



Perth and Kinross
Heritage Trust

Archaeology | Architecture | Conservation



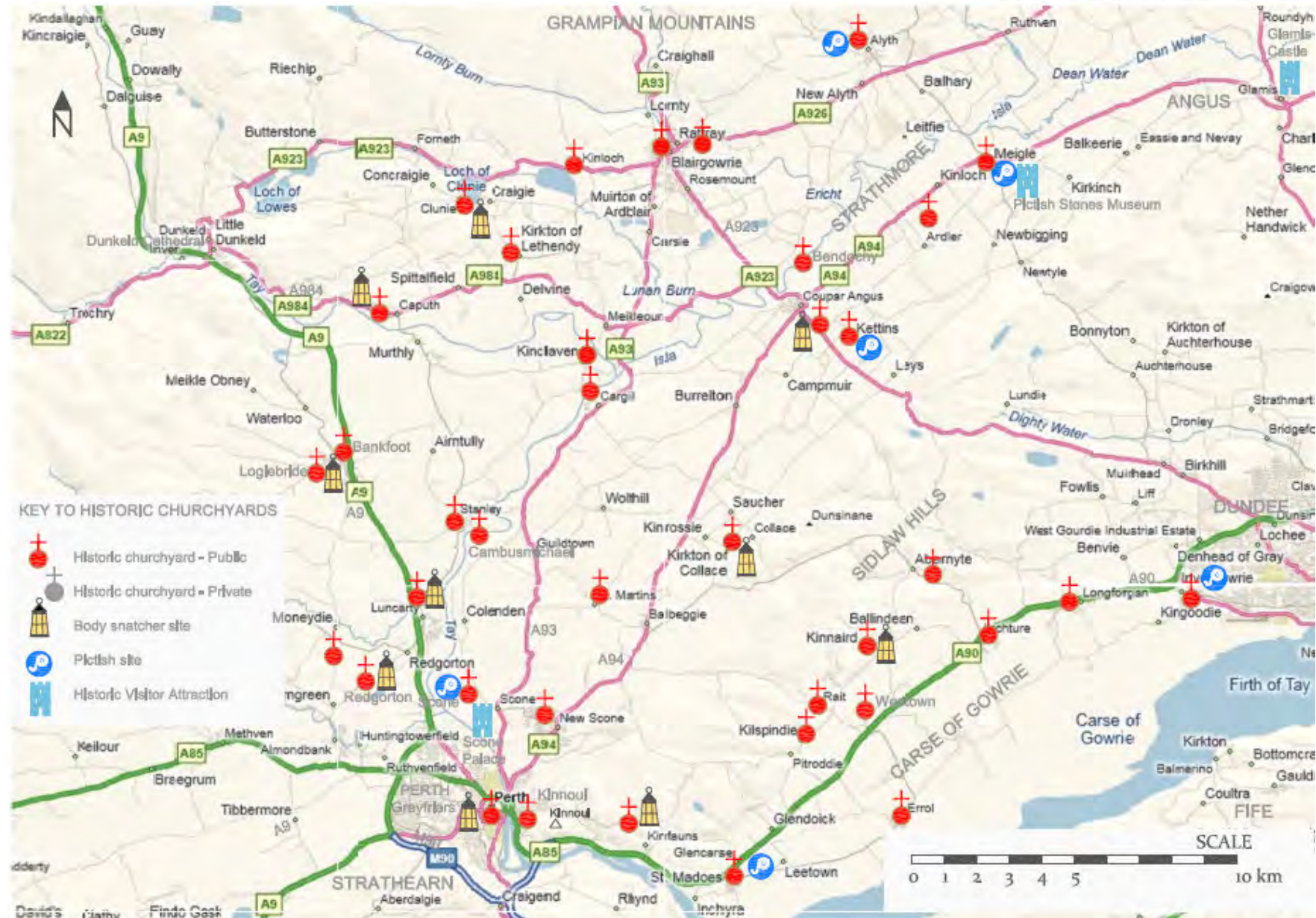
Historic Churchyards Project



Historic Churchyards Project

Conserving & Understanding
Historic Churchyards
in East Perthshire

Historic Churchyards Project Map





Historic Churchyards Project



There are some fascinating churchyard histories:

- The Picts
- Early Christians
- The Reformation
- Social history 16th C to date
- Art and architecture
- Family history
- The body snatchers



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PERTH &
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The Picts-Perthshire was part of South Pictland



