



[ GOUROCK ]

Inverclyde  
council

## INTRODUCTION

Local authorities are responsible for maintaining a register of all the known archaeological sites in their area. A small proportion of these are protected as Scheduled Monuments which are listed in a separate schedule, but many others merit protection for their regional or local importance.

The records for all of these archaeology sites in Inverclyde were transferred from the West of Scotland Archaeology Service in 2013. Currently there are 634 recorded archaeology sites. This schedule contains details of all the sites within the Gourock area. There are also schedules for Greenock, Port Glasgow, Kilmacolm/Quarrier's Village, Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.

Each record sheet contains site details including the site name(s), grid reference, monument type, the date the site was first recorded, which parish it was located in, a location map, available background details and a Canmore reference number. Canmore is the online catalogue to Scotland's archaeology, buildings and industrial and marine heritage. It can be accessed to carry out searches, through the Historic Environment Scotland website at:

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/learning-resources/canmore/>

Anyone with details of potential archaeological sites in Inverclyde that they think could be worthy of investigation should contact Margaret Pickett from our Planning Policy team on 01475 712493, or send us an email to [devplan.planning@inverclyde.gov.uk](mailto:devplan.planning@inverclyde.gov.uk)

## ARCHAEOLOGY SITES IN GOUROCK

LOCATION	CANMORE REFERENCE
<b>A</b>	
Ashton, Gourrock (Burgh)	198589
<b>C</b>	
Cove Road and Cardwell Road, Gourrock (Fountain)	199312
Craigard House, 29 Barrhill Road, Gourrock (House)	79835
Castle Levan, West Lodge, Gourrock (Lodge)	196591
<b>D</b>	
Drumshantie, Gourrock (Extractive Copper Mine)	240157
Drumshantie Rifle Range, Gourrock (Military Rifle Range)	240342
<b>F</b>	
Fort Kempock, Kempock Street, Gourrock (Military Battery – possible)	240339
<b>G</b>	
Gallow Hill (Rig Field Banks)	254113
Gantock Hotel, Coch Road, Gourrock (Hotel)	142718
Gasworks, Gourrock (Gasworks)	41321
Gourrock (Fundamental Bench Mark)	315671
Gourrock (Rock Carving – possible)	332023
Gourrock (Spearhead)	41320
Gourrock Castle (Castle)	41325
Gourrock (Town, burgh)	75368
Gourrock Castle, Bath Street (Castle)	240284
Gourrock Golf Course (Flakes)	41318
Gourrock Golf Course (Cup and ring markings)	41328
Gourrock Golf Course (Cup markings)	41329
Gourrock Golf Course (Cup markings – possible)	41330
Gourrock House (Country House)	41322
Gourrock Park (Burial Vault)	332045
Gourrock Park (Quern)	332014

<b>H</b>	
Hopeton Street, Gourock Bay (Roman Coin)	41317
<b>J</b>	
Jubilee Drinking Fountain, Albert Road, Gourock (Fountain)	199284
<b>K</b>	
Kempock St, Gourock (Standing Stone)	41326
Kempock Point, Gourock Station (Station)	120366
<b>L</b>	
Levan Castle, Gourock	41324
<b>M</b>	
Midton, Gourock (Burgh)	198729
<b>P</b>	
Pulpit Rock, Gourock (Decoy Site)	270377
<b>R</b>	
24 Rosemount Place, Gourock (Carved Rock – covenanter preaching site – possible)	Unknown
<b>S</b>	
Shore Street, Council Offices, Gourock (Municipal Buildings)	198864
<b>T</b>	
Tower Hill, Gourock (Anti-aircraft battery)	119856

Archaeology Site – Gourock	
Site Name: Ashton, Gourock	
Alternative Name:	
Grid Reference: 223270 677050	Parish: Inverkip
Monument Type: Burgh	
Date Recorded:	Canmore Ref No. 198589

Archaeology Note

None



Archaeology Site – Gourock	
Site Name: Cove Road and Cardwell Road, Gourock	
Alternative Name:	
Grid Reference: 225119 677297	Parish: Inverkip
Monument Type: Fountain	
Date Recorded: Unknown	Canmore Ref No.199312

Archaeology Note

None



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Craigards House, 29 Barrhill Road, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Barr Hill	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223740 677380	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> House	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 2 August 2001	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 79835

### Archaeology Note

Circa 1875. 2-storey, attic and raised basement 5-bay Italianate villa set in steeply sloped garden. Pink sandstone, ashlar front, squared and snecked stugged rubble to rear and sides. Raised margins; bracketted overhanging eaves cast-iron antefixae to eaves gutter. NW (FRONT) ELEVATION: Corinthian-columned porch to right of centre with entablature are dentilled cornice and sculptured lions on low pedestals flanking, cavetto-moulded round-arched door-surround and 2-leaf panelled door. Corniced windows to centre and left bay; round-arched windows at 1st floor. Outer bays with 3-storey canted windows with half-piend roofs, chamfered reveals, basket-arched at 1st floor. Canted dormer with piended roof to centre. NE ELEVATION: central wallhead stack; single window. SW ELEVATION: central wallhead stack. Timber sash and case windows with plate glass glazing. Piended slate roof with metal flashings; 2 copped wallhead stacks (see above). INTERIOR: richly ornamented with elaborate ceiling/cornice plaster- and timber work. BOUNDARY WALLS AND GATEPIERS: low rubble wall to front and coped gatepiers.

Built for John Richardson of R & J Craig, owners of the 'County' shipping line. The house is said to have had a ship's steam heating system installed in the basement. There is a tradition linking this building with the Capital Building in Texas, USA, allegedly built in 1883 by Scots masons using stone similar to that of Craigard.

Information courtesy of Mrs G Rutherford, Neil Doherty of Gourock West Association and Scottish Civic Trust. Derived from HS Listed Buildings data.





Archaeology Site – Gourock	
Site Name: Castle Levan West Lodge, Gourock	
Alternative Name:	
Grid Reference: 221514 676478	Parish: Inverkip
Monument Type: Lodge	
Date Recorded: Unknown	Canmore Ref No. 196591

Archaeology Note

None

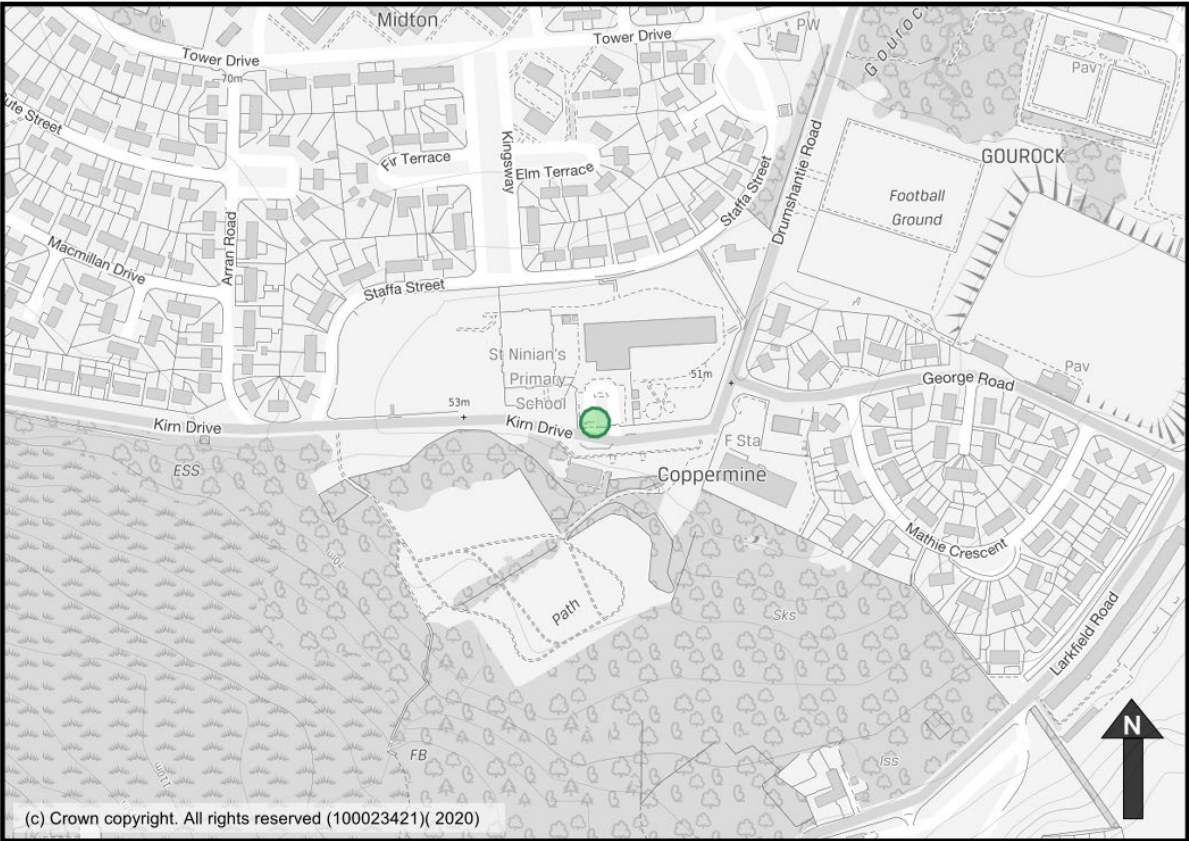


<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Drumshantie, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Copper mine, Kirn Drive	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224039 676621	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Extractive copper mine	
<b>Date Recorded:</b>	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 240157

**Archaeology Note**

A disused copper mine is depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Renfrewshire, 1863, sheet i) to the S of the Gourock Burn in what is now a housing estate named 'Coppermine'. One roofed and one small unroofed building are shown to the E of a small dam and pond.

