Johnston — 1299, Kelmernoke. Church of St Marnocc, that is ma Ernanoc, 'my dear little Earnan', a priest and the uncle of Columba.

Maps — Soviet Union map is on reatlasbook.com
S3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/mapshow/Kilmarnock.htm

EG, Tu 12.4.1938, 317a-318b — Description of ward changes (names, boundaries), to come into effect first Tuesday in November.

KILMARNOCK FAIR (GROZET FAIR) — Moved from August to 1st 2 weeks in July with effect from July 1974
The old formula was Saturday after the last Thursday in July.
The new formula was Saturday after the last Thursday in June.
KTC, Town Council 14.3.1973 — Voted 20 for, 4 against, for change.
KTC, Town Council 13.6.1973 — Change will come into effect in 1974.

SMOKELESS ZONES
KTC, 14.9.1960 — Kilmarnock No.1 Smoke Control Area Order, effective 1st September 1961. [Irvine Road area]

DESCRIPTIONS, &c.

nr — Kilmarnock has been described as sitting in a saucer among the fields and hedgerows of north Ayrshire.

KILMARNOCK IN THE MAKING
Series of articles in KS, 1923 -

AA, Th 11.9.1806, 4c — Article: AIRSHIRE HARBOURS. 'To the new harbour at Ardrossan, we have now to add one proposed at the Troon. This place has long been ascertained capable of being made a safe, commodious and deep harbour. With an Iron Railway to the populous and extensive manufacturing town of Kilmarnock, a very considerable trade will infallibly be established, which the mines in its neighbourhood, the commodities it manufactures and the bulky articles it must import, will give such employment as will require a considerable shipping [and] produce a revenue that will benefit those who embark in it.'

?Early 19th Century
ASH, Sa 14.3.1868, 8a — Green Spots in the Memory I. Blackwood's Dam and its Banks.
ASH, Sa 28.3.1868, 8bc — Green Spots in the Memory II. Fishing for Minnows.
ASH, Sa 11.4.1868, 3cd — Green Spots in the Memory III. The Stage.

Census, 1831 — Kilmarnock. General improvement in trade and manufacture. 115 colliers. [pp 946-947, 'Carpets are mentioned as the woollen manufacture at Kilmarnock, Stevenston and Stewarton.']
Census, 1841 — 'The increase of population since 1831 is attributed to the success of the manufactures of the town.'

c.1823
ASH Sa 8.2.1868, 8b — Remarks by Thomas Mack to Drapers' Annual Soiree, 4.2.1868. There were 9 drapers in Kilmarnock, 4 in Portland St, 4 in King Street and 1 in Cheapside. "... some had two candles on their counters, others had oil lamps in their windows. On a dull close night they had a dismal

appearance when compared with the well-lighted plate glass windows of the present day". Two steam engines - one at Braeside Mill, property of Ebenezer Smith, draper, and one in the shop of Bryce Blair, engineer.

1864
KWP, 31.12.1864, 4c — Trade. Little or no building ... just now. Not since 1826 have so few houses been erected in Kilmarnock.

1894
County Council 2.10.1894 (pp 290-296)
Report on pollution of the Irvine below Kilmarnock: sewage appears to be the cause.

c.1951
FJJ in Scots magazine, 1951, 329-332
Transcription herewith

BOUNDARIES

ACC, PLC 2.7.1945 — Extension in Altonhill area, extending to 10.5 acres, mooted.
ACC, PLC 7.6.1948, 824 — Petition lodged with Sheriff.

ACC, PLC 7.9.1953 — Extension effective 16 May 1953.

