

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS IN PENICUIK'S HISTORY



c.1510

Uttershill Castle built - it was expanded in the 17th century.



1654

John Clerk buys the Penicuik Estate - the Clerk family once owned most of the land in the local area.



1709

Valleyfield paper mill was established by Agnes Campbell - the start of 266 years of papermaking in Penicuik.



1771

The new kirk was built at the top of the High Street by Sir James Clerk in a classical design.



1775-76

Esk Mills, Scotland's first cotton mill, was established - it was later converted to papermaking.

1779

Charles Cowan purchased Valleyfield Paper Mills. The Cowan family managed the business until shortly before it was sold to the Reed Group in 1965.



1811-15

During the Napoleonic Wars the papermills were taken over by the Government to house thousands of prisoners of war of many nationalities.



1864

The Cowan Well was built to commemorate Alexander Cowan's legacy which had provided the funds to pipe clean water from the Sillerburn to Penicuik.



1889

The Mauricewood Pit Disaster - Midlothian's worst mining disaster when 63 men and boys lost their lives.



1894

The Cowan Institute, built from Alexander Cowan's legacy, opens. It became Penicuik Town Hall in 1963.

1968

Eskmills, the second largest papermill in Scotland, closed.

1975

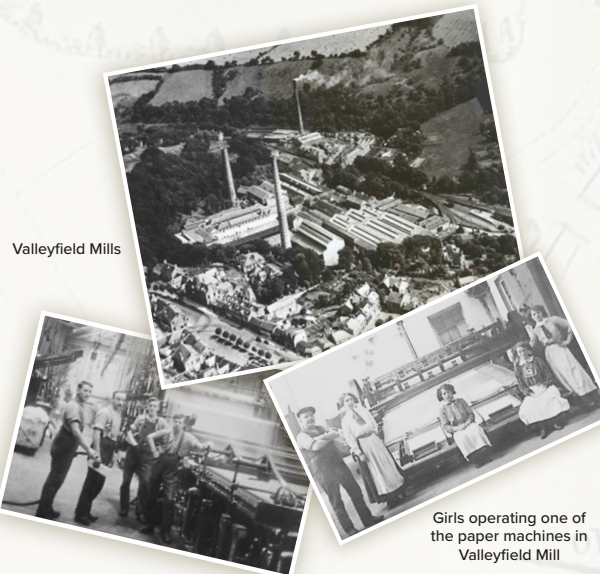
Valleyfield Mills, the largest papermill in Scotland with a worldwide business and reputation for quality, closed.



2004

Dalmore Mill at Auchendinny, the last of the papermills on the Esk, closed.

Penicuik made paper, paper made Penicuik



Valleyfield Mills

Girls operating one of the paper machines in Valleyfield Mill

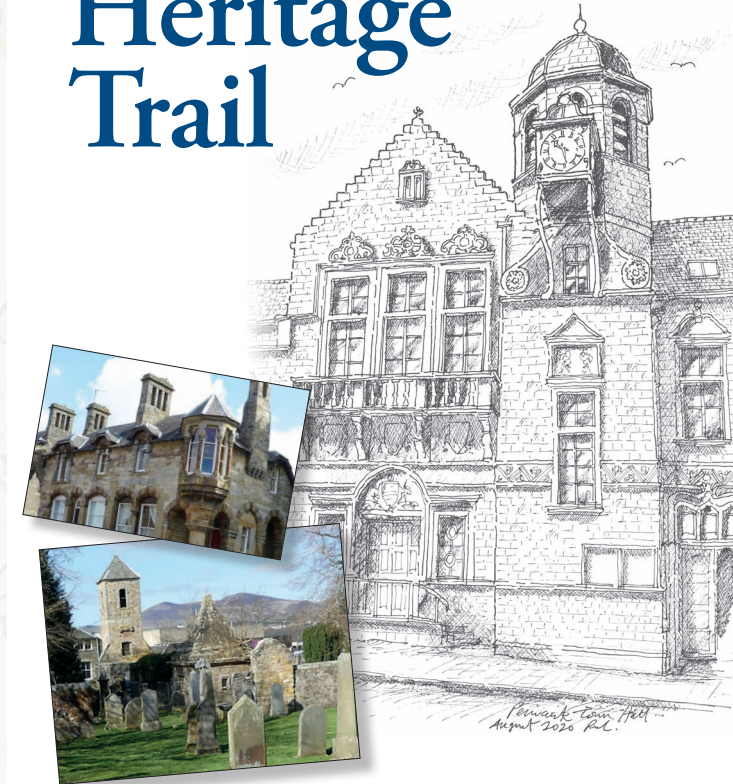
Workers by the papermaking machine

Penicuik
Heritage
Regeneration



Penicuik Townscape Heritage (TH) and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS)

Penicuik Heritage Trail



Penicuik Community Development Trust



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

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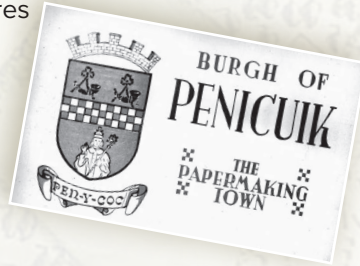
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For the source of leaflet illustrations (Sir Robert Clerk, Penicuik Historical Society, Penicuik Community Development Trust, Midlothian Council Local Studies, Rod Lugg) please see Hearse House Exhibition and Heritage Trail Panels. Additional photos and sketches by Rod Lugg, Penicuik Heritage Regeneration.