The copper mine had been worked by an English Company c.1780. Another small outcrop of copper ore was found at the S end of Coves Reservoir (centred NS 2490 7640), but not in sufficient quantities for commercial working (Milne 1958)



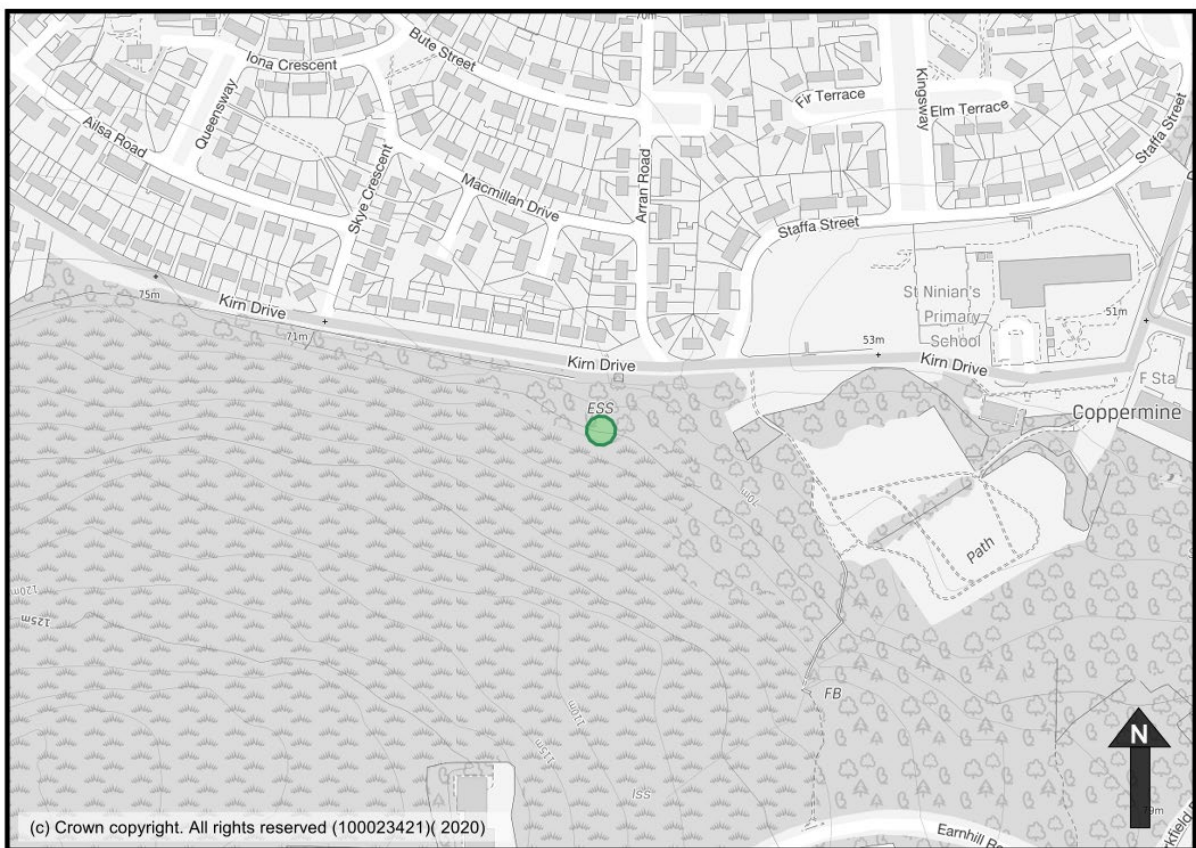
**Further Reading**

Milne, C - The story of Gourock 1858-1958, Gourock, (1958)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Drumshantie Rifle Range, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223731 676572	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Military Rifle Range	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> March 2003	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 240342

### Archaeology Note

A rifle range is depicted on the 2nd edition of the OS 6-inch map (Renfrewshire, 1898, sheet i) about 150m W of Drumshantie farmstead. The targets were at NS 23731 76572 with three firing positions to the N, spaced at about 88m intervals. A hut with a path leading to the targets is also shown at NS 23679 76622. The range was used in the 19th century by the 1<sup>st</sup> Renfrew and Dumbarton Royal Garrison Artillery (Volunteers), [Grierson 1909]. The whole range has now been built over by the Midton Housing Estate.



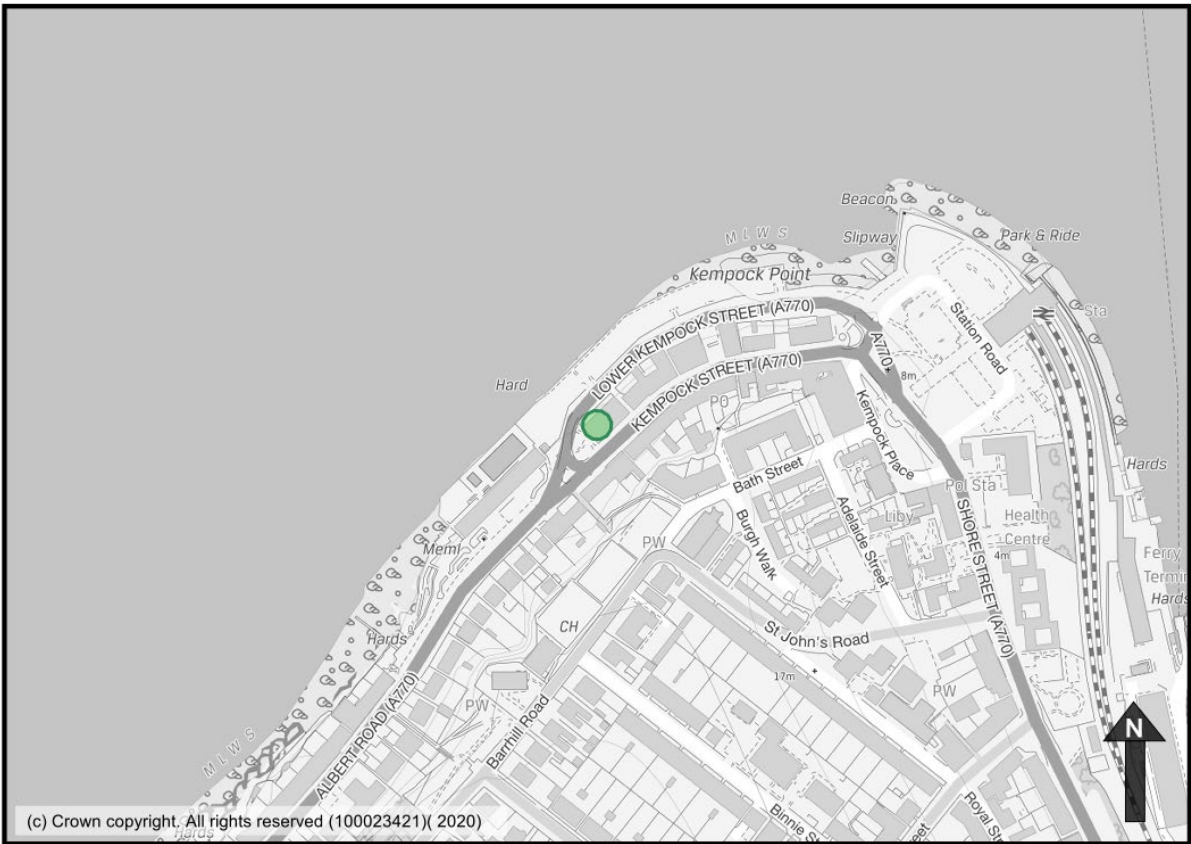
### Further Reading

Grierson, Lt Gen JM - Records of the Scottish Volunteer Force, 1859-1908, Bath 1972 (1972)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Fort Kempock, Kempock Street, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223996 677861	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Military Battery - possible	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> March 2003	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 240339

**Archaeology Note**

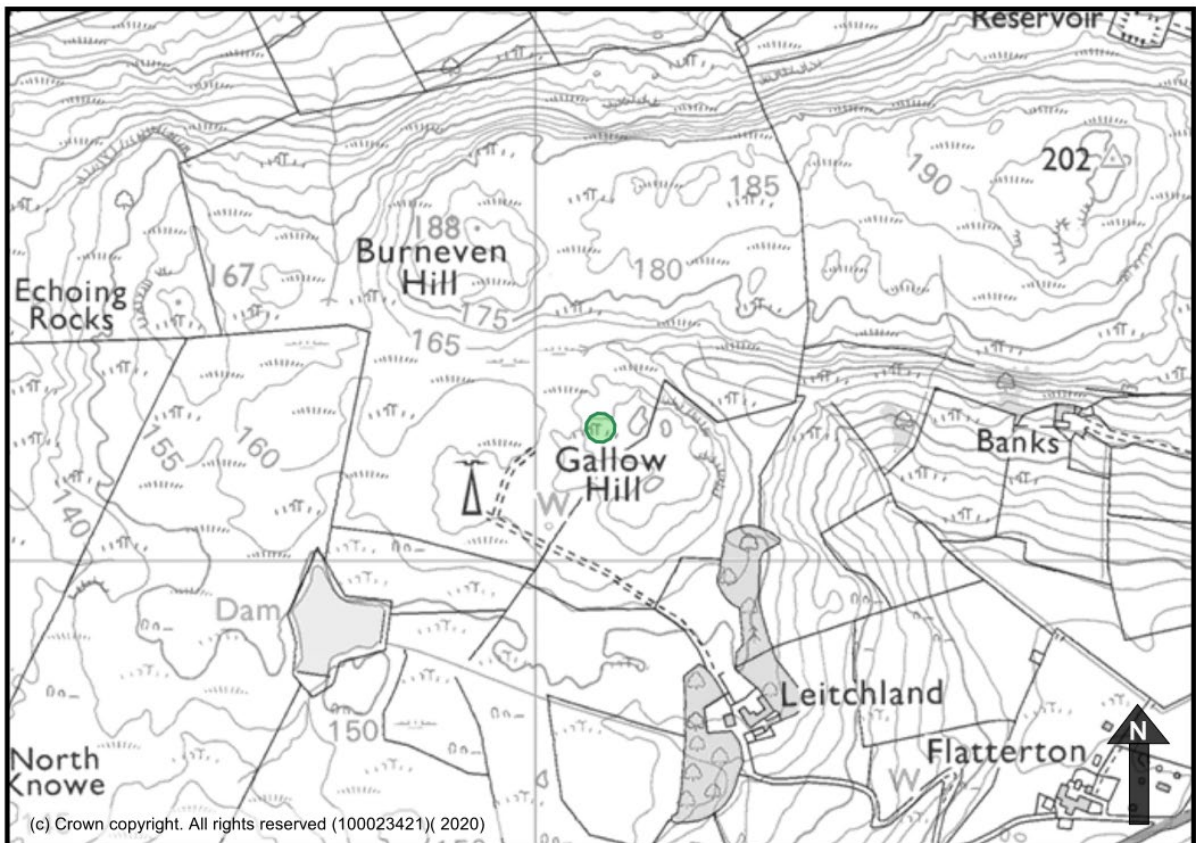
Possible 19th century volunteer battery. Depicted as 'Fort Kempock' on the 1st edition of the 25-inch OS map (Renfrewshire1863, sheet i).



