

FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN IN OR ASSOCIATED WITH HADDINGTON

John Knox (c. 1514-1572) born Haddington (this is disputed, some say Morham). The Protestant Reformer educated at Haddington grammar School. Statue of him on Gothic Building now Knox Court.

John Major was educated in Haddington and was regarded by some of his contemporary scholars as the most outstanding intellect in Europe at the times. He also taught John Knox.

Samuel Smiles (1812-1904) born Haddington. Doctor, Biographer, Social Reformer, Railway enthusiast. Author of 'Self-help' and other books. Plaque on wall, 62 High Street, the house where he lived.

Jane Welsh Carlyle (1801-1866) Wife of literary genius Thomas Carlyle.

Rev John Brown (1722-1787) Author of his famous 'Self Interpreting Bible'.

Provost Samuel Brown (1779-1839) Son of Rev John Brown. Founded Haddington School of Art and started the first of the 'itinerating' libraries of East Lothian.

John Martine (1811-1891) Set up his own brewery in Sidegate. He wrote newspaper articles and 'Reminiscences of the Royal Burgh of Haddington' much sought after by local social historians.

Sir William Gillies (1898-1973) Famous artist and teacher.

Robert Ferguson of Raith (1767-1840) MP for East Lothian 1835-7, known chiefly for his Monument in West End park and for his marriage to a well known East Lothian heiress.

Christopher Galloway (d.o.b unknown) Clock maker, architect and engineer. The most outstanding of his many achievements is the creation of the Saviour's Tower, the most prominent and easily recognised feature in Moscow's Red Square.

Dr George Harley (1829-1896) educated in Haddington, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in London, gave his name to Harley Street, London.

Sir Alistair Grant (1937-2001) educated in Haddington, businessman, public servant and philanthropist.

Sir Sean Connery (1930-) actor, worked as a joiner in Haddington as a young man.

References: David Dick's book 'A Millennium of Fame in East Lothian'



COAT OF ARMS

The Royal Burgh of Haddington & District Community Council Coat of Arms was granted by The Lord Lyon in 1984.

HOW TO FIND HADDINGTON



PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Public transport information can be obtained from the Traveline by phoning

0870 608 2 608.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Royal Burgh of Haddington & District Community Council David J. Motherwell: Historical Information
Haddington Remembered Group: Historical Information.

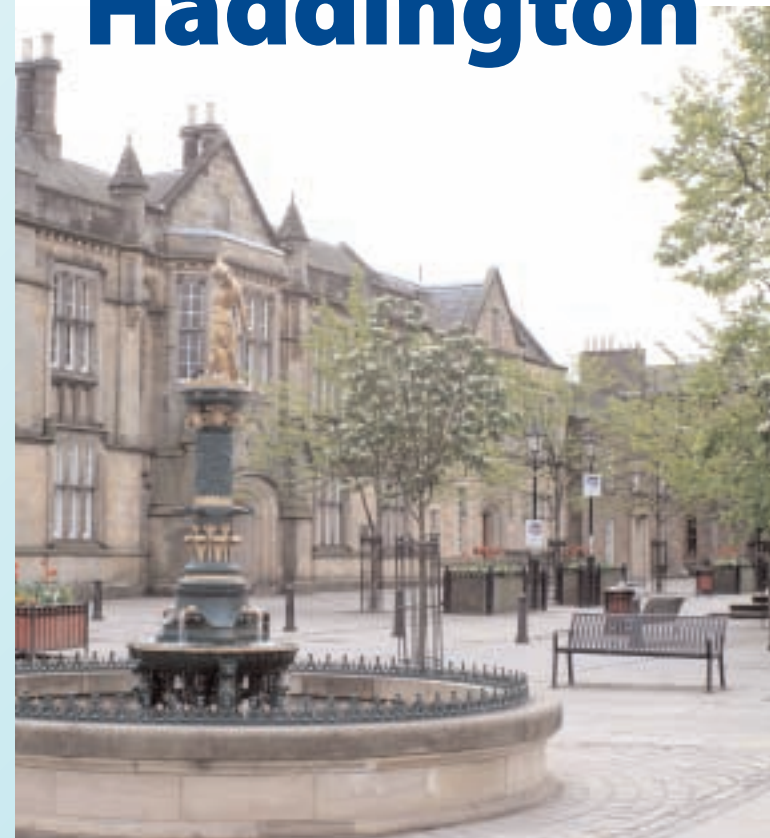
For further information please contact Haddington Visitor Information on 07876 786 216 or North Berwick Visitor Information on 01620 892 197. Alternatively, please call the Scottish Information Line on 0845 22 55 121.