WARDS

1869 — Divided into Five Wards. Authority derived from Municipal Elections Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1868. [EG 8020, F 31.12.1869, 1704a-1705a]

ROAD BUILDING, TOWN DEVELOPMENT

c.1765 — Glencairn Street - Titchfield Street
1803-1804 — King Street
c.1805 — Portland Street - Wellington Street
1834 — St Marnock Street
1859 — Duke Street
1864 — John Finnie Street

Articles on old lanes, &c in
KS, 23.8.1879
KS, 14.2.1920

AA, Th 16.4.1807, 1a — Contractors wanted to pave and causeway new streets.
AA, Th 7.9.1809, 1b — Magistrates are seeking an Act to authorise paving, watching and regulating the town, and the building of a bridewell, workhouse and poors'-house.
Signet Library, Court of Session Papers, vol 256 case 15, 12.9.1811
Petition of James Robertson, merchant in Kilmarnock. 'That in the year 1802, an Act of Parliament was applied for by the Marquis of Titchfield and Magistrates of Kilmarnock, for opening several new streets in that town, altering other streets, building bridges, and making various improvements. According to the invariable practice of the House of Lords, in cases of this kind, a plan was required of the town,

and of the projected improvements upon which the act might proceed; a plan was accordingly prepared by **William Kerr**, painter in Kilmarnock, and the application was thereupon granted.
Dispute arose between the Trustees and Robertson over 'the mode by which they proposed conducting certain lines of streets through his ground, which [he] contended were contrary to the plan; and he ... called for production of the plan on which the Act was obtained'. This happened in 1807.
Depositions of 12 January 1808 showed that though the plan's existence was not doubted, it was now indubitably lost or misplaced. Deponents to this effect included Robert Johnston 'Surveyor to the Trustees for the Improvement of Kilmarnock', and James Greig, 'Clerk to the Trustees'. In February 1808, Robert Johnston was authorized to make out a plan of Kilmarnock in exact conformity with the Act. That was done. At this juncture (1811) Robertson is asking for further reconsideration of judgements against him, basically that the line of road was substantially correct, and also to assoilzie him from Johnston's claim for fees for the plan, with expences. This was refused 22.11.1811.

EG 5590, F 13.11.1846, 485c486b — Kilmarnock Police and Improvement Act. Alter/amend/&c., 42 George III (widening streets, two new bridges, Town Hall &c) and 50 George III. Proposals include extending jurisdiction to match parliamentary burgh (within Kilmarnock parish), erect court house, &c.

KWP, 25.6.1864, 2bc — Editorial on other potential street improvements in Kilmarnock.

1868 Directory — Trustees for Improvement of Kilmarnock:
Provost, Elder Bailie, Treasurer (all ex officio); F J Turner; Archibald Finnie of Springhill; William Fairlie of Holms; Peter Sturrock; John Crooks, Flowerbank; James Donald, Abbey Villa; John Finnie, Bowden Lodge, Manchester.

KS, Sa 12.11.1870, 1defgh — Draft of proposed Kilmarnock Municipal Extension and Improvements Bill. Aims include abolition of Police Commissioners and of Improvement Committee, the re-constitution of the Corporation, and the creation of a Dean of Guild Court. A number of new roads proposed, i.e.:-
New street from east end of street now forming (Woodstock Street) to John
Finnie Street, north of its junction with Nelson Street. [GRANGE PLACE]
Alterations and widening of Strand Street
Street from Grange Street to improved Strand Street [DUNLOP STREET or
JOHN DICKIE STREET]
Alterations and widening of College Wynd
Street from St Andrews Street (aka Kirktonholm Street) to Bentinck Street,
at is junction with Netherton Street. [ST ANDREWS ST, south section]
Street between Bentinck Street and East Shaw Street. [BENTINCK STREET,
south section]
Street from Green Street, at junction with Waterloo Street, to N end of Clark

Street. [STURROCK STREET]

KTC, 25.11.1959 — Letter from Murrayfield Real Estate Co. Ltd. Offering to meet members of the Town Council to discuss reconstruction of the town centre.

KTC, 23.12.1959 — Agree to meet Murrayfield on 20th January

KTC, 20.1.1960 — Meeting with McPake, of Murrayfield, who said that "they were familiar with the shopping area and shopping facilities in Kilmarnock and that they were interested in taking an area of land for comprehensive re-development."

KTC, 27.1.1960 — Letter from Equitable Debenture and Assets Corporation Ltd expressing interest in town centre development noted.

KTC, Town Planning Committee 25.5.1960 — Report of Town Clerk (Walker) and Town Planning Officer "that it was not considered that there were any areas suitable at present for re-development by the Murrayfield Real Estate Co Ltd., or similar organisations."

