

Greenock InSpires

CHURCH TRAIL

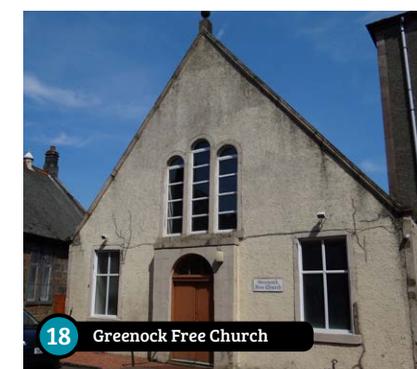
Inverclyde Council

A CELEBRATION OF CHURCH HISTORY, HERITAGE AND PEOPLE

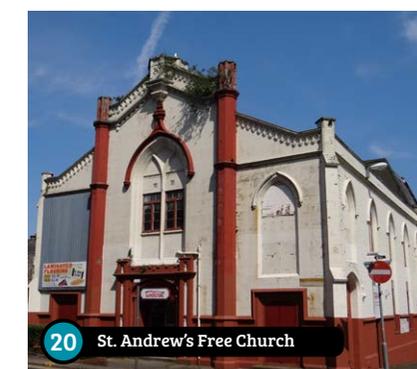
- 1 St. Columba's Gaelic Church
- 2 St. Mary's Church
- 3 Lyle Kirk - Esplanade Building
- 4 Lyle Kirk - Newark Street Building
- 5 The Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints
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- 13 The Mount Kirk
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- 24 Greenock Town Hall



16 Greenock West United Reformed Church
 George Square, PA15 1QP
 United Reformed -1839-40 John Baird. Formerly George Square Congregational. United with Nelson Street EU Congregational Church. Tudor Gothic rectangle with well detailed ashlar façade. Church has vaulted ceiling and fine stained glass windows. Also has pipe organ.



18 Greenock Free Church
 14a, Jamaica Street, PA15 1XX
 Former Free Church -1844. Congregation left established church 1843 and held services in Duncan Street burial ground. Moved to St. Thomas 1910. Congregation now worship in Gaelic Free building behind St. John's. These two buildings are joined.



20 St. Andrew's Free Church
 West Stewart Street, PA15 1SH
 Formerly United Free Church - 1835 John Henderson. Tudor Gothic building, costing £4000. In 1843 minister and congregation left Church of Scotland. 1879, new building (now demolished) erected and original bought by local grocer. Currently owned by furniture company. (Now Pyper's Furniture)

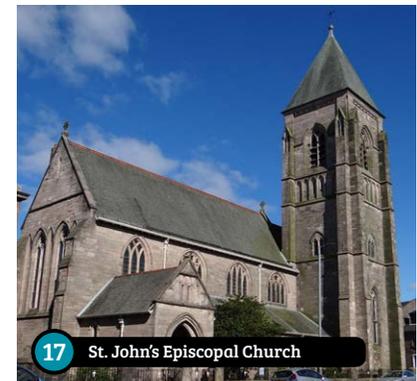
Directions

On leaving the Masonic Temple return to West Stewart Street. Continue east passing a row of shops on your right. Cross (with care) at the busy junction (High Street), turn right into Sir Michael Place and then left into Tobago Street.

Walk east along Tobago Street.

Cruden Hall is above a bar/diner on the right hand side.

Entrance on Ann Street.



17 St. John's Episcopal Church
 Union Street, PA16 8JJ
 Scottish Episcopal -1878 Paley & Austin. Gothic Revival tower with pyramidal roof on north east corner. Four bay nave with clerestory. Rood screen designed by H. O. Tarbolton. Font is copy of 15th century font in Suffolk. www.stjohnsgreenock.co.uk



19 Struthers Memorial Church
 West Stewart Street, PA15 1SH
 Independent Evangelical Christian Fellowship -1896 J.B. Stewart. Sandstone with Gothicised mouldings -formerly Reformed Presbyterian Church. Founded 1950s by Rev Hugh Black. Named after Rev J.P. Struthers, minister and Christian author. Fellowship has several churches throughout Scotland. www.struthers-church.org



