



Alexander Blackwood, 1805-1891 (Edinburgh)



Broughton

Gayfield

Drum Park
Militia Artillery
Barracks

Moray Park
Maltings

EDINBURGH

CITY

EDINBURGH

Royal Gymnasium
Goods Sta.

Argent Gardens
Observatory
National
Museum
(Unfinished)

Holmwood Palace

The Castle

St. Margaret's Wall
(Covered)

Church

Church

Sta.

St. Andrew
Square

H.M. Prison

St. Margaret's
Well

Church

New College

Haggis Knowe

St. Anthony's Chapel
(Ruins of)

Old Palace Terrace

Grassmarket

Old Quarries

600 Yards

Boy

Victoria Street

Lawmarket

St. Margaret's

Boy

Grassmarket

Victoria Street

St. Margaret's

Boy

Grassmarket

Victoria Street

St. Margaret's

Boy

Grassmarket

Victoria Street

St. Margaret's

Boy

22 March 1805

Birth of Alexander Blackwood, the eldest child to John Blackwood, the co-owner of haberdashery, T & J Blackwood based in 60 South Bridge and Isabella (nee Carmichael) Blackwood. Home being in the Pleasance.

At the age of around 7

Became deaf through an attack of scarlet fever



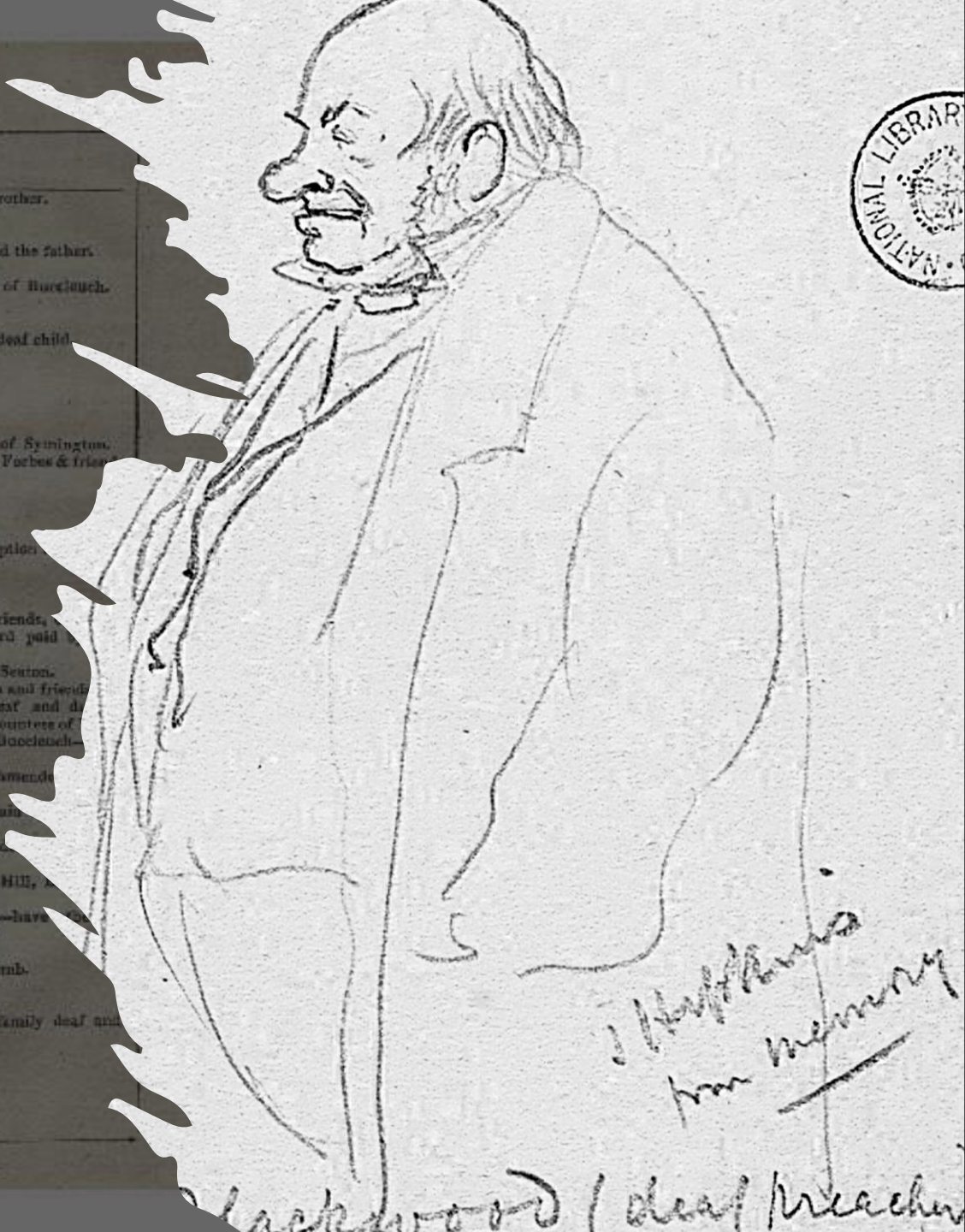
LIST of CHILDREN in the Institution.