ACC, GPC 17.1.1964 — No objection to proposed one-way system, affecting Portland Street, King Street, St Marnock Street, John Finnie Street and West George Street.

KTC, TC 8.9.1971 — Town Centre C.D.A. no.2 approved by Secretary of State for Scotland, 3rd September 1971.

Nr — Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme and Townscape Heritage Initiative. First grant awarded in 2006: £811,170.

URBAN RENEWAL, CLEARANCE AREAS, &C.

KTC 8.4.1959 — Clearance Areas 6 and 7, both GRANGE STREET, formally approved

CLEARANCE AREAS 8 (24-34 Park Street) and 9 (52-58 Park Street, 4-18 North Hamilton Street)

KTC, 8.4.1959 — First stages.

C20 PRIVATE HOUSING

KTC 21.5.1959 — Sites at **Grange** have been agreed with John Dickson & Co., and with James Rome & Sons Ltd.

COUNCIL BUILT

KTC, 22.10.1959 — Burgh Architect's feuing plan for Cherry Place, Willow Road, &c., approved.

KTC 22.10.1959 — The first two houses being built by the Council, for sale, will be ready in 5-6 weeks, and the last by March 1960.

KTC, 18.2.1960 — The two houses are expected to be ready for showing by 2nd March 1960.

KTC, HC, 5.4.1960 — 4A house offered to W M Anderson (William Simpson), 3A to J B Collins (J C Hood)

KTC, HC, 26.4.1960 — 3A semis offered to John Alexander, Samuel Russell (John S Neil); 4A semis offered to George Pawson, Alexander Thomson (J McCraw).

KTC, HC 19.5.1960 — 3A s/d bungalows offered to John Neil, John G Ross (William Armour); 4A s/d bungalows offered to William Wells, Miss Deans (A Frew)

KTC, HC 23.6.1960 — 2 3A s/d cottages offered to Archibald Hood, Ronald Ravidson (John O'Brien).

ROMES

KTC 18.2.1960	11 feus have been acquired within the area allocated to James Rome & Sons Ltd.
KTC, 24.6.1959	TP 59/78, housing development, Wardneuk, for Howard de Walden Estates Ltd.
KTC, 28.10.1959	TP 59/160, roads, &c., Mure Avenue, for Howard de Walden Estates Ltd.
KTC, DoGC 23.11.1959	4096, lay-out plan, Western Road/Manor Avenue, and at Wardneuk Farm, for Howard de Walden Estates Ltd.
1974	Schemes being developed and sold in 1974 were Caprington (Thain) and Wellpark (Bacal).

ESTATE AGENTS' PARTICULARS

42 London Road	July 1982
48 London Road	July 1982
Highfield, Turner Place	December 1982
183 Dundonald Road	April 1983
Damhead House (of 1912)	September 1992

UNSORTED

GM, Th 22.12.1785, 401a	To let, at Townhead of Kilmarnock, 'a garden consisting of near two acres, with a new house and nine-pin alley.'

KILMARNOCK CRICKET CLUB

KTC, GPC 26.6.1972	Noted that Bob Massie, who has been a record-breaker in recent Ashes test, had three seasons with Kilmarnock Cricket Club.

SUMMERLAND (DOUGLAS, Isle of Man)

KTC, Town Council 12.9.1973	Kilmarnock casualties were Mr & Mrs Stevenson, New Farm loch, and Alison Little, 23 North Hamilton Street.

TOWN GUIDE

KTC, GPC 28.3.1960	Adcon Ltd (ex W A Woolward & Co Ltd) to publish 1000 per annum.

BURGH OFFICIALS

MASTER OF WORKS

- c April 1891	Thomas CURRIE	
		KH, F 1.1.1892 3c: given a retiral presentation on 4.6.1891.
April 1891 -	James GILMOUR	
		KH, F 1.1.1892 3c: appointed 16.4.1891.