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gallow Hill, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 222100 675170	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Rig, Field Banks	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 17 May 2004	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 254113

### Archaeology Note

Several small blocks of narrow, slightly curving rig, set amongst a network of field banks have been recorded on oblique aerial photographs (RCAHMSAP 2002).



Archaeology Site – Gourock	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gantock Hotel, Cloch Road, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 221260 676350	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Hotel	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 142718

**Archaeology Note**

None



Archaeology Site – Gourock	
Site Name: Gasworks, Gourock	
Alternative Name:	
Grid Reference: 224125 677765	Parish: Inverkip
Monument Type: Gasworks	
Date Recorded: Unknown	Canmore Ref No. 41321

Archaeological Note

None



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223966 677474	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Fundamental Bench Mark	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 27 November 2012	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 315677

### Archaeology Note

One of the Ordnance Survey's network of Fundamental Bench Marks (FBMs), of which there are some 194 across the UK, built between 1911 and the early 1950s. These FBMs are critical to maintaining the height data for the UK. Should a FBM be threatened it should be noted that OS are to be informed as soon as possible, and they will come and create a new one nearby, at their own cost, before the threatened one is lost. The Ordnance Survey should be contacted if an FBM falls inside the boundary, or within 30m of the boundary of a proposed development upon completion, or if an FBM falls inside the boundary, or within 30m of the boundary of the "construction area" or any other temporary area of a proposed development.

The FBM will be visible above ground level as a small granite pillar, topped with a gun-metal bolt, and with a name-plate fixed to one face. This is intended as a marker only, with the real bench-mark being located in a chamber below ground level.

Within this chamber, and covered with iron covers, will be a gun-metal bolt and a polished flint bench-mark, both set within fine granolithic concrete bedded on firm rock.

The 10-figure grid reference supplied by the Ordnance Survey does not match the text description of the location (Given NGR lies outside specified garden, while FBM is in the garden). However, a feature marked by a small no-scaleable conventional arrow symbol is depicted inside the garden of No. 16 Broomberry Drive approximately 1.4m NE of the rear fence-line on current O.S. mapping, which corresponds closely with the text description of the FBM location.



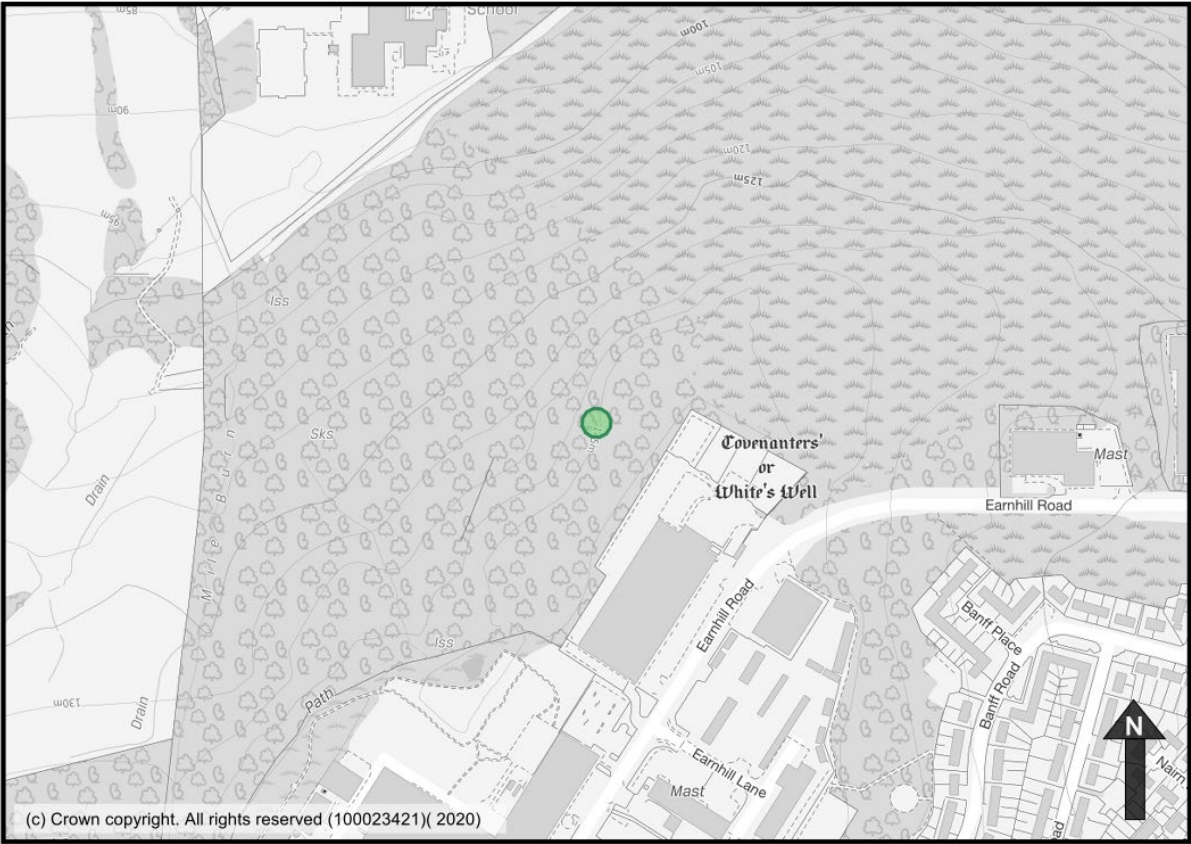


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<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223231 676300	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Rock Carving	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 11 April 2007	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 332023

**Archaeology Note**

Worn rock carving, possibly of a horse within a large semi-circle groove. The image has been carved at the base of a large slab. It appears at first to be upside down and is only apparent when standing on the rock or from the top end of the slab.

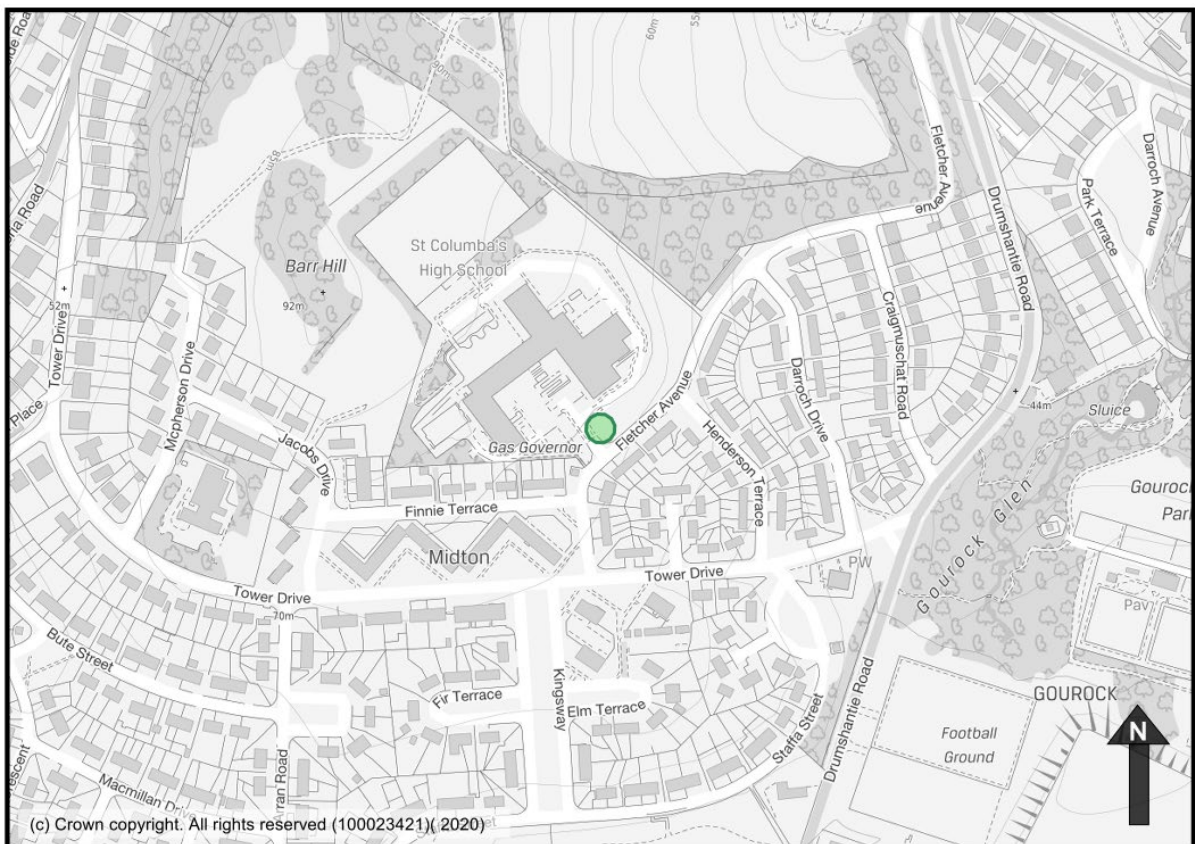


<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224000 677000	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Spearhead	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41320

### Archaeology Note

A Middle Bronze Age spearhead (Coles' type E) from Gourock (NS 2477) which was exhibited in Glasgow in 1911, is in Greenock Museum. It is 10 1/8ins long.