Symbols and carved
stones at Meigle
Pictish stones museum





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- The Early Christians, the Medieval and the Reformation





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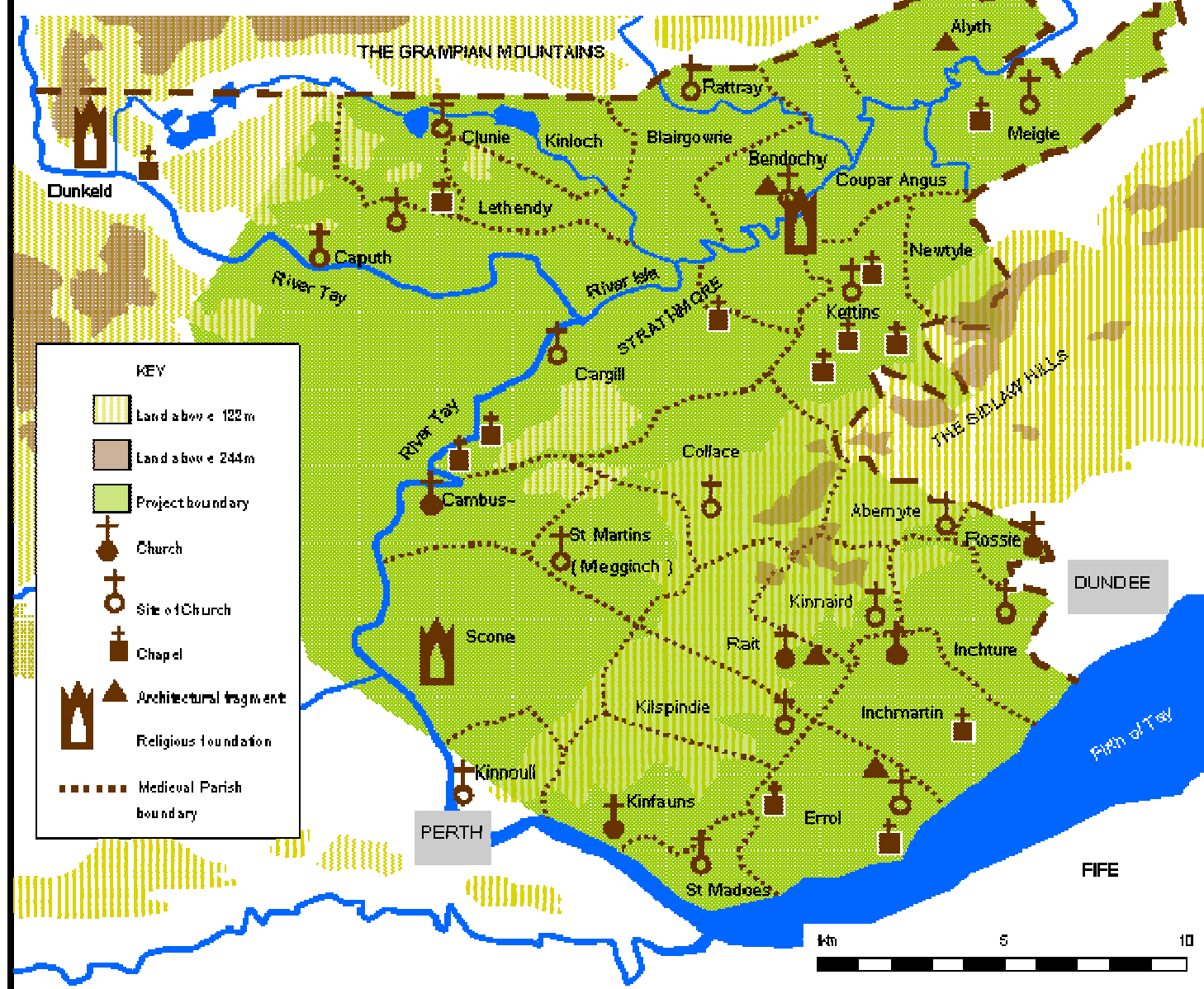


Social history from 17th C–famous people and events, trade stones of different occupations





Medieval parishes (after South-east Perth an archaeological landscape)