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WELCOME

to The Royal Burgh of
Haddington



www.haddingtoncc.org.uk



WELCOME TO HADDINGTON

The Royal Burgh of Haddington, county town of East Lothian, with its mediaeval street plan and Georgian architecture is centrally positioned in a county famous for agriculture. Situated between the coast and the Lammermuir Hills, it is only 17 miles from Edinburgh.

Within the town is an ancient bridge, the site of the oldest bowling green in Scotland, the ruined St Martin's Chapel, and the historic St Mary's church, the longest parish church in Scotland.

Haddington was an important and successful town even during the period of its most turbulent history. Its orchards (probably under monastic management) were celebrated even in the 13th century. It perhaps reached the peak of its prosperity in the 18th and early 19th centuries as a major agricultural market town. New buildings replaced older dilapidated properties, creating the townscape much as we see it today.

Haddington contains a large number of interesting and specialist shops and many good cafes and restaurants.

A brief history of the town follows, and a few famous names associated with Haddington are listed overleaf as are the main places of interest in and near the town. There is a leaflet about walks in Haddington, and visitors are reminded of the Museum of Flight at East Fortune and the ancient castles of Dirleton, Hailes and Tantallon.



THE HISTORY OF HADDINGTON

In 1137 David I (1124-1153) made Haddington one of the first Royal Burghs in Scotland, thus giving the town important trading privileges. There would have been a settlement at this shallow and convenient crossing of the Tyne from early times, but records are scant. All early records of the Town Council up to the 15th century were destroyed in three burnings of the town during English incursions in the 13th and 14th centuries. The earliest Provost on record was an **Alexander Le Barker** (the tanner) known only for having had to swear allegiance to Edward I of England, almost certainly after Edward's defeat of the Scots at the first battle of Dunbar in 1296.

The Town's name is of uncertain origin, perhaps Gaelic, perhaps Saxon. Hadigtun and Hadintune are two old spellings of the name from the 12th and 13th centuries.

For a period the Lothians were part of the kingdom of Northumbria, (c560-c943, known then as the Northumbrian Kingdom of Bernicia) but by the 10th century, after the battle of Carham on Tweed, they again became part of Scotland. Agreement on the border was largely settled by the Treaty of York in 1237 and the boundary is little changed today, although battles and destruction continued for centuries after that date.

David I also gave the original church of St Mary in Haddington into the keeping of the Priory of St Andrews. That church was destroyed during the English invasion of Edward III in 1356 (the Burnt Candlemas). The present building was begun in 1375.

The great Siege of Haddington (1547-1549) was the longest town siege in British history, when the English Army seized the town, fortified and held it against the Scots and their French allies for eighteen months. This was part of the *Rough Wooing*, when the English attempted to force a marriage between Henry VIII's son (Edward VI) and the child Mary Queen of Scots. English troops occupied St Mary's during the siege and the church was badly damaged. The nave was quickly