J M Coles 1966; Palace of History 1911



### Further Reading

Palace of History -Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art and Industry, Glasgow (1911):  
Palace of History Catalogue of Exhibits, in Glaister, J et al. (eds.), Glasgow (1911)

Coles, JM - 'Scottish Middle Bronze Age metalwork', PSAS, Vol 97, 1963-4, pp.82-156.(1966)

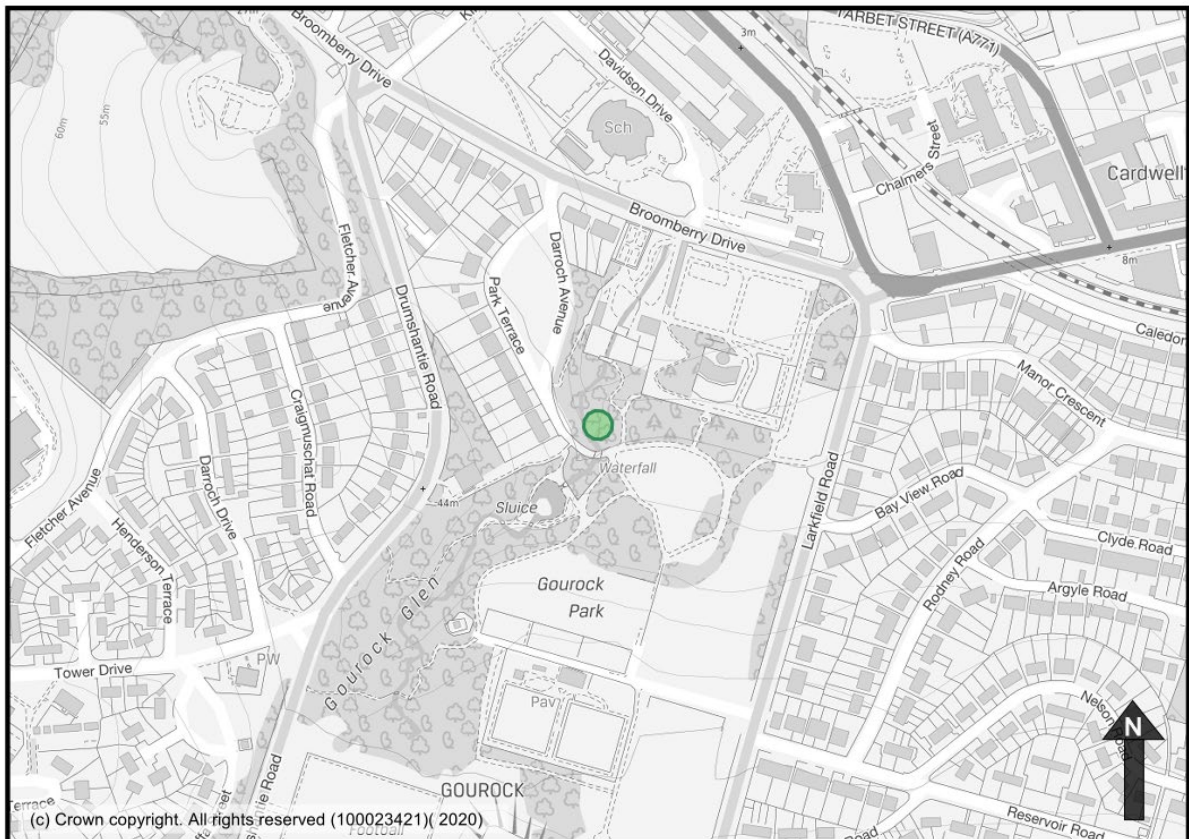
<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Castle	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224433 677079	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Castle	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41325

### Archaeology Note

Gourock Castle, the seat of the barony of Finnart-Stewart, stood above the town of Gourock; it was pulled down about 1747. In 1856, the site was pointed out by Major Darroch (proprietor), who stated that a few stones, visible near the edge of the Gourock Burn, formed part of the original foundations. In the reign of James II (1437-60) it was forfeited by the Earl of Douglas and passed to the Stewarts of Castlemilk.

G Crawford and W Semple 1782; Name Book 1856

No trace of the castle building remains. The site is marked by a small, flat-topped mound. Visited by OS (JD) 23 July 1955



### Further Reading

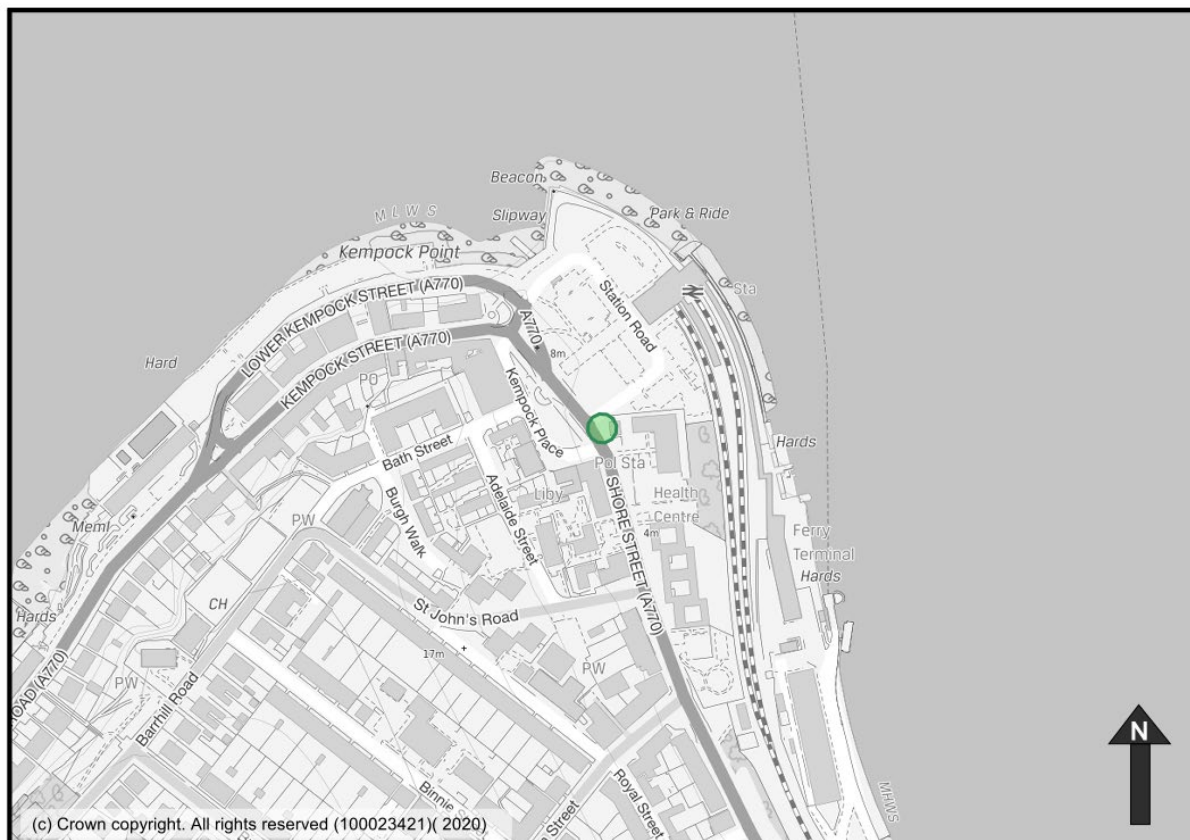
Ordnance Survey, Name Book (County), Original Name Books of the Ordnance Survey (n/a)  
Crawford and Semple, G and W History of the shire of Renfrew (1782)

Milne, C - The story of Gourock, 1858-1958, Gourock (1958)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224380 677530	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Burgh, town	
<b>Date Recorded:</b>	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 75368

### Archaeology Note

Erected burgh of barony in 1694.  
G S Pryde 1965.



### Further Reading

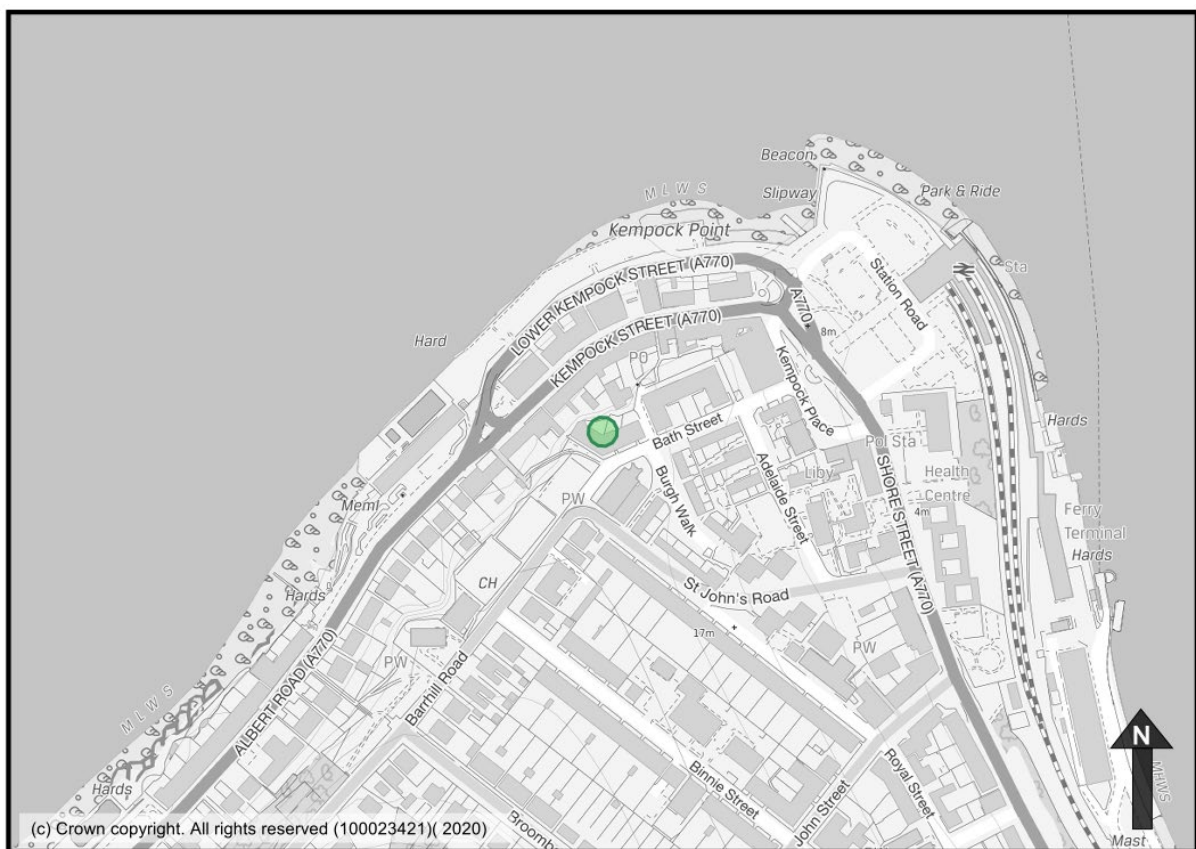
- Simpson, G G (ed.) Scotland's medieval burghs: an archaeological heritage in danger. Edinburgh (1972)
- Pryde, G S The burghs of Scotland: a critical list. London. (1965)
- Ramsay, P Views in Renfrewshire, with historical and descriptive notices. Edinburgh. (1839)
- Round the Coast, Round the coast: an album of pictures from photographs of the chief seaside places of interest in Great Britain and Ireland, London (1895)
- Milne, C The story of Gourock, 1858-1958, Gourock (1958)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Castle Bath Street, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224060 677820	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Castle	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 240284

### Archaeology Note

For original Gourock Castle see NS27NW 4, for Gourock House see NS27NW 15  
 Built about 1840 by a Captain Dalzell. Demolished at the beginning of the 20th century. Site is now occupied by Castle Mansions and Castle Gardens.