A plan of the walk with places of interest marked is shown overleaf.

Welcome to Penicuik's Heritage Trail

The Heritage Trail explores Penicuik's conservation area and provides information about the history of this former papermaking town.



Evidence of settlement in the local area has been found dating back to at least the Bronze Age. A church establishment was first noted in the 12th century. Tradition links Penicuik to St Mungo, the affectionate name for St Kentigern.

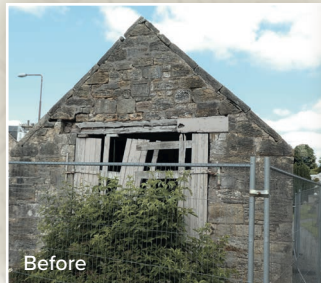
The old kirk, belfry tower and mausoleum in the churchyard are scheduled ancient monuments. The Clerk Mausoleum, which is of significant architectural interest, was completed in 1684 by Sir John Clerk, 1st Baronet, in memory of his wife. Sir John Clerk's father had purchased the Penicuik lands in 1654.



Today the Penicuik Estate is one of the most important 18th century designed landscapes in Scotland and the 1760s Neo-Palladian Mansion, now a ruin after a fire in 1899, is regarded as one of the finest examples of this style of architecture.

The Heritage Trail Exhibition

The Heritage Trail Exhibition is located in the restored Hearse House which was erected in 1800 to house the 1761 horse-drawn hearse. It is a listed building of historic and architectural interest and was on Historic Environment Scotland's 'Building at Risk Register' prior to the restoration work. Built of local sandstone with a slate roof, it now has a new purpose as an exhibition centre.



The Hearse House contains nine exhibition boards and a model of the Clerk Mausoleum. The boards provide information about the Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project 2018 - 2024, a timeline featuring important events and people as well as historical facts about the town. There is also information about the



natural history of the area, the church and churchyard, trade and commerce and the history of papermaking - Penicuik was 'The Papermaking Town'.

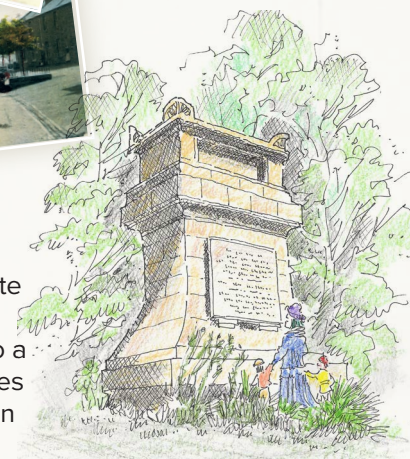
The Heritage Trail

The Heritage Trail starts in the churchyard at the information panel situated close to the Hearse House. There are five more information panels on the trail which takes you past historic buildings and sites of importance. On the way you will pass the Papermaking Museum and The Pen-y-coe Press, a vintage stationers, where customers can step back in time!

The timeline on the cover gives some of the main dates and events in the town's history.



