



In 1998, the Smith republished Blind Harry's Wallace after it had been out of print for 150 years. On 12 March 2002, the day when Stirling achieved city status, Burns' famous Stirling lines were inscribed in slate at the entrance to the museum. Originally engraved on glass by Burns, a copy can be seen in the display. Visitors can learn about the Mauchline ware (souvenir wood ware) industry stimulated by interest in Burns, Wallace and Bruce in the nineteenth century. The Stirling Smith is in Dumbarton Road, the old military road between the castles of Stirling and Dumbarton.

## 2 RUDECROFT, 28 ALBERT PLACE, DUMBARTON ROAD

A private house with carved stone heads of Burns and Sir Walter Scott framing the main door. The house is built on land formerly belonging to the Church of the Holy Rude. Architect John Allan customised the house for the client. His own house at 32 Albert Place, in the same street, is plainer.

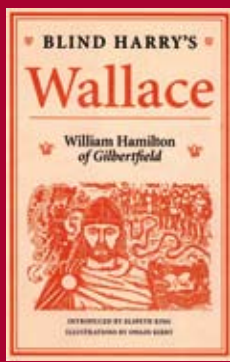
Produced by the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, 1759 - 2009. Photography: Michael Lyon and the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, with additional images from Colin Hunter McQueen. Designed and printed by Heather Ann Dowd Ltd. Produced with funding from Stirling Burns Club, the Stirlingshire Educational Trust and the William Harvey Trust.

The Stirling Burns Club was instituted 1886, joined the Burns Federation in 1892 and is number 50 on the roll of Burns Clubs. There are many flourishing Burns Clubs throughout Stirlingshire today.



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many references to heroic Wallace in Burns' poems, including *The Vision*, *The Cottar's Saturday Night*, *Ode to General Washington* and *Parcel O'Rogues*. Burns used the Wallace book almost as a guide book, visiting the places mentioned in the text.

Much of the appreciation of the achievement of Wallace was transmitted nationally, through the poetry of Burns, from the eighteenth century onwards. Burns with many others believed that Wallace was born in the Kyle district of Ayrshire. King Robert Bruce was born in neighbouring Carrick, and all Ayrshire people were proud of the association. Geography and history decreed that the victories of Wallace and Bruce for Scotland's freedom were won at Stirling, a message driven home by the poetry and songs of Burns. The names of Burns, Wallace and Bruce became inextricably linked with Stirling.

## 1 STIRLING SMITH ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM

The Smith has a collection of pictures and artefacts relating to Wallace, Bruce and Burns. Two of the plasters from the Stirling Burns statue, the walking stick of Dr. Doig, a portrait of Burns made for the centenary of his birth and a fireclay garden urn from the centenary of his death are among the artefacts on permanent display.

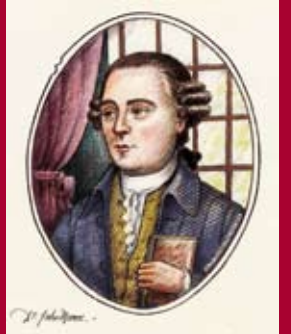


Scotland's national poet Robert Burns (1759-1796) made two visits to Stirlingshire in August and October 1787. These were brief, but of lasting importance. Burns had a keen appreciation of the central significance of Stirling in Scotland's history, and this is reflected in some of the songs and poems written or collected by him. *These include Scots Wha Hae, By Allan Stream, the Bob O'Dumblane and Hughie Graham.*

This leaflet indicates places within the City of Stirling which have a Burns association, and seeks to highlight the way in which Stirling people have been associated with, or have honoured the Poet and celebrated his works.

## WALLACE, BURNS AND STIRLING

*The first two books I ever read in private, and which gave me more pleasure than any two books I ever read again, were, The Life of Hannibal and The History of Sir William Wallace... the story of Wallace poured a Scottish prejudice in my veins, which will boil along there till the floodgates of life shut in eternal rest.* (Robert Burns, autobiographical letter to John Moore, August 1787.)



The long autobiographical letter by Robert Burns to Dr. John Moore (1729-1802) is a main source for the life and thought of the Poet. It is important to note that Moore was born in Stirling. An army doctor, he was a well-known writer and author of the novel *Zeluco*. Burns was introduced to him by Mrs Frances Anna Wallace Dunlop who claimed descent from Wallace.

The Wallace book owned by Burns was William Hamilton of Gilbertfield's 1722 translation of the medieval Scots epic by Blind Harry, written in the 1480s. This was a source of inspiration to Burns throughout his life, and there are

## 3 STIRLING BURNS STATUE

One of the finest public Burns statues, it was funded by Provost David Bayne and commissioned from sculptor Albert Hemstock Hodge (1876-1918). It is composed of a bronze figure on a tall granite plinth, with bronze plaques illustrating *The Vision*, *The Cottar's Saturday Night*, *Tam O'Shanter* and *Burns at the plough*, round the base.