C Milne 1958



### Further Reading

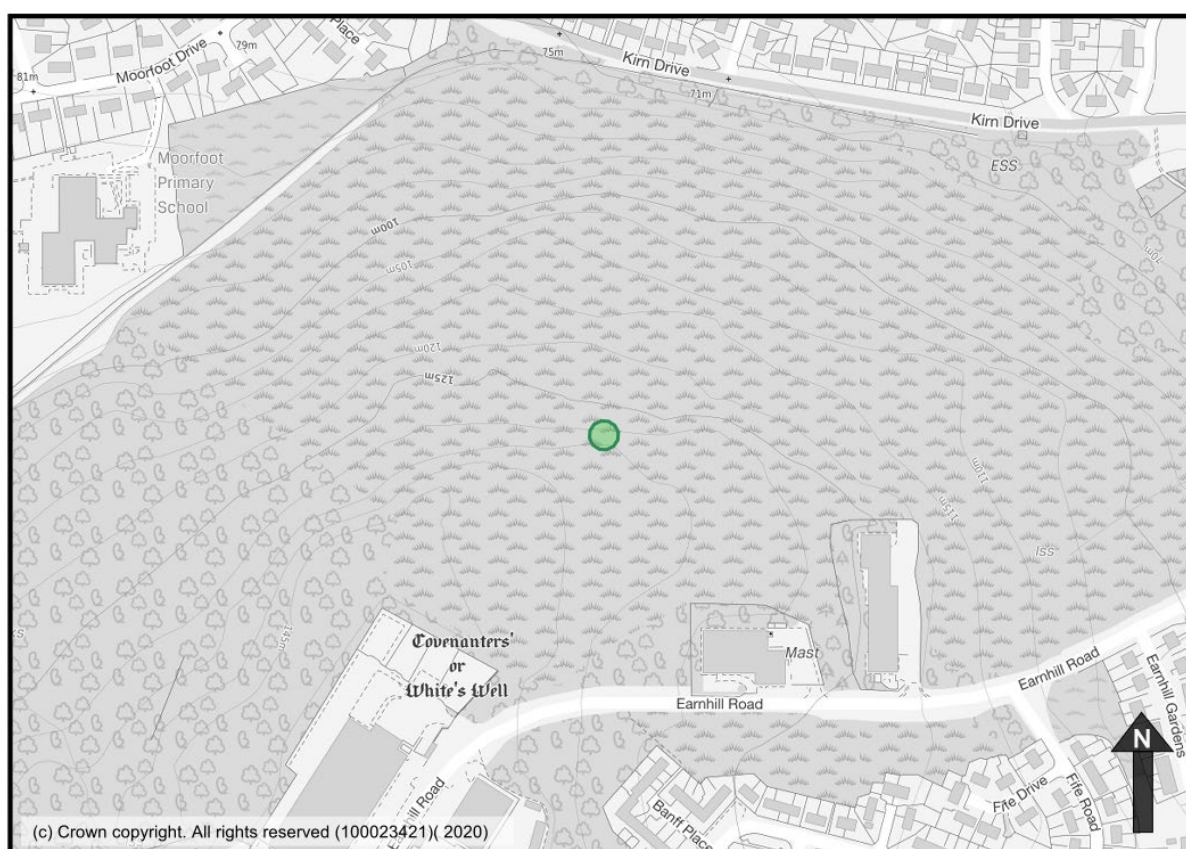
Milne, C - The story of Gourock, 1858-1958, Gourock (1958)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Golf Course	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Larkfield Moor	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223450 676420	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Flakes	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41318

### Archaeology Note

NS 2345 7642. Several struck flakes of chert, one of quartz, and two of flint were collected from the surface of sand underlying the peat on Larkfield Moor. One chert flake bears slight secondary trimming at one end.

F Newall 1960



### Further Reading

Newall, F - 'Larkfield Moor', *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, 1960, pp.33. (1960)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Golf Course	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 22930 676180	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Cup and ring markings	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 2 May 2001	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41328

**Archaeology Note**

NS 2293 7618 (R W B Morris, undated). Cup and ring marked rock: Situated at the edge of Gourock Golf Course, 1 yd W of wall, 130 yds N of wall, is a level shelf of rock, 33ft by 28ft and 2 1/2ft high at E. It is sculptured with 5 cups-and-one-ring up to 6 1/2 inches in diameter, 9 cups in a close "grid" and 10 other cups, to 1/4 in deep.  
 R W B Morris 1969

A smooth and level shelf of rock with good views to N & NW. 4 cup-and-single-ring marks were identified in very poor light conditions, three close to the S edge of heather encroachment, one further north near three small cups in a line. In the middle of the rock shelf there is a series of markings - irregular patterns of cups in groups of seven and perhaps six, an OStype arrowed bar, and the recently-incised 'John'. Deep weathered chevrons and gullies are at the east edge where there is a drop of about 0.75m towards a natural gully. The edge features appear to be natural, or possibly enhanced natural grooves.

Morris's '9 cups in a close grid' were not identified, and some other 'cups' appear to be natural.

Report with sketches in SMR archive.





### **Further Reading**

Morris, RWB - 'The cup-and-ring marks and similar sculptures in Scotland: a survey of the southern Counties, part II', PSAS, Vol 100, 1967-8, pp.47-78 (1969)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Golf Course	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 222930 676230	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Cup markings	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 16 March 2011	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41329

### Archaeology Note

Cup marked Rock: Situated 78yds N of NS27NW 7, 23yds, SW of the eighth (championship) tee on Gourock Golf Course and 13yds W of a wall, is an exposed area of rock, 15ft by 5ft, gently sloping to the N. It is 3ins below the level of the peat around it. It is sculptured with two groups of cup marks. One group consists of five cups which fall exactly on the corners superimposed right-angled triangles of sides 3-4-5 and 6-8-10 megalithic inches. The other group consists of three rows of three cups, in a grid pattern. All are 1 1/2ins in diameter and 1/4in deep.

R W B Morris 1969; E W MacKie 1975

Information from Prof. Anderson of Gourock provides some locational information which might be of use in locating the site on the ground. Mr Anderson is not an archaeologist but has seen other cup markings in the vicinity but was unable to identify this site. He states that the golf course has been remodelled and the relevant tee referred to above is the ninth (medal) tee. This tee has also been moved over the years and is now some 25 metres N of where it was prior to c.1970.

Entered WoSAS (PR) 05/11/02

A small, sloping (to NW) rock exposure c.4.5m NE-SW x 1.25m NW-SE with encroaching peat all around. It was possible to identify a 'chevron' of five small cups and a regular 'grid' of nine similarly sized cups c.35mm diameter and varying between 5 and 10mm deep. The chevron is relatively well preserved, but the NNW line of 3 cups in the grid of nine is much degraded, the next line somewhat less so. The standing water pooling against the peat is probably responsible.

Site visited by HMcb, 10/12/92.



### Further Reading

Morris, RWB - 'The cup-and-ring marks and similar sculptures in Scotland: a survey of the southern Counties, part II', PSAS, Vol 100, 1967-8, pp.47-78.(1969)

MacKie, EW - Scotland: an archaeological guide: from the earliest times to the twelfth century. London (1975)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Golf Course	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 222950 676250	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Cup markings - possible	
<b>Date Recorded:</b>	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41330

**Archaeology Note**

(Approximately NS 229 762) Some rocks in the vicinity of cup marked rocks NS27NW 7 and 8 seem to have cup marks; the area needs further search, there being much suitable rock surface, beneath peat and exposed.

R W B Morris MSS, undated.



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock House	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224468 677001	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Country House	
<b>Date Recorded:</b>	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41322