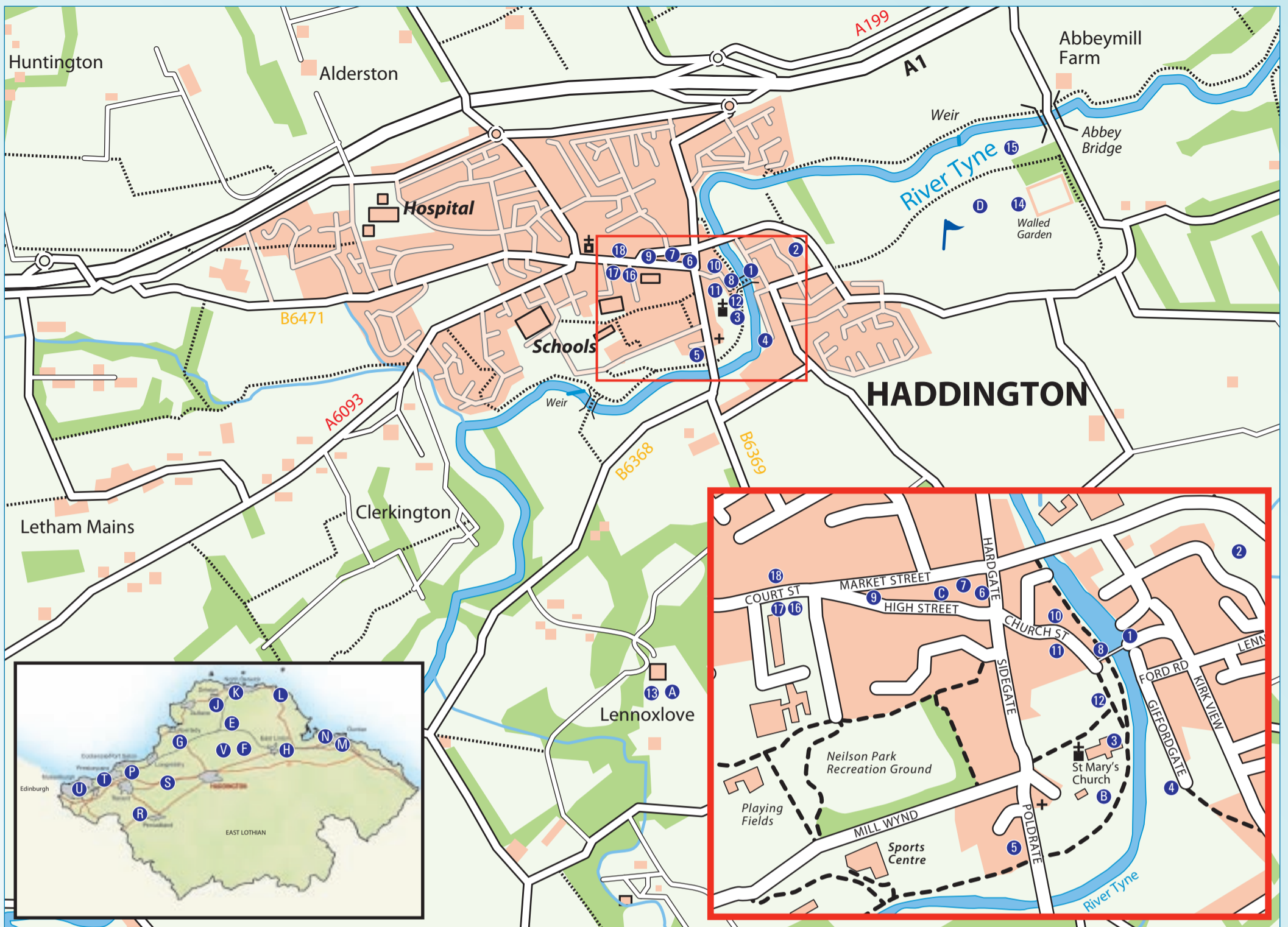
brought back into use at the instigation of John Knox, although the choir and transepts remained open to the skies until restoration nearly 40 years ago. Also during the siege, the Scottish Parliament met at the village of Abbey, one mile east of the town, and approved the *Treaty of Haddington*.

After the *Rough Wooing* Haddington never again suffered from the depredation of English armies, although two major battles were later fought in East Lothian. Cromwell's army defeated a Scots army at the battle of Dunbar in 1650 and Prince Charles Edward Stuart's forces defeated General Cope's troops at the battle of Prestonpans in 1745. Haddington did however suffer from a disastrous fire in 1598 which destroyed many buildings and from occasional very serious floods, one of the worst in 1775 and the most recent in 1948.

There were schools in Haddington and Nungate at least since the 14th century. John Knox was educated here, and in the 18th century John Witherspoon of Gifford was also schooled and later ordained in Haddington. He became President of Princeton University and was one of the signatories of the American Declaration of Independence.

Haddington became an important agricultural market town, and was engaged in tanning, the wool trade, distilling and brewing. It traded with the Continent and Baltic countries through its port of Aberlady, six miles to the north. A branch railway reached Haddington in 1846, but the main line by-passed the town to the north of the Garleton Hills and the trade of the burgh was 'materially reduced'. A period of decline set in.

After the 2nd World War, the town began to expand. Many good quality local authority and private houses were built, overspill came from Glasgow in the late '50s, the older part of the town was made a conservation area, improvements to the town centre were made following the lead given by Norwich, new industry came, and Haddington grew from some 6,000 to over 10,000 inhabitants by 2007. Expansion to the west is likely to continue but it will chiefly provide housing for commuters to Edinburgh.