Hodge, who trained at the Glasgow School of Art, was a distinguished sculptor. Other public commissions by him include work for the Glasgow International Exhibition of 1901, the figures on the Anderston Savings Bank, the Wallace Monument Elderslie, Wellbeck Abbey and the town halls of

Cardiff, Glamorgan, Hull and Deptford. He was the main sculptor for the Manitoba Legislative Building in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

The statue was unveiled on 23 September 1914, just after the outbreak of the Great War. A wreath is laid here by the Stirling Burns Club on the Poet's birthday, every 25th January.



## 4 MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

These were completed in 1918, after the Great War. Provost Bayne also funded the decoration on the entrance hall fireplace, where the clock is carved with four lines from *Man was made to mourn*.



## 5 STIRLING LIBRARY

Now Central Library. Corn Exchange was opened in 1904 through the gift of philanthropist and patriot, Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919). Carnegie also contributed the bust of Burns by D. W. Stevenson, the first to be installed (1886) in the National Wallace Monument. Stirling Library is the home of the collection of Scottish chapbooks made by William Harvey (1874-1936). Harvey had a profound understanding of the work of Burns through the chapbooks, and his *Robert Burns in Stirlingshire* (1899) is still a standard reference work.

## 6 CLYDESDALE BANK BUILDING KING STREET / CORN EXCHANGE



Architect James Thomson, 1899-1900. Among the many faces from Scottish history on this richly-carved red sandstone building, that of Robert Burns is recognisable. He looks up Spittal Street.



# Burns and Stirling

*An anniversary guide for visitors*





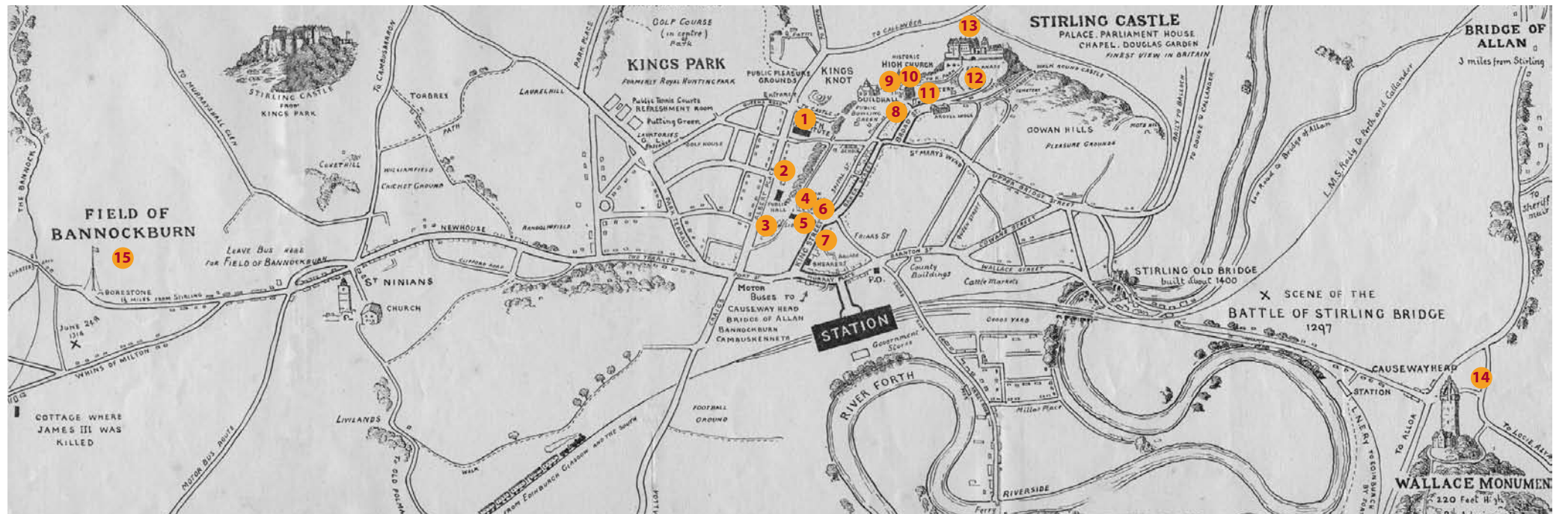
## 7 GOLDEN LION HOTEL

King Street. This was built by architect Gideon Gray for James Wingate in 1786 in what was then Quality Street. Burns stayed here in 1787 and engraved his famous Stirling Lines on one of the window panes. He was forced to break the glass because the message was unpopular. Two years later, when seeking government employment he was "question'd like a child about my matters and blamed and schooled for my inscription on a Stirling window". Across the road from the Golden Lion at 7 King Street was the publishing house of Eneas Mackay which in the period 1890 – 1920 had one of the best publication lists in Scotland on the works of Burns.