### Archaeology Note

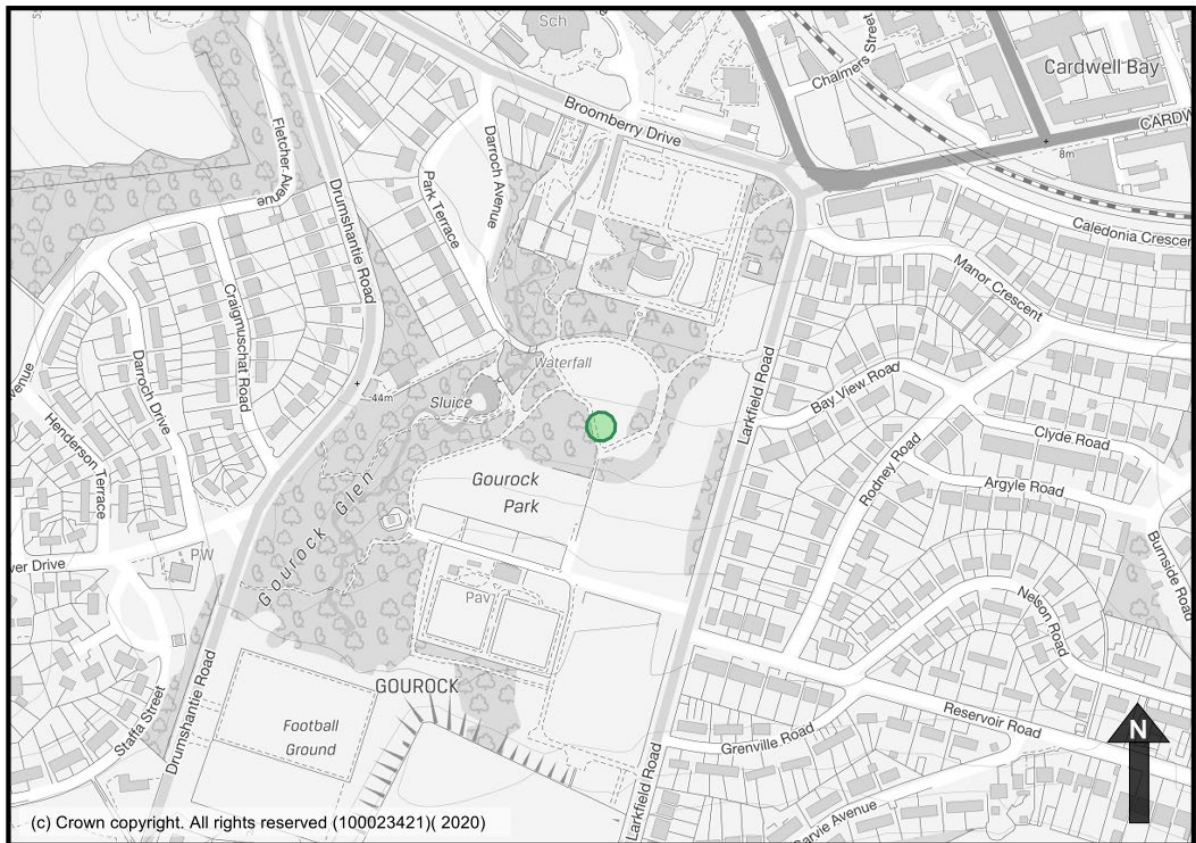
For original Gourock Castle see NS27NW 4, for later Gourock Castle (House) see NS27NW 141

NS27NW 15.01 Centred NS 24523 77142 Walled Garden

NS27NW 15.02 NS 24587 77059 Lodge

Now demolished.

C Milne 1958



### Further Reading

Millar, AH - The castles and mansions of Renfrewshire and Buteshire. Glasgow (1889)

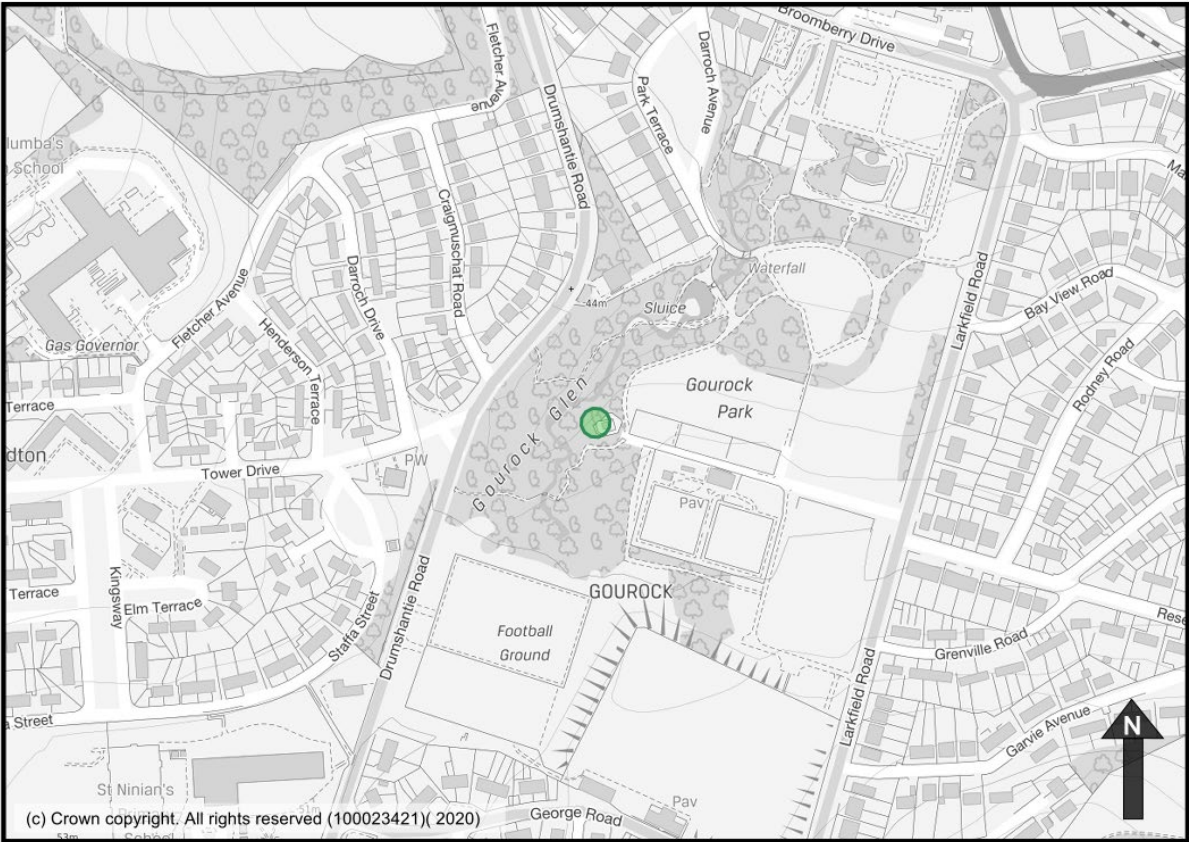
Ramsay, P - Views in Renfrewshire, with historical and descriptive notices. Edinburgh (1839)

Milne, C - The story of Gourock, 1858-1958, Gourock (1958)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Park	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224327 676934	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Burial Vault	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 15 February 2012	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 332045

**Archaeology Note**

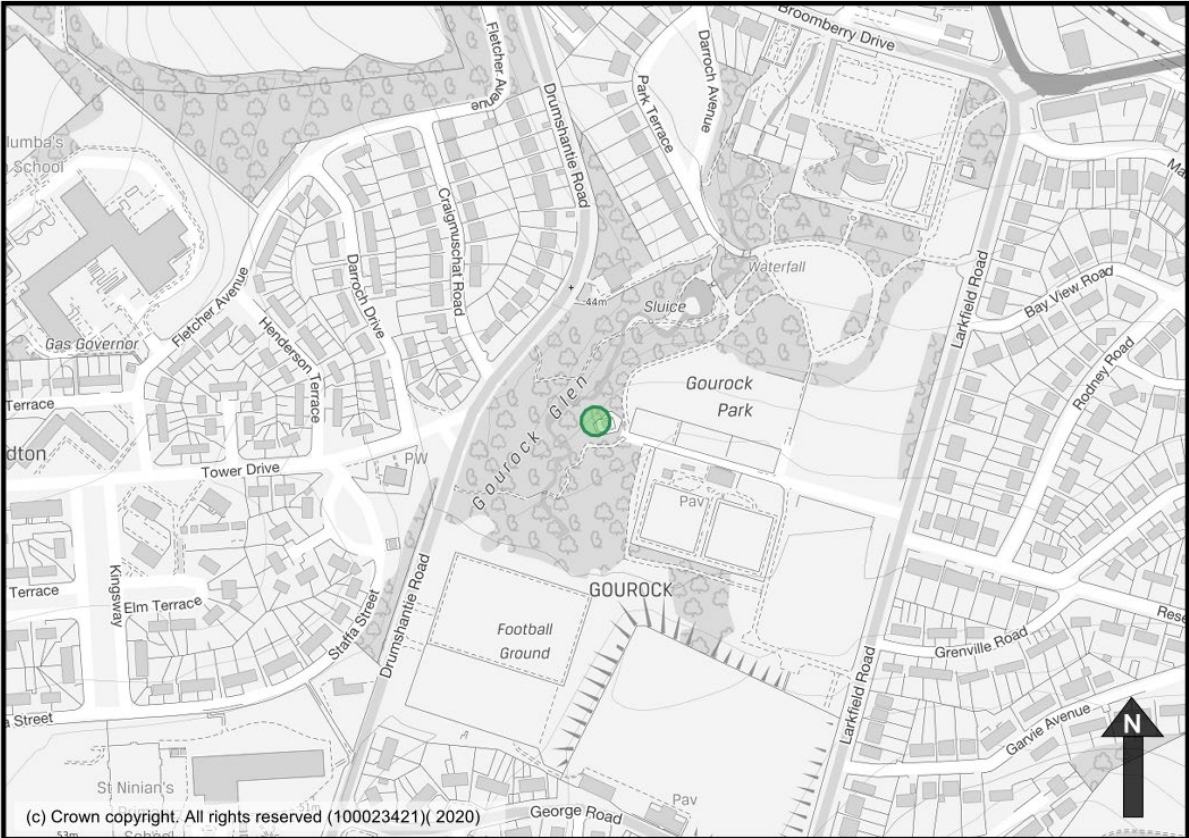
Located within an enclosure fence of cast iron railings in Gourock Park is a small family burial vault associated with the Darroch Family. The vault appeared on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of the mid 19th century, and is likely to have been related to the nearby Gourock House , built 1747. Although the house was demolished in the early 20th century, the burial vault survives intact.



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Gourock Park	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224330 676931	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Quern	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 15 February 2012	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 332014

**Archaeology Note**

A large quern stone was noted on the floor of the Darroch Family vault in Gourock Park. This may have been placed within the vault for safe-keeping at some point in the modern period.



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Hopeton Street, Gourock Bay	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224200 677750	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Roman coin	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 16 November 1955	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41317

**Archaeology Note**

"In April 1948 Mr James Lynch showed me an Alexandrian bronze coin of Diocletian, date to AD 287-8, which had been found by his grandfather, Mr Arthur Taylor, at about the beginning of the war, in earth thrown up during the digging of foundations for an air-raid shelter in Hospital Street, Gourock."

A S Robertson 1952

Hospital Street was a misprint for Hopeton Street (NS 2414 7768 - NS 2426 7775). The coin is believed to be in the possession of Mr Lynch. "Most, if not all, of these Alexandrian coins are probably modern losses."