BURGH SURVEYOR/MASTER OF WORKS

- 1924	Robert BLACKWOOD. Retiral dinner in February 1924.
1924 - fl. 1947	William DUNLOP, BS.
Fl 1959-1960	W.N. McCALL. D MILLER, Depute
Fl 1972 to end?	D. M. MILLER

DEPUTE BURGH SURVEYOR

Fl.1973	D McLEAN

KTC, 25.8.1959 — J K McDADE, intermediate assistant, BS's Dept, appointed as Senior Engineering Assistant. His post taken by G T MORRIS.

BURGH ARCHITECT

W DUNBAR		Referred to in 1932 ref to proposed KTC houses in Craigie Road - see LA file.
Neil Stewart SUTHERLAND		Appointed c. May 1948 (B, 4.6.1948) Retired 1969.
James H ROUTLEDGE		fl. 1973
	CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT	
Fl. 1973	D M FULTON	
	ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS	
Fl 1973	A BROWN – J S SMYLLIE [1959 refs to Andrew D. Brown]	
	OTHER ARCHITECTS	
Fl 1959 (at New Farm Loch meeting)	T BENNIE	
	TECHNICIANS	
Fl 1973	D GALLAGHER, W A GILMOUR, W M ROWAN	

CHIEF PLANNER
Fl. 1973 — James E. BAIRD

TOWN CHAMBERLAIN

- 1886	Andrew TURNBULL	
Sept 1886 -	John HAGGO	Appointed on 15.9.1886, and still in post 25 years later. See KH, F 20.1.1911, 5e.
- May 1964	James A SCOTT	AA, ATD 62/11, 402, 1.5.1964. Retires on 15.5.1964.
Fl. 1973	A H MOODY	
	DEPUTE TOWN CHAMBERLAIN	
Fl. 1973	D R FERGUSON	

TOWN CLERK

- July 1891	James HAMILTON	KH, F 1.1.1892, 3c: resigned 8.7.1891.
(1924)	Norman J. CAMPBELL	
c.1940 (new)	Matthew POLLOCK	
(1959) - 1966	William L WALKER	Died
1966-1975	James C W NICOL	KS 24.6.1974, 1ab. To be Chief Execuitve of KLDC. See ref.
	DEPUTE TOWN CLERK	
Fl 1959-60	James C W NICOL - James T TAYLOR	
Fl. 1973	D. R. H. CRICHTON - J McANDREW	

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT
Fl 1959-60 — W W McKENZIE
DIRECTOR OF PARKS
Fl. 1973 — G L LUMSDEN

CHIEF CONSTABLE

AA, CO 3/8/9/3/1, Joint Police Committee 1963-1974

Some notes made at winding up of Kilmarnock Burgh Police. Formed 1871 by Kilmarnock Municipal Extension and Improvement Act, 1871. The first meeting of the Police Purposes & Watching Committee was on 22nd November 1871, There was a staff of 22: a superintendent (who was also Burgh Surveyor), Inspector, 4 sergeants and 16 constables. In 1968 the staff is 111: Chief Constable, Superintendent, 6 Inspectors, 13 Sergeants and 90 Constables.

1846	W BLANE
1910 - 1921	Angus CAMERON. B Laggan, joined Ayrshire Police 1876. DS, Kilmarnock Police, 1879. Chief Constable 14.12.1910, Retired ill-health, October 1921. Died 10.4.1922.
1921 - 1947	Charles ROY
1947 - May 1960	John GRANT
KTC, 22.12.1959	To retire on 16th May 1960. Has been with force since 30th January 1919.

May 60 - Nov 61 James K SCOTT, Acting Chief Constable. [GH, Sa 3.6.1961, 12d. After Grant's retiral, KTC wanted to appoint his Deputy, James Scott, but this was blocked by the Secretary of State. KTC appealed decision, but the Secretary of State's right to act so was upheld by the Court of Session, 2 June 1961]

KTC, TC, 20.4.1960 Appointed. [[KTC, 28.6.1960, agree to adhere, in spite of Secretary of State]

Nov 61 - 1968 William D GAMMIE. [GH, F 17.11.1961, 12c. Appointed last night. 46-year-old Superintendent with Stirling and Clackmannan Constabulary].

The Joint Police Committee became effective 16th May 1968.

DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE

1950 - 1967	James K. SCOTT. [Died 7th June 1971: Kilmarnock Town Council 9th June 1971]

© Rob Close 2026