Map of
Medieval
Parishes in
East
Perthshire



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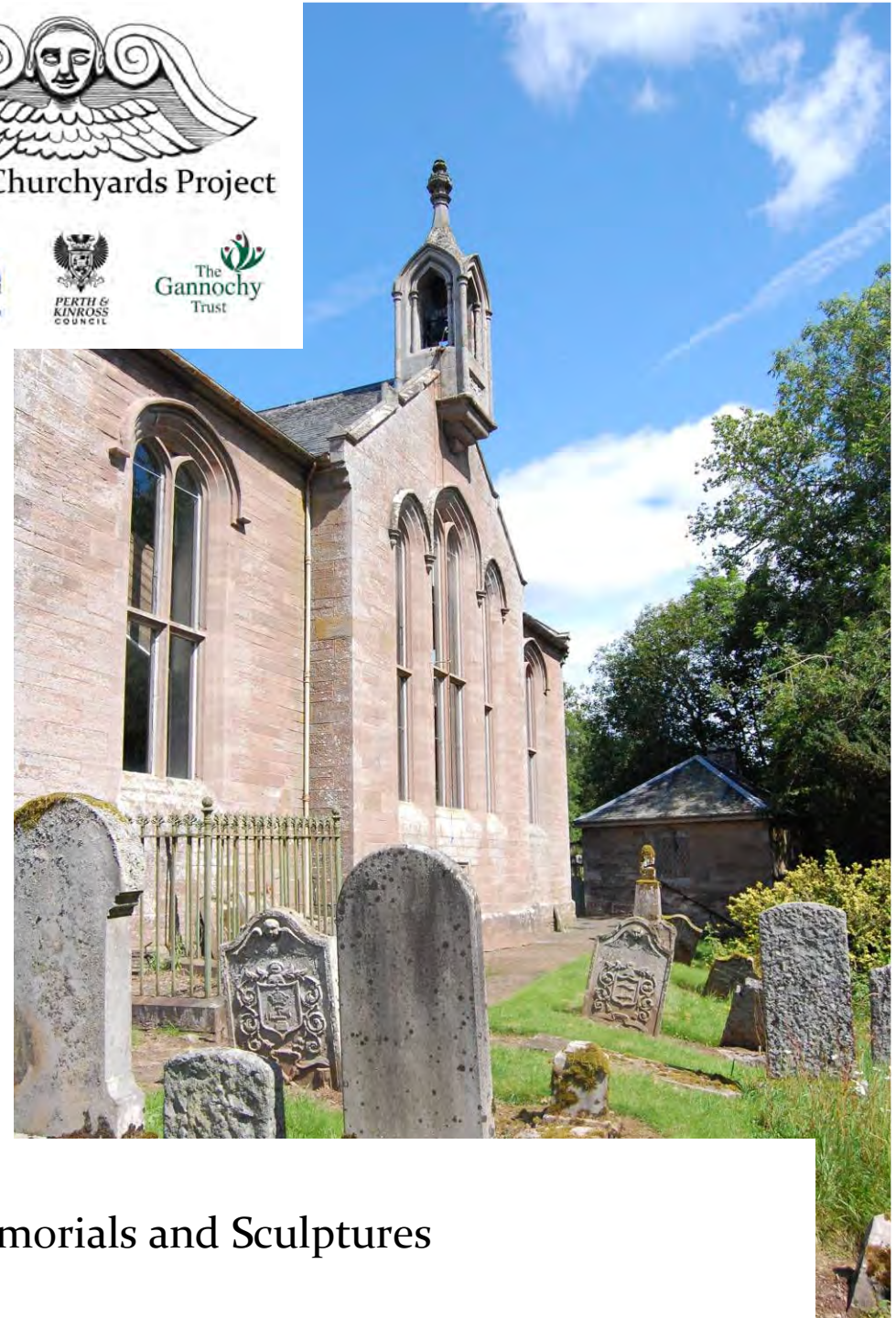
Conserving-Westown