**Further Reading**

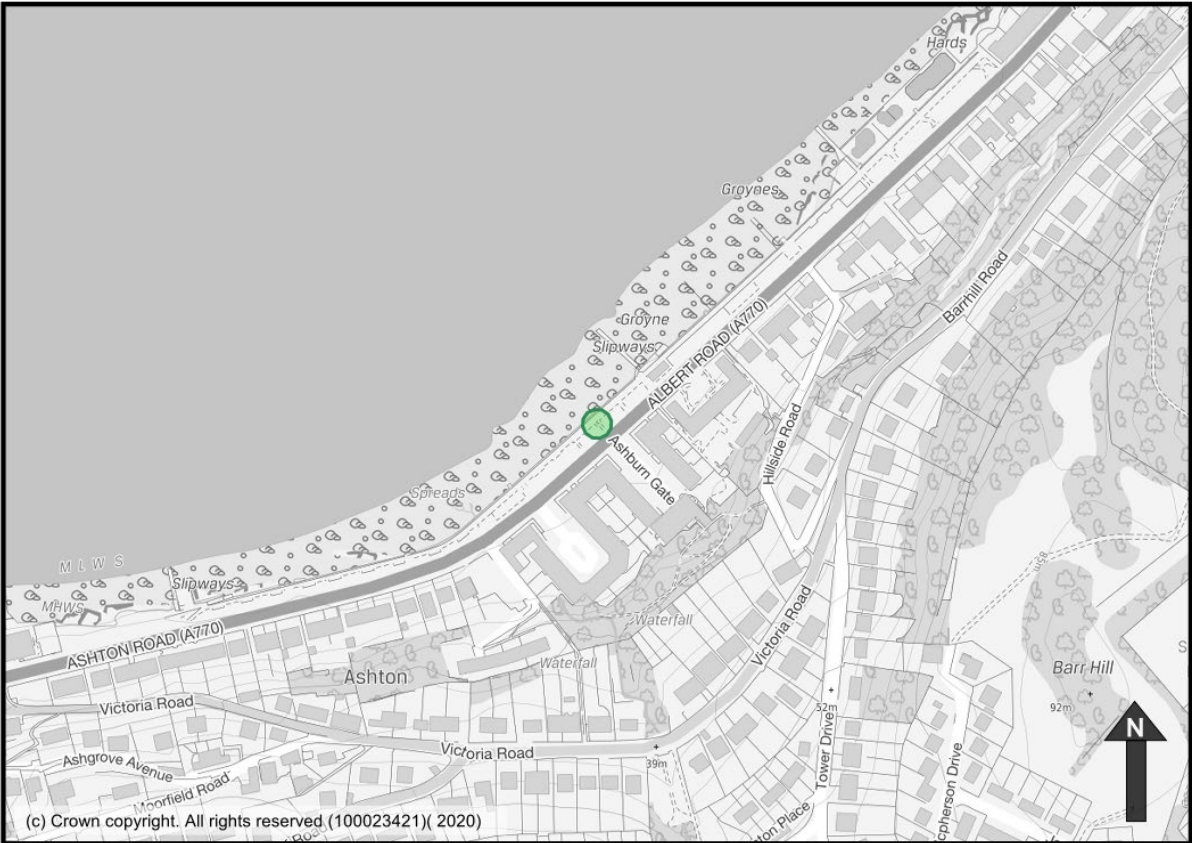
Robertson, AS - 'Roman coins found in Scotland', PSAS, Vol 84, 1949-50, pp.137-68.(1952)



Archaeology Site – Gourock	
Site Name: Jubilee Drinking Fountain, Albert Road, Gourock	
Alternative Name:	
Grid Reference:	Parish:
Monument Type: Drinking Fountain	
Date Recorded:	Canmore Ref No.199284

Archaeology Note

None



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Kempock Street, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Granny Kempock Stone	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224079 677856	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Standing Stone	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 25 November 2008	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41326

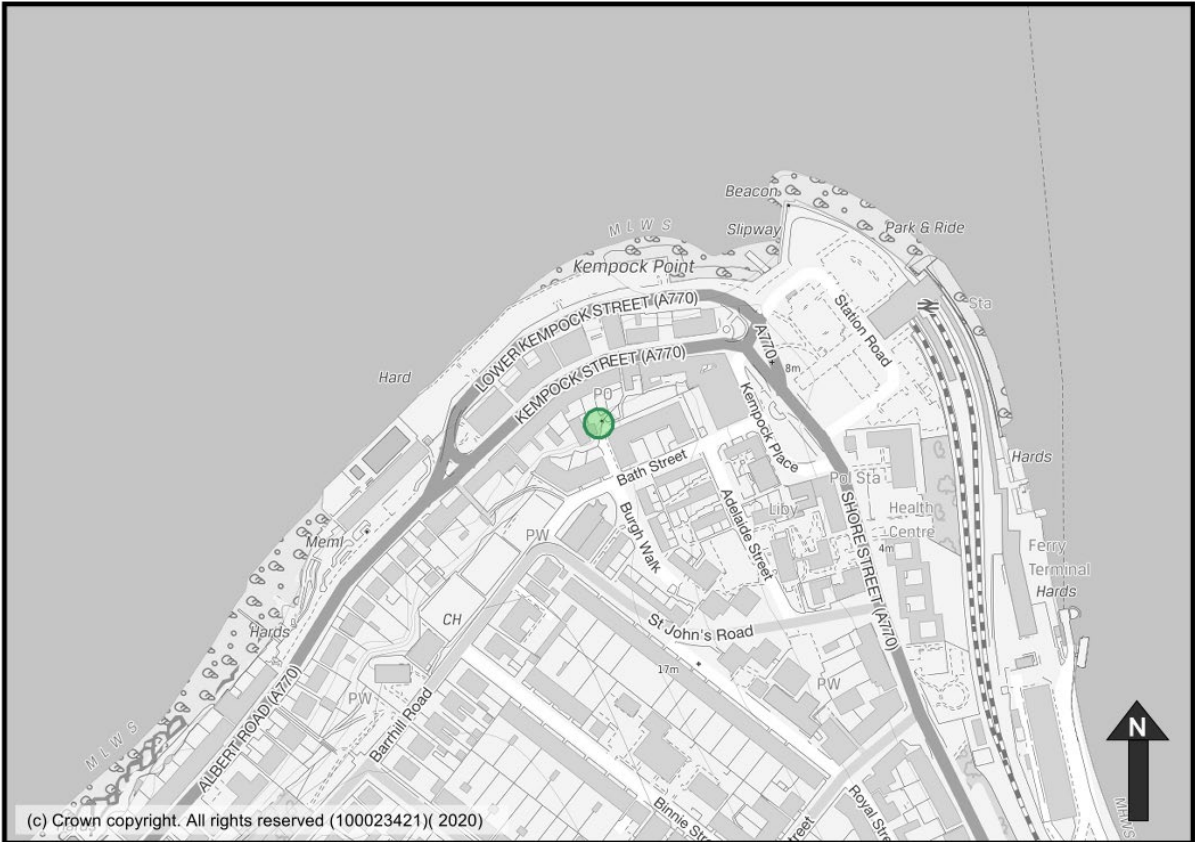
**Archaeology Note**

The Kempock Stone, a monolith of mica-schist about 6ft high and 2ft in diameter, stands at the top of the cliff overlooking Kempock Point. "Because of its faint resemblance to a mantled figure with a shrouded head, it is more popularly known as "Granny Kempock" (TSA 1962).

Sailors and fishermen used to perform propitiatory rites round it, seeking favourable omens; local marriages were not regarded as lucky unless the wedded pair passed round the stone. In 1662, Mary Lamont, who was burned as a witch confessed to having attended a meeting when it was intended to throw the stone into the sea. TG Snoddy 1950; FH Groome 1903

The stone is of the dimensions given above and is protected by railings. It is known locally as "Granny Kempock's Stone".

The monument is generally as described above. A number of incised marks including antiquarian initials and indeterminate marks similar to masons' marks or runes are present on it.



**Further Reading**

Groome, FH (ed.) - Ordnance gazetteer of Scotland. Edinburgh (1903)

TSA - The third statistical account of Scotland: the county of Renfrew and the county of Bute, in Moisle, HA and Thain, AG Somerville, AC and Stevenson, W (eds), Glasgow (1962)

Snoddy, TG - Round about Greenock (1950)

Milne, C - The story of Gourock, 1858-1958, Gourock (1958)

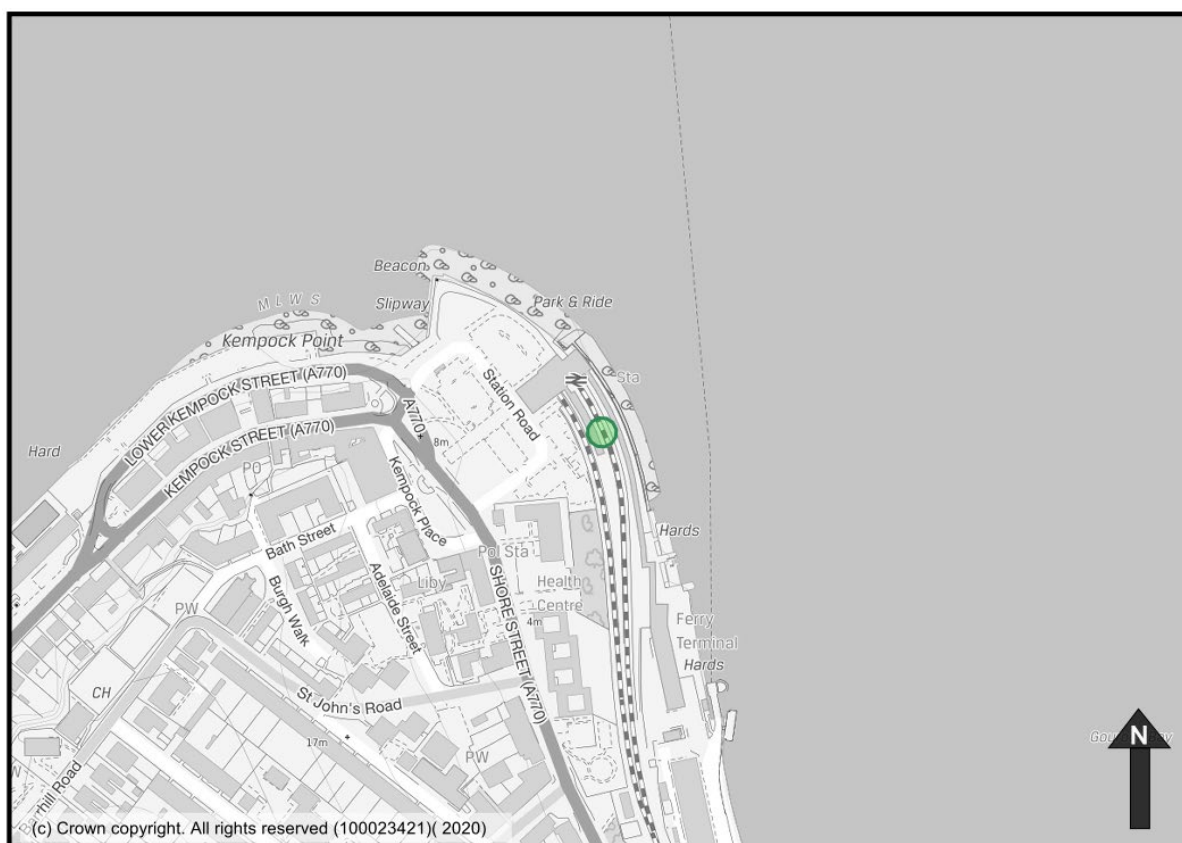
<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Kempock Point, Gourock Station, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Gourock Railway Station	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224330 677900	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Station	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 2000	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 120366

