

"We look to Scotland for all our ideas of civilization".

Voltaire

In the second half of the 18th century the Scottish Enlightenment saw a remarkable outpouring of intellectual and scientific advancements made in, among others fields, architecture, engineering, botany, law, philosophy and political economy.

31. George Drummond made the building of Edinburgh's New Town - which has been described as 'the Scottish Enlightenment in stone' - possible. In the early 18th century, Edinburgh was mostly laid out upon the ridge between the Castle and Holyrood House. The Nor Loch, a shallow lake, occupied the area of Princes Street Gardens curtailing the City's expansion. Drummond had the visionary idea of draining the loch and building a bridge from the ridge to the flat land to the north, allowing the City to grow.

32. Adam Smith is probably the leading figure of the Scottish Enlightenment. He is best known as the author of 'An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth Of Nations', one of the most influential books ever written. In it Smith argued forcefully against the regulation of commerce and trade, and wrote that if people were set free to better themselves, it would produce economic prosperity for all.

33. Dugald Stewart was one of the last great Scottish Enlightenment thinkers. He began his academic career as professor of mathematics at the University of Edinburgh, a post he shared with his father. He went on to hold the chair of moral philosophy for over thirty years. Stewart's teaching was based on the Scottish intellectual tradition of 'common sense' philosophy. An eloquent and influential lecturer and author, Stewart's reputation attracted students from England, mainland Europe and America.



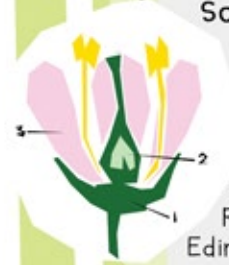
34. Views out to the Enlightenment monuments on Carlton Hill from behind the church. To the left, what looks like a small, circular Greek temple, is a memorial to Dugald Stewart, which was put up three years after his death. Also, directly ahead in classical Greek style is the Royal High School building. Already hundreds of years old when the School moved into the building in 1829, its pupils included many Enlightenment figures.



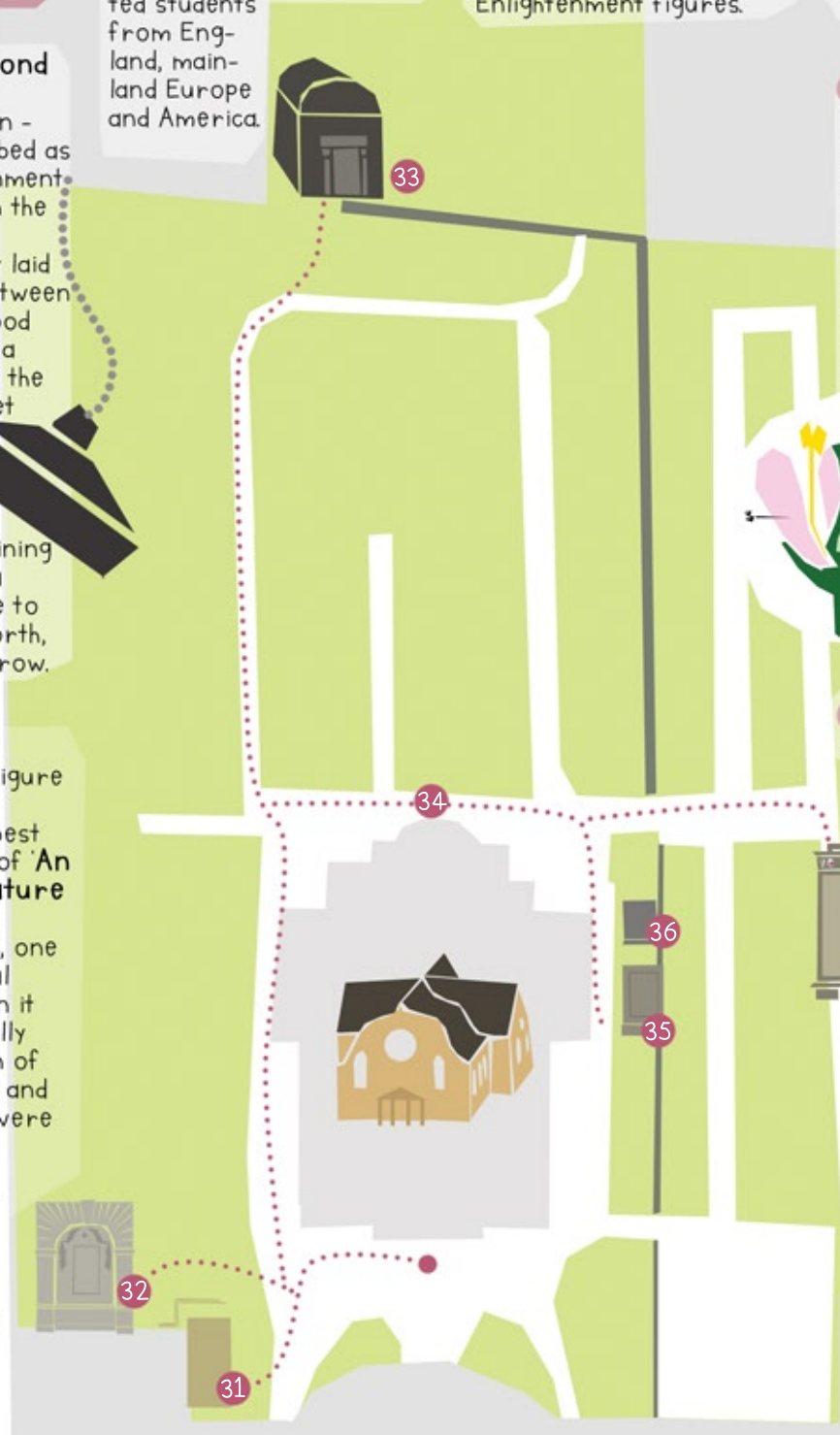
35. Charles Alston was Professor of Botany in the University of Edinburgh. A botanic garden (then known as the physic garden) was established near the Palace of Holyrood House in 1670. Alston was appointed Superintendent in 1716 and did much to improve the gardens and catalogue their contents.



