

Greenock InSpireS

CHURCH TRAIL

A CELEBRATION OF CHURCH HISTORY,
HERITAGE AND PEOPLE



Inverclyde
Tourist Group



Inverclyde
council

Greenock InSpireS

CHURCH TRAIL

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HERITAGE AND PEOPLE

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Greenock InSpires CHURCH TRAIL

A CELEBRATION OF CHURCH HISTORY,
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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






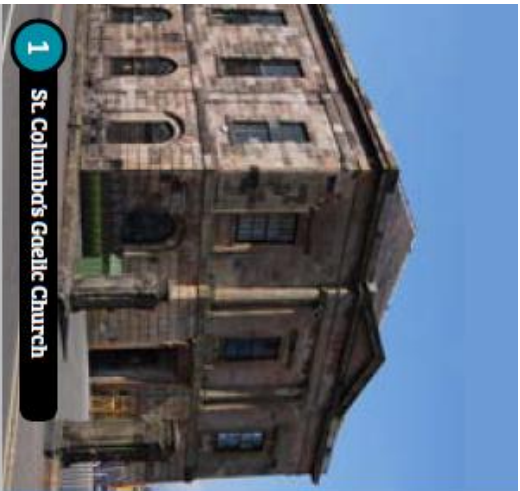
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1 St Columba's Gaelic Church

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 Contaner Wog 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. Groves 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

Continue west along the Esplanade and then turn left
into Benrinck Street. Building 4 is at the junction of
Benrinck Street and Newark Street.

Walk east along Newark Street which becomes
Union Street. Building 5 is at the junction of
Union Street and Fox Street.



4 Lyle Kirk - Newark St. Building

Newark Street, PA16 8AN
Church of Scotland - 1894 Robert Row and Anderson
(also designed Mount Stuart, Borthesay). Built in
'perpendicular style'. Paid for by public benefactors
including Caird (shipbuilders). www.lylekirk.org



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 Shew Street and
Beaurope 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.



6 Lyle Kirk – Union St. Building

Union Street, PA16 8DD
Church of Scotland - 1871 (redesigned 1951)
J. Sturforth. 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 – 1889. 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



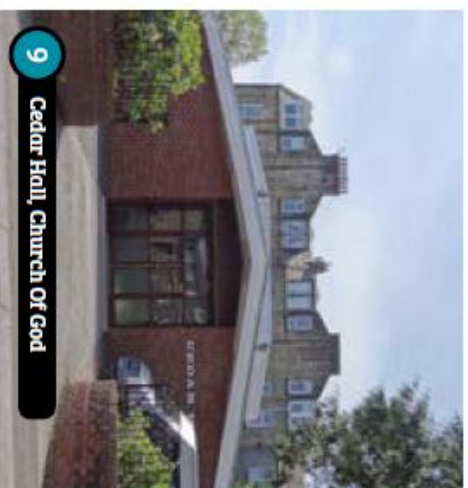
10 Westburn Church

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



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.



11 Orangefield Baptist Church

Orangefield, PA 15 11X
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.thealbanyinfo



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 Marygys & 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.



12 St. Patrick's Church

Orangefield Place, PA15 1YX
Roman Catholic - 1924-25 Antonio Gola.
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 U.F. Church - St. Andrew's Square Greenock.
This building is now a dance studio.



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 facade. Church has vaulted ceiling and fine stained glass windows. Also has pipe organ.



18 Greenock Free Church

14a, Jamaica Street, PA15 2XX
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 Pypers Furniture)



17 St John's Episcopal Church

Union Street, PA16 8JJ
Scottish Episcopal -1878 Poling & 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.B. 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 775 meets regularly here. Enter by Bubbly Jock Brce.

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.



22 Cruden Gospel Hall

Ann Street, PA15 4BQ
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

Directions

To get to Wellpark Mid Kirk and the Town Hall. Continue east, across the car park and turn left at the end into a lane where you will emerge into Cathcart Square.



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 murals 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.

