowledgements

This Trail has been produced by Paul O’Cuinn on behalf of Pollokshaws Heritage Group.

Pollokshaws Library holds an archive of information on Pollokshaws history which is freely available on request. A selected list of sources has been provided many of which can be consulted at the Mitchell Library and Glasgow Archives.

Pollokshaws Heritage Group would like to thank the officers of Glasgow City Council with special thanks to June Bell and Linda Devlin. Thanks also to Iain Paterson and Raymond Morrison, Glasgow City Council, Development and Regeneration Services; Jim Sime, Service Manager at Sunlight Textile Services and the members of the Pollokshaws Orange Lodge. A special mention also to Harry McColl and George Rountree of Pollokshaws Heritage Group.

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The Trail was produced with the support and financial assistance of Glasgow City Council Newlands/Auldburn Area Committee.

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