

## 2. Stonebreakers' Yard

Serious road building started in the Highlands after 1803. Telford's roads were made using local stones packed with fine material. Horses, carts, coaches and livestock churned the surface, so local roadmen broke up larger stones in these 'yards' to fill the potholes!!



## 3. Cannon on Mitchell Hill

The two cannon were fired in 1911 to mark the coronation of King George V. There are great views of the Black Isle and the Cromarty Firth from the hill.



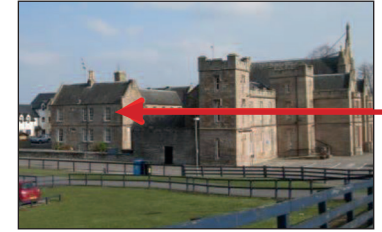
## 4. Dingwall Canal and Harbour

Silt brought down the River Peffrey hampered trade, so a canal and a harbour were planned. Thomas Telford was the engineer and though Commissioners for Roads contributed £3000, local landowners had to stump up the rest for the 2000-foot-long canal. The coming of the railways and problems with silt meant the canal was only in use from 1817 to the 1880s. There is a path along the canal bank, forming part of the Round Dingwall Walk. The top photo shows remains of the wooden pier and the build-up of silt at low tide; and the bottom photo looks back along the canal at high tide.



## 5. Former Jail

The old jail (1732) stood where the present Town House is located. The jailer sometimes forgot to lock the door. Prisoners could also prise apart timbers to enable their escape! The First Statistical Account states that in 1790 there were 18 prisoners in the old jail – 11 of whom were there due to debt. No one had been murdered in the town since 1750 nor had anyone been banished! The new jail was built in 1845 but the building is now flats.



## 6. Volunteer Rifle Range

Not much remains of the butts of the 150-year-old rifle range. Take care as it is still in use today though much smaller than the original range as can be seen on 1st O.S. map of 1873.

# OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Take time to explore these historic features around the Royal Burgh of Dingwall.

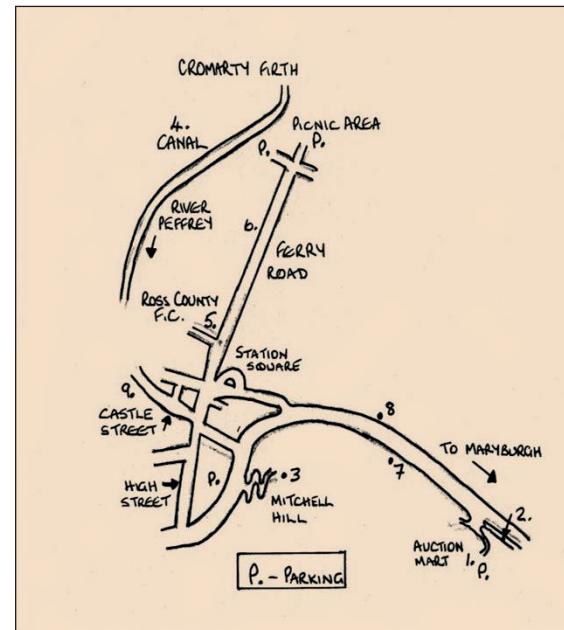
## 1. Drover Exhibition

In July 2008, the Princess Royal opened the Drover Exhibition in the upper area of Dingwall and Highland Mart building. Using display panels, audio visual presentations and photographs, the Highland Livestock Heritage Society has been able to chart the important part drovers played in Highland history when they herded cattle and sheep over huge distances to markets further south. Bronze statue by Lucy Poett.



## 9. Doocot (Dove cot)

Built as a folly in 1825, this doocot used stone from the ruins of Dingwall Castle, the last traces of which were seen in 1818.



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7. Spootie Well – a watering place for your horse. The well is mentioned in Town Council minutes for 1767 as it was used as a marker for land being parcelled out by the council. Then it was called the Spout Well.



8. Ben Wyvis Distillery opened in 1879 but closed in 1920. It was built on terraces and used water from Loch Ussie and barley brought in by rail, then taken by horse and cart to the barns on top of the hill. It was renamed Ferintosh Distillery to take advantage of the good name associated with the first legal distillery in Scotland dating from 1699. No whisky from Ben Wyvis is known to exist!