Names of Children.	Age.	From what Place.	Date of Entry to Institution.	Rate of Board per ann. paid by Institution.	REMARKS.
1 Joseph Turner	16	Woodside	1811. June 3.	£ 5	Remainder of board paid by his brother.
Charles McKechnie	17	Musselburgh	Ditto.	—	Board paid by friends.
* James Napier	15	Kilinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with his mother.
James Mitchell	13	Berwickshire	Ditto.	9	Remainder paid by Mr Swinton and the father.
3 John Henderson	12	Edinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with his parents.
Elizabeth Wright	12	Dalkeith	Ditto.	—	Board paid by his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch.
* Margaret Duff	22	Edinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with her father.
Elizabeth Sherriff	14	Ditto.	Ditto.	—	Ditto ditto
Jane Hunter	11	Twalton	Apr. 25.	18	Parents very poor—have another deaf child.
* John Carmichael	10	Ditto.	1812. Jan. 17.	—	Lodges with her mother.
* John Hall	8	Ditto.	Feb. 11.	—	Lodges with his mother.
Isabella Bremner	10	Warr of Leith	1813. April 13.	9	Board paid by subscription parish of Symington.
* James Kay	11	Ditto.	May 27.	—	Remainder of board paid by Mrs J. Forbes & friends.
20 Thomas Parkman	10	Leith	— May 31.	—	—
John ...	10	Leith	— Aug.	—	An orphan—board paid by subscription.
* Percival Glennall	9	Forbes	1814. Aug. 1.	—	Lodges with his parents.
Forbes Robie	11	Aberdeen	— June 12.	—	—
30 John Bell ...	10	Edinburgh	— Aug. 14.	—	—
Charles Mackay	10	Edinburgh	— Oct. 10.	10	—
James Macchord	11	Ayrshire	1815. Jan. 16.	10	—
Sarah Anderson	13	Glasgow	1811. Dec. 20.	—	—
35 Betty Anderson	10	Ditto.	Ditto.	—	—
Christian Hardie	16	Ditto.	1812. July 25.	18	Parents unable to pay any thing—have another in the same affecting situation.
Mary Latham	9	Ditto.	1815. Feb. 15.	20	—
Janet Speer	14	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	Another in the family deaf and dumb.
John Warnock	8	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
40 Jessa Robertson	12	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
Catherine Dowie	14	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
Richard Davie	11	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
Helen Murdoch	12	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
Robert Donnelly	8	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—
45 Ann Black	11	Ditto.	Ditto.	20	—

Those marked * pay for education according to their circumstances.



The caricature of Sandy Blackwood 'drawn from memory' by John A. Hipkins is from the Album no. 9. *Our neighbours: The deaf and their partners*, housed in the NLS Special Collections. (MS2927)



J. A. Hipkins
from memory

Blackwood (deaf) Meach...

LIST of CHILDREN in the Institution.

6 October 1813

At the age of 8, attended Edinburgh Institution for Deaf and Dumb Children, based in George Street (to be re-checked) under the headship of Rev. Robert Kinniburgh who led the school from 1811 to 1847.

Among his school contemporaries were Joseph Turner, later a teacher; John Carmichael, later the landscape artist and postage stamp designer in Australia; and Alexander Atkinson, the author of *Memoirs of My Youth*.

1814

School relocated to the former Excise Office premises in Chesses Court, occupying basement and ground floor.