36. The Reverend John Walker was born in the Canongate and as young boy developed an interest in botany. He was appointed Regius Professor of Natural History and Keeper of Edinburgh University's Museum in 1779. He was also the leading figure in plans for 'a Society for the Advancement of Learning and Useful Knowledge', a body established in 1783 as the Royal Society of Edinburgh.



37. In many ways, William Craig was a typical figure of the Scottish Enlightenment. Initially a lawyer, he became Lord Craig when he was made a judge in 1792. He won respect for the clarity of his rulings and benevolent manner. Craig also pursued literary interests, and was a member of several societies and clubs - including the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the 'Tabernacle' Club, whose members met in a tavern to read essays.



CANONGATE

Make the stories of those buried in the Kirkyard come alive by following in their footsteps and exploring the Canongate!

38. The Museum of Edinburgh occupies three floors, with items connected with the Enlightenment mainly found after you have gone up the first flight of stairs. In the first room here is a



painting of Parliament Square in the 1790s which



gives a sense of the Old Town in the Enlightenment



era. On the same floor you can see George Chalmers' portrait of Lord Provost George Drummond and large scale plans of the first phase of the New Town.

39. Dunbar's Close Garden is a hidden gem laid out in 17th century style. This style and the plants used would have been familiar to the botanists Charles Alston and John Walker whose memorials we looked at in the kirkyard.



40. Panmure House is where Adam Smith lived from the 1770s until his death in 1790. Dating from the late 17th century, the house has undergone a number of changes since Smith's time. In 2008 it was bought by the Graduate School of Business at Heriot-Watt University who plan to "rescue and breathe new life into this historic building making it once again a hub for learning, debate and enlightenment"



41, 42 and 43. Lost links with the Enlightenment. Several Enlightenment figures lived around the Canongate in houses since lost.

Henry Home, Lord Kames, judge, philosopher and agriculturist lived in **New Street (41)**. So did David Dalrymple, Lord Hailes, jurist and historian.

For a while David Hume lived in **Little Jack's Close (42)**, which was just downhill from New Street.

Dugald Stewart rented the Marquis of Lothian small mansion (**43**), known as the **Lothian Hut**, which stood on the site of the Scottish Parliament. 'Hut' in local usage being the secondary residence of a family who normally had a larger and more imposing mansion elsewhere.

Appetite whetted? Why not visit some of the other World Heritage Site graveyards?

Go green and do this on foot instead of taking the car, and you could save some CO₂ emissions, too!

Check it out: From Canongate Kirkyard (1) to:

- > New Calton Burial Ground (2) - 1 mile: 0.3811 kg of CO₂
- > Old Calton Burial Ground (3) - 0.7 miles: 0.2156 kg of CO₂
- > Greyfriars Kirkyard (4) - 0.8 mile: 0.2464 kg of CO₂
- > St Cuthbert's Kirkyard (5) - 1.3 miles: 0.4005 kg of CO₂



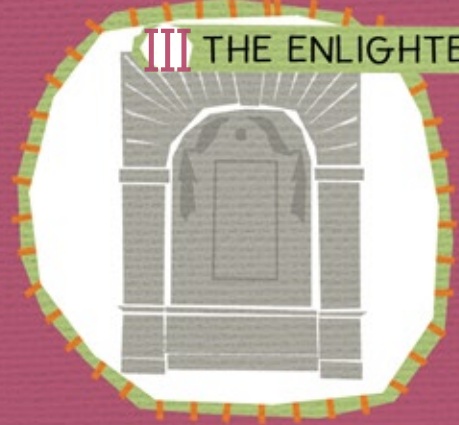
Research by Eric Drake | Illustrations and leaflet design by www.carnieland.com



Scan the code to find out more about the Edinburgh World Heritage Graveyards Project!

THE FRIENDS OF THE CANONGATE KIRKYARD

Burgh and Burials Trail



THE ENLIGHTENMENT