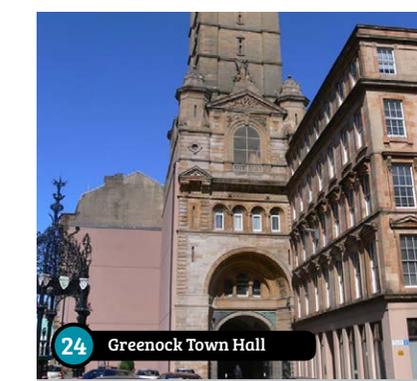
21 St. John's Masonic Temple
 West Stewart Street, PA15 1SN
 Masonic Lodge - 1897 Boston Menzies and Morton Red sandstone (Skelmorlie quarry) building. Tablet outside commemorates laying of foundation stone. Past members' portraits inside. Interior has remained unchanged over the years. Lodge Greenock St. John's No 175 meets regularly here. Enter by Bubbly Jock Brae.



22 Cruden Gospel Hall
 Ann Street, PA15 4RQ
 Previously Gospel Hall - 1888 architect unknown. Public Hall, capacity 300. Has been dance hall (late 19th century), cinema (1911-1930) and a Gospel Hall (1950s-1970s). Currently a venue for weddings and other private functions. www.crudenhall.co.uk



23 Wellpark Mid Kirk
 Cathcart Square, PA15 1LS
 Church of Scotland - 1759 (refurbished 1878) James Ewing (interior). Handsome classical building with an Ionic portico and steeple modelled on St. Martin's in the Fields in London. Known as the 'Toon Kirk', as originally the minister's stipend was paid by Town Council. The seat at the front of the Gallery is reserved for the Provost. There are galleries on three sides of the interior which seats over 1000. Stained glass windows and several memorials and marbles are of interest. The Mid Kirk united with Wellpark West Church to become Wellpark Mid Kirk. www.wellparkmidkirk.com



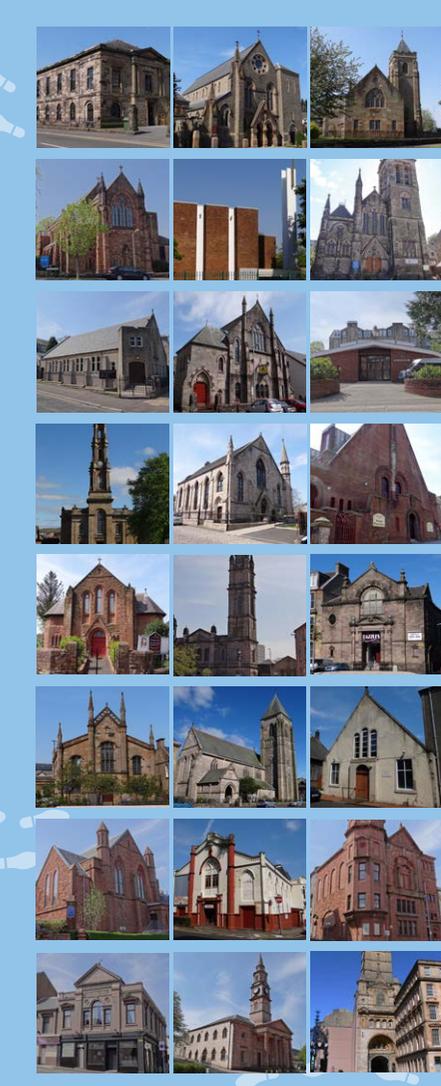
24 Greenock Town Hall
 Clyde Square, PA15 1LY
 1879-1886 H. & D. Barclay. Used as a church when required, particularly for large celebratory or commemorative services. Part of Municipal Buildings. Three small towers and the Victoria Tower (245 feet high). Town Hall, seats 1000 on three levels and occupies ground floor.