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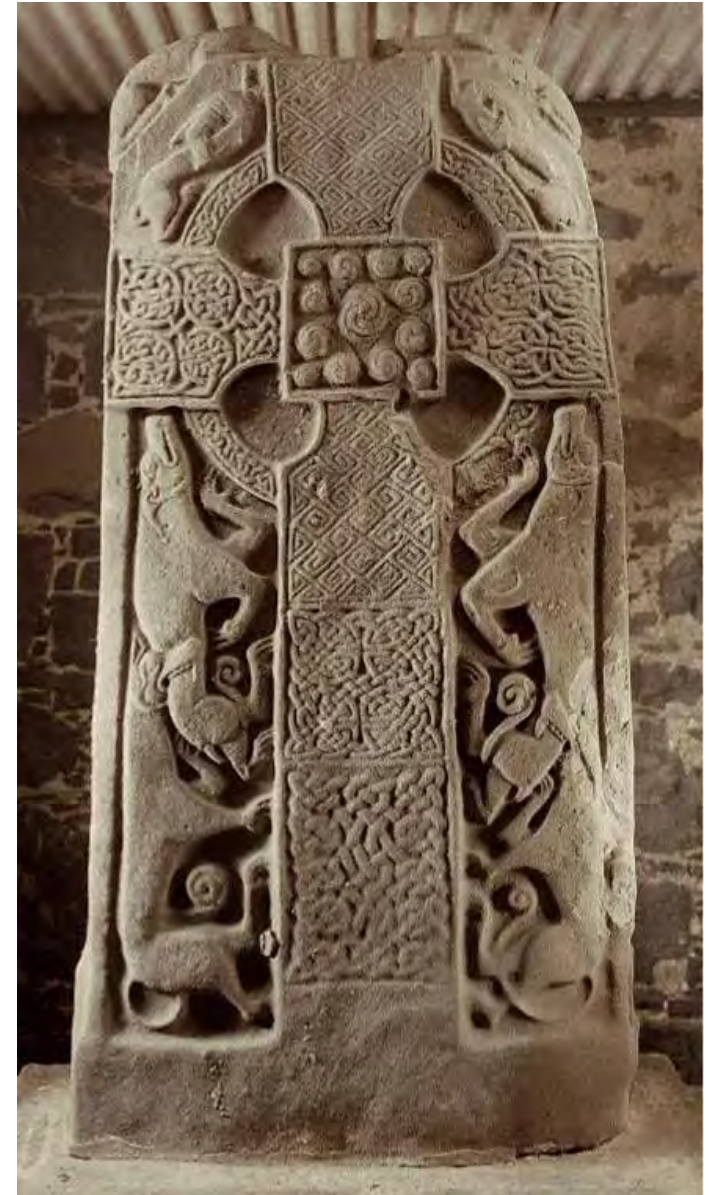
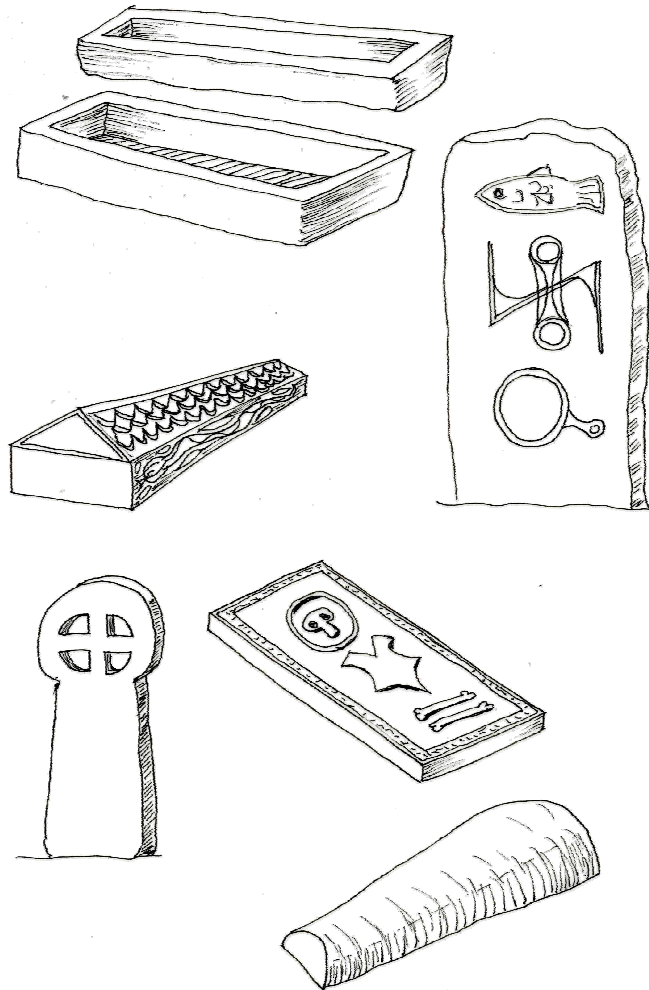