ATTRACTIONS IN EAST LOTHIAN

- A. Lennoxlove House, 01620 823 720
- B. St Mary's Church, Haddington 01620 825 111
- C. Fishing permits
(JS Main, High Street, Haddington) 01620 82 2148
- D. Amisfield Golf Course (18 hole) 01620 82 2727
also 20 plus Golf Courses in East Lothian including the world famous Muirfield Golf Course, Gullane, one of Scotland's hosts to The Open Golf Championship and Musselburgh Links – the Old Golf Course – the world's oldest playing golf course.
- E. Fenton Barns Arts & Crafts Gallery, 01620 850 355
- F. Museum of Flight & The Concorde Experience, 01620 880 308
- G. Myreton Motor Museum, 01875 870 288
- H. Preston Mill & Phantassie Doocot, 01620 860 426
- J. Dirleton Castle, 01620 850 330
- K. Scottish Seabird Centre, 01620 890 202
- L. Tantallon Castle, 01620 892 727
- M. John Muir's Birthplace, 01368 865 899
- M. Dunbar Town House, 01368 863 734
- M. Belhaven Brewery, 01368 862 734
- N. East Links Family Park, 01368 863 607
- P. Seton Collegiate Church, 01875 813 334
- R. Glenkinchie Distillery, 01875 340 333
- S. Go Karts, 0131 665 6525
- T. Prestongrange Industrial Heritage Museum, 0131 653 2904
- U. Musselburgh Racecourse, 0131 665 2859
- U. Brunton Theatre, 0131 665 2240
- U. Newhailes House, 0131 653 5599
- U. Inveresk Lodge Garden, 0131 665 1855
- V. The Saltire Centre, Athelstaneford

PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1. The 12th century Nungate Bridge** is described as an old bridge in a charter of 1280. It has stood firm against the many devastating floods in the last eight hundred or more years. The bridge was also the place of execution in this district. The hanging hook is still in situ.
- 2. Ruin of St. Martin's Church in Nungate.** This church came about when King David I gave the land it sits on, along with the local mill, to a Simon de St. Martin in the early 12th century. He, in turn later gave it to the Cistercian Nunnery a mile down river and they built it as a chapel around AD1160. After the Reformation it was used as a protestant church until a cholera epidemic in AD1835.
- 3. The present St. Mary's Church** is the largest parish church in Scotland, a gothic building started AD1375, consecrated in AD1410 but not entirely completed until AD1487.
- 4. John Knox's birthplace.** There is a memorial stone and an oak tree marking the spot where John Knox, the famous Scottish Reformer is reputed to have lived.
- 5. East Mill (or Kirk Mill)** was an oat mill belonging to the Church but was taken into the possession of Haddington Town Council in 1538. It stands in Poldrate.
- 6. The Masonic Lodge** in Hardgate has a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland dated AD1599.
- 7. The ancient Fraternity of Gardeners** in East Lothian was founded before AD1676. One can still see their instruments of office on the front the Gardeners Arms pub in Market Street which was their Lodge.
- 8. Oldest Bowling Green (AD1667) in Scotland,** beside the Nungate Bridge.
- 9. The new Town House (Tolbooth)** built to a plan by William Adam, comprised a Council Chamber, Jail and Sheriff Court AD1748. Assembly Rooms were added AD1788 and the new Town Clock added AD1835.
- 10. The Episcopal Church** in Church Street was built in AD1770 on the site of the 13th century Franciscan Church.
- 11. The three storey red sandstone building** in Church Street was the third grammar school since the 14th century. It ceased to be used in 1557. This one was erected in AD1755.
- 12. Lady Kitty's Garden and Doocot** built in AD1777 as a memorial garden to Lady Catherine Charteris, the wife of the 7th Earl of Wemyss.
- 13. Lennoxlove** (the ancient Lethington) built by the Giffards of Yester as a tower house in the 14th century, now the seat of the Duke of Hamilton, Scotland's premier Duke. Lennoxlove contains the death mask of Mary Queen of Scots.
- 14. The Walled Garden** was built AD1783 at the east end of Amisfield Park by the 7th Earl of Wemyss. It encloses an area of 3.2 hectares with walls nearly 5 metres high. In the four corners stand cylindrical pavilions with Doric porticos. Amisfield House was demolished in 1928 and stood on the site of the Haddington Golf Clubhouse.
- 15. The Summer House** was built in 1754/5, probably to a design by Isaac Ware. It had ceased to be used and become roofless by the 1850s. It looks north over the 16th fairway of the Golf Course, and was consolidated as a ruin in 2004/5 with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- 16. The Corn Exchange** AD1854. As East Lothian was a great grain growing district, Haddington needed a corn exchange. When the assembly rooms were built in 1788, it was built on pillars so that the corn merchants and farmers could do their business under shelter. In AD1854 a new corn exchange was built next to the County Courthouse and it was custom built with a high glass roof, hardwood floors and booths for the dealers and farmers along the walls.
- 17. Tweeddale Monument:** erected in 1881 to the 8th Marquis of Tweeddale (1787-1876), soldier (rising to Field Marshal) and agriculturalist.
- 18. Merchant Houses.** The Bank of Scotland and the Royal Bank of Scotland, occupy 18th and 19th century mansions built by wealthy merchants.