

Heritage Trail Plaques

Look out for the 13 plaques at each of the heritage trail sites numbered on the map overleaf. Here is an example of what to look for. If you have a smart phone the QR code will link you directly to the heritage pages of www.newtonmore.com if you want to find out more.



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CAIRNGORMS
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Welcome to Newtonmore's Heritage Trail

Newtonmore is a traditional Highland village with much to offer visitors. Why don't you take a walk around the village and take in the character and history of the buildings and sites as you enjoy your walk.

There are 13 information plaques to spot along the way but there are many more points of interest to look out for and these are highlighted on the map overleaf.

You can find out more about the village and all it has to offer at: www.newtonmore.com

or find us at:

www.newtonmore.com/things-to-do/in-newtonmore/heritage-trail.html

or

www.facebook.com/NewtonmoreBusinessAssociation



Inclusion on this leaflet is not an invitation into the property. Please remember that some of the sites are on private land and we ask that you respect all property owners' privacy.

Welcome to

Newtonmore

Fàilte gu Baile Ùr an t-Slèibh



A Heritage Trail

in

The Heart of Scotland

NEWTONMORE



Other Points of Interest

A. Broom Lea

One of the two oldest houses in the village, this was the home of the ferryman who brought travellers over the Spey at Ralia before the bridge was built. It also provided stabling for coach horses.

B. Letterbox Restaurant

Also known as Dod's Corner before becoming a restaurant, this was the site of the original post office.



C. Bank House

One of two original banks in the village, the British Linen Bank first opened a branch in Newtonmore in 1906 then moved to this location in 1934.



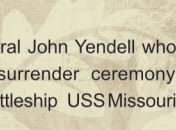
D. Oldest shop

Originally opened in the late 1800s as a coal merchant, this is now the oldest continuous business premises in the village.



E. Bell Cottage

This was the home of Rear Admiral John Yendell who was present at the Japanese surrender ceremony aboard the United States Navy battleship USS Missouri on 2 September 1945.



F. Speyville

This was the home of the late Sir Thomas Macpherson, a World War II hero, who was at one time the most decorated living soldier in the British Army.

G. Railway Station

This building replaced the original wooden station which was destroyed by fire in 1893. The architect was William Roberts. The opening of the railway in 1863 revolutionised life in the village. Trains brought in tourists, attracted by the magnificent scenery and fresh mountain air. By the 1890s Newtonmore was a fashionable holiday resort.



H. Old Coffin Road

This was the route taken by funerals which crossed the Spey to reach the Cemetery - see no. 13.

I. The Eilan

This is the famous Eilan, home of Newtonmore Camanachd Club. Shinty, the ancient game of the Highlanders, has been played here since time immemorial.



Eilan comes from the Gaelic for island. You can see shinty games here most Saturdays from March to October.

J. Spey Bridge

The original bridge over the Spey opened in 1765. It was replaced by this concrete bridge in 1927 as part of the reconstruction of the Great North Road, now the A9. The bridge was designed by the architect Maxwell Ayrton and the engineer Sir Owen Williams.



K. Calder Bridge

The original Calder Bridge was designed by Thomas Telford and opened in 1814 as part of the new road to Fort William. It was badly damaged by floods in 1978 and demolished. If you look upstream you can see what little is left of it. This replacement bridge was opened in 1982.



L. Well of the Alder

This spring has been used for centuries. Its Gaelic name - Fuaran lag an dromain - means the spring of the hollow of the ridge. People drew water from here long after the village had a water supply. You will find further information on the panel at the spring.



1. Highland Folk Museum

The Museum was founded in the 1930s by Dr Isobel Grant who collected "old, homely Highland things" to preserve the history of the Highlands. The collection has had several homes - Iona, Laggan, Kingussie and now Newtonmore.



2. Loch Imrich

The loch is a kettle hole, one of several in the area. It was formed by a melting glacier. In the past the loch was used as a curling pond and skating rink and is now a favourite spot for walking. Information panels around the loch will tell you more.



3. Balavil Hotel

The hotel opened in the 1880s and was rebuilt in the early 1900s as Newtonmore became a busy holiday resort. The Balavil has had a long association with shinty - see the photos in the back bar. The Ormiston family started the first ski school here in 1948 and pony-trekking holidays in 1952.



4. Golf Club

The course opened in 1893 with 9 holes. A good course was essential to attract summer visitors and in 1896 the St Andrew's professional, Tom Morris, improved the Newtonmore course. In 1904, a local architect, Alexander Macpherson, designed the original club house.



5. War Memorial

The war memorial was unveiled on 5 January 1921. It takes the form of a Celtic cross, seventeen feet high. Twenty-eight men and one woman from the village died in World War I and fifteen men in World War II.



6. Village Hall

Newtonmore has had a Village Hall since 1889. This building was designed by a local architect, Alexander Cattanach in 1913. The mosaics were gifted in 2013 for the Hall's centenary.



A Heritage Trail in The Heart of Scotland

KEY
Heritage Trail Sites
(with information plaques)

1 to 13

Points of Interest
A to L

W Wildcat Centre (visitor information)

P Parking

PO Post Office

TT Public Toilets



13. Banchor Cemetery

Known in Gaelic as Cladh Bhrìghde, the cemetery is on the site of a 6th century chapel dedicated to St Bride. In 1876 access to the cemetery was blocked when the farmer built over the road. After a court case, he was obliged to provide an alternative route.



12. Dower House

This house was built in 1887 for the dowager Mrs Macpherson of Balavil, mother of the local landowner. It was named Balvadan, but became known as the Red House, due to its original red harling. DH Lawrence is thought to have worked on *Lady Chatterley's Lover* when he stayed here in the summer of 1926.



11. Clan Macpherson Museum

This building opened as the Clan Macpherson Museum in 1952. Formerly called Dochanassie, the house was built around 1908. In the past it has been a tailor's shop, post office and tea room. Ironically it served as both a post office and tea room in the TV series *Monarch of the Glen*.

10. Main's House Care Home

This building was originally The Hotel, Newtonmore. It was opened by Sam Macdonald in 1888 and expanded rapidly as the village became popular with tourists. Stagecoaches once stopped here en route to Fort William. The hotel was later bought by the Main family. It closed in 2001 and was converted into a care home.



8. Monarch Country Apartments

Originally the Craig Mhor Hotel, the building opened in 1906 and was extended only three years later to meet the growing demand for tourist accommodation. In 1909 the turret was added. It closed in 2001 and the building was converted into apartments.



9. Craigellachie House

This is the oldest house in Newtonmore, but it is uncertain whether it dates from the 1760s or the 1820s. It served as an inn up to the 1880s. Since then the house has had many other uses, including a draper's shop, tea-room and pharmacy.

7. St Bride's Church

The church was built in 1958 after the congregations of St Columba's and St Andrew's combined. Stone and stained glass windows from both churches were used in the new church. St Bride is a Celtic saint; there was a chapel dedicated to her near the west end of the village (see no. 13).