### Archaeology Note

(Location cited as NS243 779) Gourock Station and Pier, opened 1889 by the Caledonian Railway. A long pier, with wood-piled frontage. The station is parallel to the pier, and is typical of Caledonian Railway design of the period, brick and harl, with wood trimming.

JR Hume 1976.

NS 243 779 (centre) A photographic survey and watching brief were undertaken during the demolition of Gourock Pier (constructed 1889). Full details of the pier and its construction are contained in a report which has been lodged with the NMRS.



### Further Reading

Hume, JR - The industrial archaeology of Scotland. Volume 1: The Lowlands and Borders. London (1976)

Baker, L - 'Gourock Pier, Inverclyde (Inverkip parish), watching brief', Discovery and Excavation, Scotland, 2000, pp.58, 2001

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Levan Castle, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Leven Castle, Castle Levan	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 221590 676350	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Castle	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 18 October 2007	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 41324

### Archaeology Note

Though called "Leven Castle" by Macgibbon and Ross (and scheduled by that name) all other authorities consulted give the name as "Levan Castle". Occupying a very strong site on the edge of a ravine, it consists of two towers, joined only at one corner (see plan). The castle probably dates from two periods; the original tower, that to the N, being of 15th century date while a larger keep was added to the SE in the early 16th century. It stood three storeys and a garret high, with very thick walls and a parapet and walk carried on chequered corbelling. The windows are notably small, and there are a number of keyhole-type arrow-slits. Macgibbon and Ross note that the vault shown in the foreground of their illustration was probably connected with outbuildings in the barmkin.

Excavations to trace these were carried out in the early 1970's (E Talbot and P C Denholm 1970; P C Denholm and A Hallifax- Crawford 1974; P C Denholm 1993) they showed that the barmkin was about 13.7m inside width and the S tower of the castle was partly built on the robber trench of the E barmkin wall. The kitchen midden was found, centred on the E side of the S wing. It contained 5,000 pieces of bone and sea-shell, Mid 15th- 16th century pottery was also found. Foundations of a possible early gatehouse were found in the courtyard area. Finds were to be placed in Paisley Museum.

N Tranter 1970; D MacGibbon and T Ross 1887

When seen in 1955, Levan Castle was described as "Situated on a rocky eminence overlooking Levan Burn, the remains, apart from the W side, are in poor condition. The structure is composed of large coursed blocks of stone with walls 1.5m thick. The corbelling is very similar to that at Ardgowan (NS27SW 1). A shaft leads from a niche 1.5m high in the N wall to the top of the castle. The windows vary from narrow slit type to broad rectangular".

Now restored and occupied.

N Tranter 1990

Roofless, existing to wallhead; unusual L plan; NW block probably XIV-XV cent.; SE do... early XVI. Archaeological dig was in progress when structure was listed in 1971. (2007)



## Further Reading

Tranter, N - The fortified house in Scotland. Edinburgh (1962)#

MacGibbon and Ross, D and T - The castellated and domestic architecture of Scotland from the twelfth to the eighteenth centuries. Edinburgh (1887)

Tranter, N - 'Towers of strength', Scot Fld, Vol 136, PartNo.1060, Jul 1990, pp.42-3 (1990)

Millar, AH - The castles and mansions of Renfrewshire and Buteshire. Glasgow (1889)

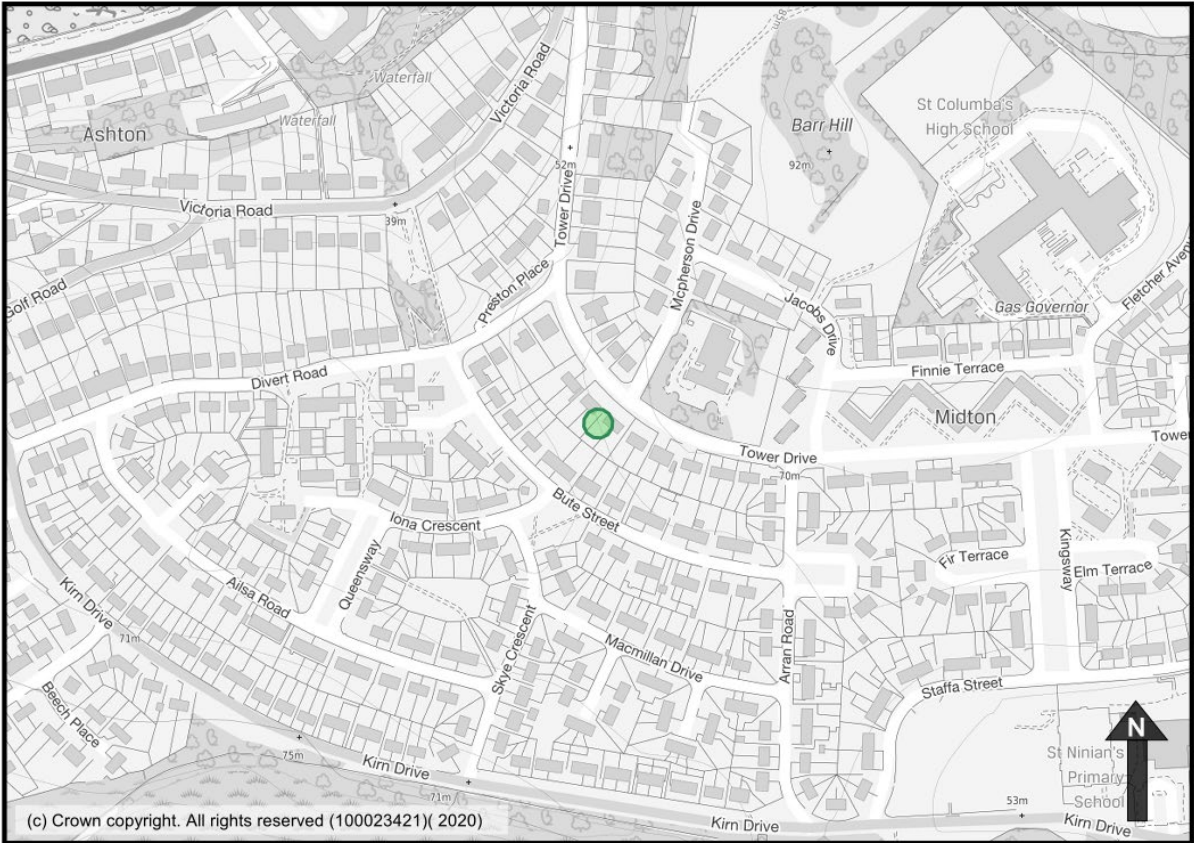
Talbot and Denholm, E and PC - 'Gourock, Levan Castle, 15th - 16th C. tower-house', Discovery and Excavation in Scotland, 1970, pp.42 (1970)

Denholm and Hallifax-Crawford, PC and A - 'Gourock, Levan Castle, 15th - 16th C. tower-house', Discovery and Excavation in Scotland, 1974, pp.56 (1974)

<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Midton, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223630 676920	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Burgh	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 198729

**Archaeology Note**

None



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Pulpit Rock, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223200 676300	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Decoy Site	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 7 February 2005	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 270377

**Archaeology Note**

The remains of a fire decoy site are visible at this location on RAF air photographs taken on 26 November 1945





<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> 24 Rosemount Place, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 222578 676557	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Carved rock, covenanter preaching site (possible)	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> 24 October 2002	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> Unknown

**Archaeology Note**

Carved rock, possible covenanting preaching site.

Reported by Prof. W. Anderson of 24 Rosemount Place, Gourock. An area of rock outcrop has been cleared of vegetation by JCB revealing a carved date in the upper surface of the living rock. The date is 1665 and there are no other clearly artificial markings visible. The site lies on the top edge of a small quarry marked on maps. The date is in the period of persecution of the covenanters and could be a preaching site located just out of the densely settled area and up a hill for seclusion. The carving is crudely pecked into the rock surface and is not worn smooth. The rock had been covered in soil and had saplings growing on it before it was cleared. The soil cover has probably protected the carving from smoothing by erosion/weathering.



Archaeology Site – Gourock	
<b>Site Name:</b> Shore Street, Council Offices, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b>	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 224238 677808	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Municipal Buildings	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> Unknown	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 198864

**Archaeology Note**

None



<b>Archaeology Site – Gourock</b>	
<b>Site Name:</b> Tower Hill, Gourock	
<b>Alternative Name:</b> Barr Hill	
<b>Grid Reference:</b> 223850 677300	<b>Parish:</b> Inverkip
<b>Monument Type:</b> Anti-aircraft Battery	
<b>Date Recorded:</b> July 1997	<b>Canmore Ref No.</b> 119856

**Archaeology Note**

A four emplacement battery with accommodation camp on the summit of Tower Hill, the camp was immediately to the S of the gun positions.



**Further Reading**

Redfern, NI - Twentieth century fortifications in the United Kingdom, York (1998)