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This is a self guided heritage walking trail of churches of central Greenock. It is not totally comprehensive. Some of the buildings may be open to the public. More information about each building can be found on its website. Further information on buildings etc. is available from the drop down menu 'What's in Inverclyde' at www.inverclydetouristgroup.co.uk



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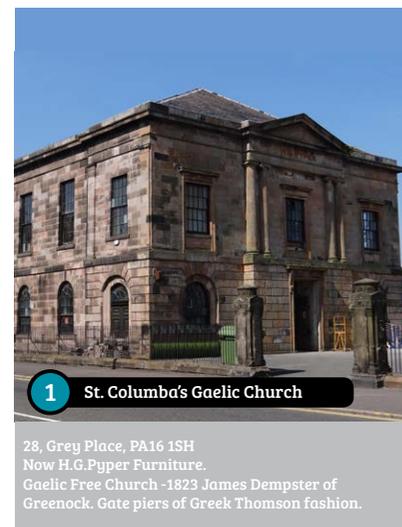
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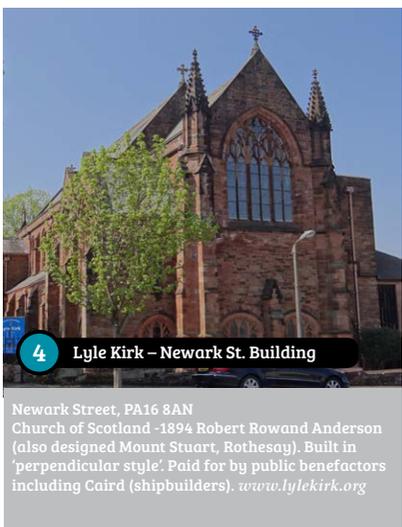
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1 St. Columba's Gaelic Church
28, Grey Place, PA16 1SH
Now H.G.Pyper Furniture.
Gaelic Free Church -1823 James Dempster of Greenock. Gate piers of Greek Thomson fashion.



3 Lyle Kirk - Esplanade Building
The Esplanade, PA16 8AN
Church of Scotland - formerly Old West Kirk. Originally built off Container Way in 1591. Funded by John Schaw. Important as it is the first Protestant church built in Scotland after the Reformation. Notable collection of Pre-Raphaelite stained glass windows.
Moved stone by stone to Esplanade in 1925 when Harland and Wolff needed to purchase a yard on the Clyde. Graves also relocated and the remains of family members of James Watt and Highland Mary were respectfully carried and interred in the Cemetery in South Street. www.lylekirk.org



4 Lyle Kirk - Newark St. Building
Newark Street, PA16 8AN
Church of Scotland -1894 Robert Rowand Anderson (also designed Mount Stuart, Rothesay). Built in 'perpendicular style'. Paid for by public benefactors including Caird (shipbuilders). www.lylekirk.org



6 Lyle Kirk - Union St. Building
Union Street, PA16 8DD
Church of Scotland - 1871 (redesigned 1951) J. Starforth. One large stained glass window (smaller ones also). Carvings of the 'Devil' being chased out by the 'Good', above main entrance. Built at cost of £779. www.lylekirk.org



8 Greenock Methodist Church
4, Ardgowan Street, PA16 8SP
Methodist - 1883, Manse added 1889. Simple Gothic Revival Building. Organ added 1905. Multipurpose hall, stained glass windows. John Wesley visited area 1772 and 1774. www.methodistchurchinscotland.net



10 Westburn Church
9, Nelson Street, PA15 1TP
Church of Scotland -1841 as West Parish Church (roots traced to 1591). Previously known as West Church, Old Kirk and St. Luke's. Steeple added 1855 - Chancel added 1912. McCulloch's clock added 1865. www.greenockwestburn.org.uk



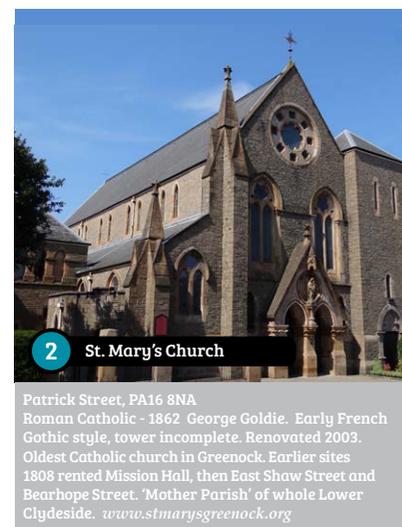
11 Orangefield Baptist Church
Orangefield, PA15 1YX
Baptist - 1877 Thomas McLelland. Joined with George Square Baptist and has now moved to the former St. Andrew's Square building (East End) Now The Albany Arts Centre. www.greenockbaptist.org www.thealbany.info