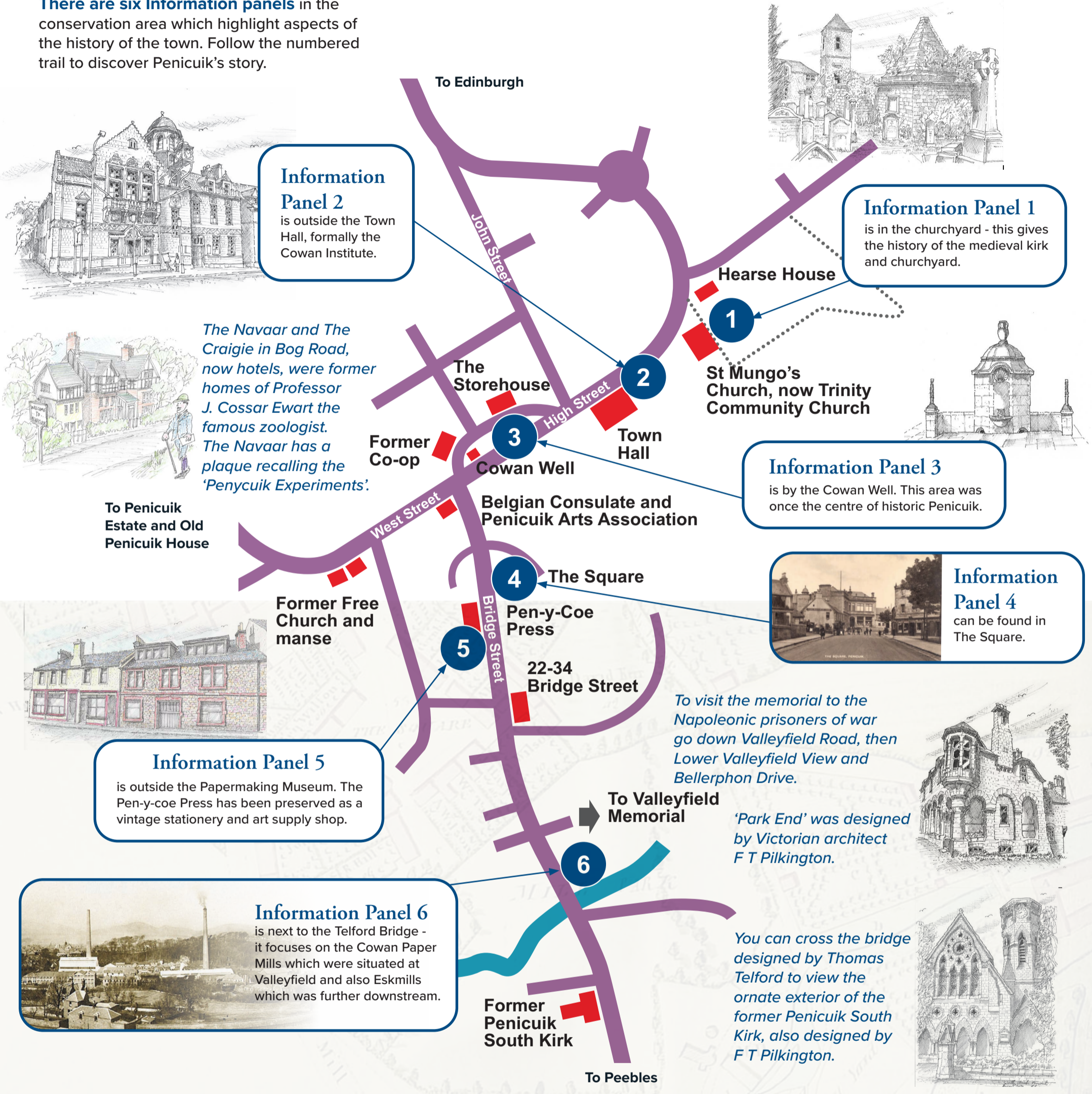
The Heritage Trail plan, overleaf, shows the route with the information panels marked and also a note of interesting places outwith the conservation area and trail.



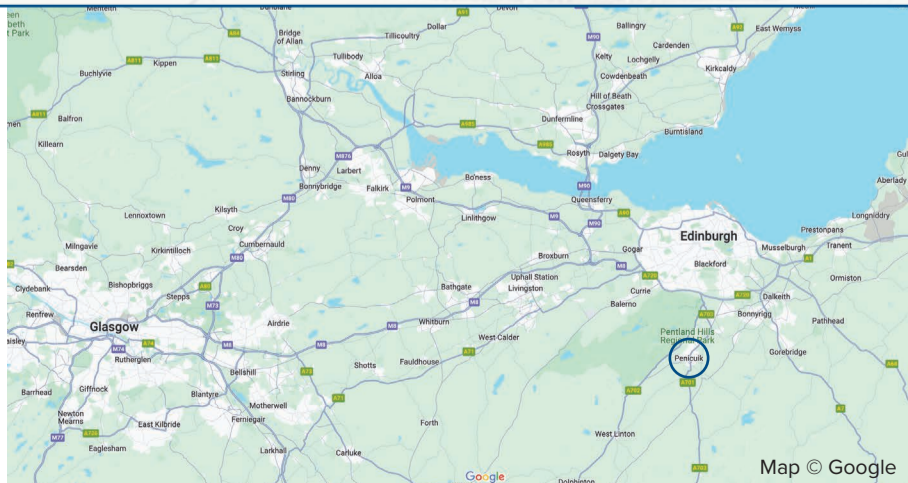
Welcome to the Penicuik Heritage Trail

The trail starts in the churchyard at the **Hearse House Exhibition Centre** where you can discover aspects of Penicuik's history and heritage. As well as the illustrated exhibition boards there is a model of Clerk Mausoleum - a scheduled ancient monument. Please see the notice for the Exhibition Centre opening times.

There are six **Information panels** in the conservation area which highlight aspects of the history of the town. Follow the numbered trail to discover Penicuik's story.



Penicuik, see map, can be easily accessed from Edinburgh and surrounding towns using public transport, cycle ways and walking routes. Convenient parking is available locally.



The Hearse House Exhibition Centre has limited opening hours, please see the notice on the door of the Hearse House for opening times.