- Art and architecture-Mausoleums, Memorials and Sculptures



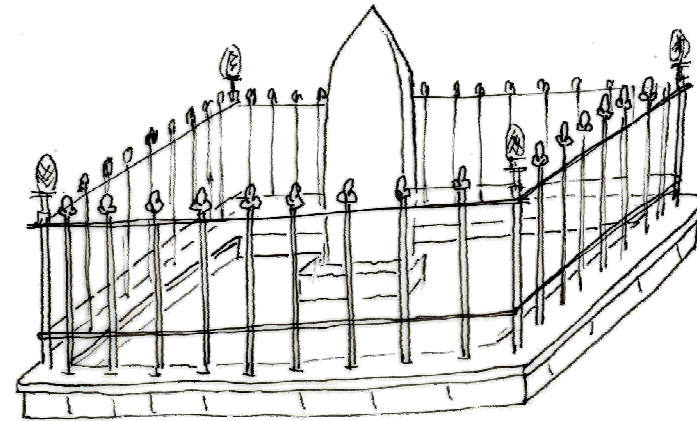
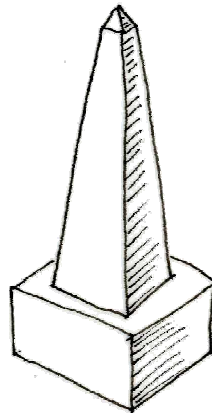
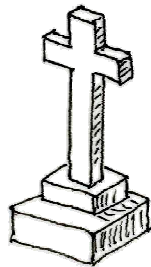
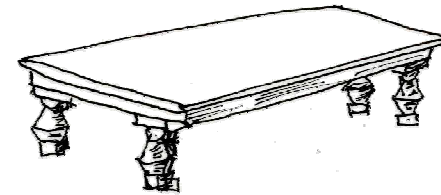
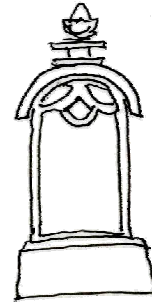
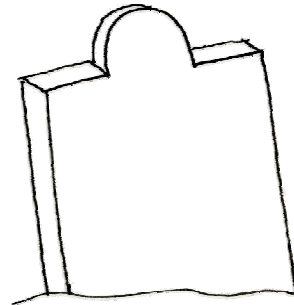
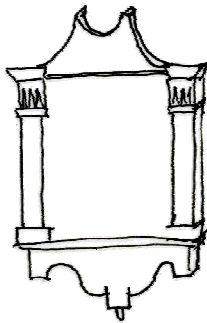
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Types of gravestones- Pictish and early
Christian stones



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Types of gravestones

Carved stones



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With religious
symbols



Greyfriars Burial Ground Perth.
Headstone, John Cameron 1734





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The body snatchers or 'Resurrectionists'



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Repairing the ground around the stones



Turning them into wild flower meadows



GRAVEYARD ACTIVITIES 2:

How old is your churchyard and church?

- Look at old maps, dates on the church and gravestones
 - *Find the oldest gravestone*
- *Do you have any small buildings old churches, mausoleums or other small buildings*
 - Look at old maps, dates on the church and gravestones

Are there any interesting or famous people or events recorded on the stones?

Look at old maps, dates on the church and gravestone inscriptions

Is there any evidence of body snatching in your churchyard?

- Look for a watch house or a mort house, cist or chest tombs, burial enclosures



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GRAVEYARD ACTIVITIES 3:

Have you spotted any interesting angels

- Look for winged souls
- Do they all look the same or are they different?

Have you spotted any interesting trade symbols?

Look for plough, looms, shuttles, hammers, carts

Are there any symbols you do not recognise?

- **Try and find out what everything is**

Have you spotted any death symbols?

Look for skulls, crossed bones, hourglasses, sickles

Try sketching out some of the most interesting carvings



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GREEN GRAVEYARD ACTIVITIES 4 :

How many different plants grow in the churchyard (apart from grass)?

- *Ground plants, E.g. Daisies, Dockens, Flowering plants*
 - *Shrubs and hedges?*
 - *Trees?*

Are there walls and vestones covered in lichens and mosses?

- *What about birds and small mammals?*

Are there any nests, birds droppings, rabbit droppings, burrows, mole hills?

- **Try and count how many birds you can see over 1 week**
 - **Amphibians and reptiles**
 - *Do you have any frogs, toads or lizards in your churchyard?*

Insects and invertebrates

Do you have any bees, beetles, butterflies and snails in your churchyard?