## THE STIRLING LINES

*Here Stewarts once in glory reign'd,  
And laws for Scotland's weal ordain'd;  
But now unroof'd their palace stands,  
Their sceptre fallen to other hands;  
Fallen indeed, and to the earth,  
Whence grovelling reptiles takes their birth;  
The injured Stewart line is gone.  
A race outlandish fills their throne;  
An idiot race, to honour lost-  
Who know them best, despise them most.*



## 10 TOMBSTONE OF BLACK RUSSELL HOLY RUDE BURIAL GROUND

This is on the west end, at the back of Holy Rude. Russell featured in other poems by Burns, including *The Two Herds*, *The Ordination* and *The Kirk's Alarm*. In 1886, the tombstone was restored and the connection with Burns inscribed on it.

## 11 THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

(Now the Portcullis Hotel). One of the people with whom Burns spent time in Stirling was Dr. Doig (1719 - 1800) Rector of the Grammar School. Burns described him as "a queerish figure and something of a pedant". This building was built as a school and dwelling house for him in 1788, the year after Burns' visit to Stirling.

## 12 CASTLE ESPLANADE

This was not laid out until the 1820s. It was a rough area in Burns' time, but the view inspired him to write to a friend that

*... just now, from Stirling Castle, I have seen by the setting sun the glorious prospect of the windings of the Forth through the rich Carse of Stirling*



These ten lines summarise the ruinous condition of the palace and castle, where the ceiling with the Stirling Heads collapsed in 1777. The town also lost its sense of purpose after the removal of the royal court to London in 1603 and was in a sad condition in the time of Burns.

## 8 THE TOLBOOTH, BROAD STREET



It was here that Burns was mobbed by a group of local people who came out to see the famous Poet, shouting to each other 'Burns! Burns!' The Tolbooth at that time was the town house, court and prison for Stirling.

Note the plaque on the wall to the weavers John Baird and Andrew Hardie, executed on 8 September 1820. It was during 1819-1820 that *Scots Wha Hae wi' Wallace bled* became the political hit song for the times. Burns when he wrote it was thinking of "struggles not quite so ancient" and the weavers, carrying on the same struggle for political rights, sang it throughout Scotland. Baird and Hardie, beheaded in front of the Tolbooth, have always been regarded as martyrs like Wallace, whose sentence (hanging, drawing, quartering and beheading) they shared.

## 13 STIRLING CASTLE

Burns was entertained by Captain Forrester of the Castle, with Christopher Bell, a singing teacher, and Dr. Doig, Rector of the Grammar School. In Edinburgh, Burns had admired the beauty of Jane Ferrier (1767-1846) who later married General Graham, Deputy Governor of Stirling Castle. Jane Ferrier published the book *Lacunar Strevilinense* (1817) on the famous Stirling Heads, the loss of which Burns had deplored in his *Stirling Lines*.



Dr David Doig

## 14 WALLACE MONUMENT



In Burns' time, there were small memorials to Wallace everywhere. "Wallace trees in the woods, Wallace caves in the glens/ Wallace seats in the hills, Wallace stones in the plains/ On the face of the country is graven his fame/ For tradition links all with the patriot's name." In 1861-1869, the national Wallace Monument was built on Abbey Craig. The first bust to be placed in the Hall of Heroes was that of Robert Burns. The main fund raiser for the Monument, the Reverend Dr. Charles Roger was a Burnsian and joint author of the *Book of Robert Burns*.

The Tolbooth is now a centre for music and the arts. In celebration of the Burns anniversary, they have commissioned a work by composer Adrian Sherwood with the title *I murder hate*. This is from a short anti war song by Burns: I murder hate by field or flood/ Tho' glory's name may screen us/ In wars at home I'll shed my blood/ Life-giving wars of Venus. The deities that I adore/ Are social peace and plenty/ I'm better pleased to make one more/ Than be the death o'twenty.

## 9 THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY RUDE



The Reverend Charles Moore, father of Dr John Moore, was minister here 1718-1736. Later, the Reverend John Russell was minister from 1800 until his death in 1817. Burns immortalised him as "Black Russell" in his poem *The Holy Fair*, when Russell was Minister in Kilmarnock:

*His piercing words, like Highlan swords  
Divide the joints and marrow  
His talk o' Hell, whare devils dwell  
Our vera sauls does harrow*

## 15 BANNOCKBURN

Only the Bore Stone marked the battlefield in the time of Burns, who "said a fervent prayer for old Caledonia over the hole of a blue whin-stone, where Robert de Bruce fixed his royal standard on the banks of Bannockburn". In 1793, he wrote *Robert Bruce's Address to his Army* which begins *Scots Wha hae wi' Wallace bled*, to the tune of *Hey, tuttie, taite*. There was a widespread tradition that the tune was used by Bruce in 1314 and by the Scots soldiers who helped Joan of Arc raise the siege of Orleans in 1429.

For two centuries, it has served as the unofficial national anthem of Scotland, written by Burns who was drawing his inspiration from Blind Harry's *Wallace* and the beautiful Stirling landscape.

From the time when Burns was alive, the people of Stirling have been celebrating his work. Perhaps the biggest Burns supper in town was that held by the Miners' Institute in 1930, when 400 people attended.



Burns supper, Argyll Bar, Murray Place, 1952