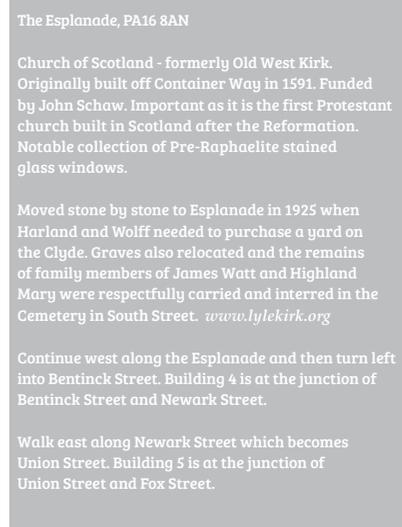
13 The Mount Kirk
95, Dempster Street, PA15 4ED
Church of Scotland - 1910. Red sandstone building. (Wee Red Kirk). Interior functional woodcarving with pulpit falls having an industrial theme. Present building is the former Mount Pleasant Free Church. www.themountkirk.org.uk



14 St. George's North Church
George Square, PA15 1QP
Former Church of Scotland -1870 Salmon Son & Ritchie. Joined with Martyrs & North Church 1983, merged with St. Luke's 2006. Large ashlar round arched Renaissance building with tall stone steeple with open crown top and channeled ground floor. Now furniture warehouse.



2 St. Mary's Church
Patrick Street, PA16 8NA
Roman Catholic - 1862 George Goldie. Early French Gothic style, tower incomplete. Renovated 2003. Oldest Catholic church in Greenock. Earlier sites 1808 rented Mission Hall, then East Shaw Street and Bearhope Street. 'Mother Parish' of whole Lower Clydeside. www.stmarysgreenock.org



5 The Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints
22, Fox Street, PA16 8BS
Mormon - late 1960s. Largest Latter-Day Saints' church in Scotland, being built over three floors. Greenock branch of Paisley Stake of Mormon Churches. Walk east along Newark Street which becomes Union Street. Building 5 is at the junction of Union Street and Fox Street. www.churchesofgod.info



7 Ardgowan Square Evangelical Church
25, Ardgowan Square, PA16 8NH
Formerly United Free Church - 1930 Architect unknown. Small building, extended in 1998. See church website for details. www.ardgowanchurch.org



9 Cedar Hall, Church Of God
3-5, Ardgowan Street, PA16 8SP
Church of God - Cedar Hall is noted as a place of Christian worship and religious service. Fellowship is the realisation in practical terms of the prayer of Jesus Christ for his followers that they may be one. www.churchesofgod.info

Directions
On leaving Building 10 proceed along Nelson Street to junction with Inverkip Street.
Continue across Inverkip Street (with care) and you will see Building 11 directly in front of you.
Proceed up Orangefield Lane.



12 St. Patrick's Church
Orangefield Place, PA15 1YX
Roman Catholic - 1924-25 Antonio Coia. Cost £21,000. In the war years the Women's Guild provided much needed support to the community. Church built to relieve congestion at St. Mary's Church, Patrick Street. www.stpatricksgreenock.org

Directions
Leave Building 13 and turn right on to Murdieston Street, then right on to Dempster Street.
Walk east along Dempster Street to junction of Mount Pleasant Street. Turn left and go downhill as far as the West Rail Station.
Turn right into Inverkip Street and just after passing an old cemetery turn left into West Shaw Street.
At the junction of West Shaw Street and Nelson Street turn right along Nelson Street to George Square. Building 14 is on the corner.



15 George Square Baptist Church
George Square, PA15 1QP
Former Baptist Church -1888 James Sellars. Simple Renaissance style with squared rubble ionic pilasters at doorway with broken pediment. Joined with Orangefield Baptist Church 2008. Congregation worship at former St. Andrews Square UF Church - St. Andrew's Square Greenock. This building is now a dance studio.