Names of Children.	Age.	From what Place.	Date of Entry to Institution.	Rate of Board per ann. paid by Institution.	REMARKS.
1 Joseph Turner	15	Woodside	1811. June 3.	£ 5	Remainder of board paid by his brother.
Charles McKechnie	17	Musselburgh	Ditto.	—	Board paid by friends.
*James Nupier	15	Edinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with his mother.
James Mitchell	13	Berwickshire	Ditto.	9	Remainder paid by Mr Swinton and the father.
5 John Henderson	12	Edinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with his parents.
Elizabeth Wright	12	Dalkeith	Ditto.	—	Board paid by his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch.
*Margaret Duff	22	Edinburgh	Ditto.	—	Lodges with her father.
Elizabeth Sherriff	14	Ditto	Ditto.	—	Ditto ditto
Jane Hunter	11	Tealing	— June 26.	18	Parents very poor—have another deaf child.
10 *Mary Roy	11	Elgin	— Dec. 28.	—	
*Ann Gaudie	23	Edinburgh	— Dec. 20.	—	Lodges with her mother.
*John Carmichael	10	Ditto	1812. Jan. 17.	—	
*Helen Hall	16	Thornly Bank	— June 11.	—	
*Henry Ruchorn Inglis	8	Stockbridge	— July 8.	—	Lodges with his mother.
15 Robert Reid	11	Symington	— Nov. 9.	—	Board paid by subscription parish of Symington.
Isabella Bremner	10	Water of Leith	1813. April 13.	9	Remainder of board paid by Mrs J. Forbes & friends.
*James Kay	11	Dundee	— May 27.	—	
*Robert Brysson	11	Denny	— June 7.	—	
Robert Pollock	9	East Killbride	Ditto.	—	Board paid by the father.
20 Thomas Pattison	10	Leith	— May 31.	—	
John Fenton	10	Perth	— Aug. 25.	—	An orphan—board paid by subscription in Perth.
*Alexander Blackwood	9	Edinburgh	— Oct. 6.	—	Lodges with his parents.
*George Ogle	13	Ireland	— Oct. 23.	—	
*Percival Clennell	9	England	1814. Aug. 1.	—	
25 Charles Scott	10	Greenock	— Feb. 25.	—	Board paid by Rev. R. Steel and friends, Greenock.
Andrew Johnstone	12	Dundee	— April 11.	10	{ A poor family—remainder of board paid by Miss Stewart and friends.
Forbes Rubie	11	Aberdeen	— June 12.	—	Board paid by J. Forbes, Esq. of Seaton.
Isabella Shannon	8	Crossmichael	— July 20.	2	Board paid by Rev. John Johnston and friends.
Mary Norrey	9	Fifehire	— Aug. 2.	10	{ Parents very poor—other two deaf and dumb—remainder of board paid by the Countess of Leven.
30 John Bricearvas	13	Edinburgh	— Aug. 15.	20	{ Recommended by the Duke of Buccleuch—other two deaf and dumb.
George Wallace	9	Collinton	— Aug. 16.	20	{ Other two deaf and dumb—recommended by Mrs Deans.
Charles Mackay	10	Edinburgh	— Oct. 10.	10	{ An orphan—remainder of board paid by Lady Seaforth.
James Machowl	11	Ayrshire	1815. Jan. 16.	10	{ Other three in the family—remainder of board paid by Miss Cathcart.
Sarah Anderson	13	Glasgow	1811. Dec. 20.	—	{ Sisters—board paid by James Hill, Esq. Glasgow.
35 Betty Anderson	10	Ditto	Ditto.	—	{ Parents unable to pay any thing—have other two in the same affecting situation.
Christian Hardie	16	Ditto	1812. July 25.	18	
Mary Letham	9	Ditto	1815. Feb. 15.	20	
Janet Sproul	14	Ditto	Ditto.	20	Another in the family deaf and dumb.
John Warnock	8	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
40 Jean Robertson	12	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
Catherine Davie	14	Ditto	Ditto.	20	{ Sisters—another in the same family deaf and dumb.
Richard Davie	11	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
Helen Murdoch	12	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
Robert Donnelly	8	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
45 Ann Black	11	Ditto	Ditto.	20	
				£321	

Those marked * pay for education according to their circumstances.

June 1830

Matthew Robert Burns established his first church service for deaf worshippers as its Pastor, at Lady Stair's Close.

September 1830

Alexander Blackwood at the age of 25, was appointed as Pastor working in tandem with M R Burns until the latter's resignation in 1834 when he took up the appointment with Aberdeen Deaf and Dumb Institution as its 2nd Head Teacher.

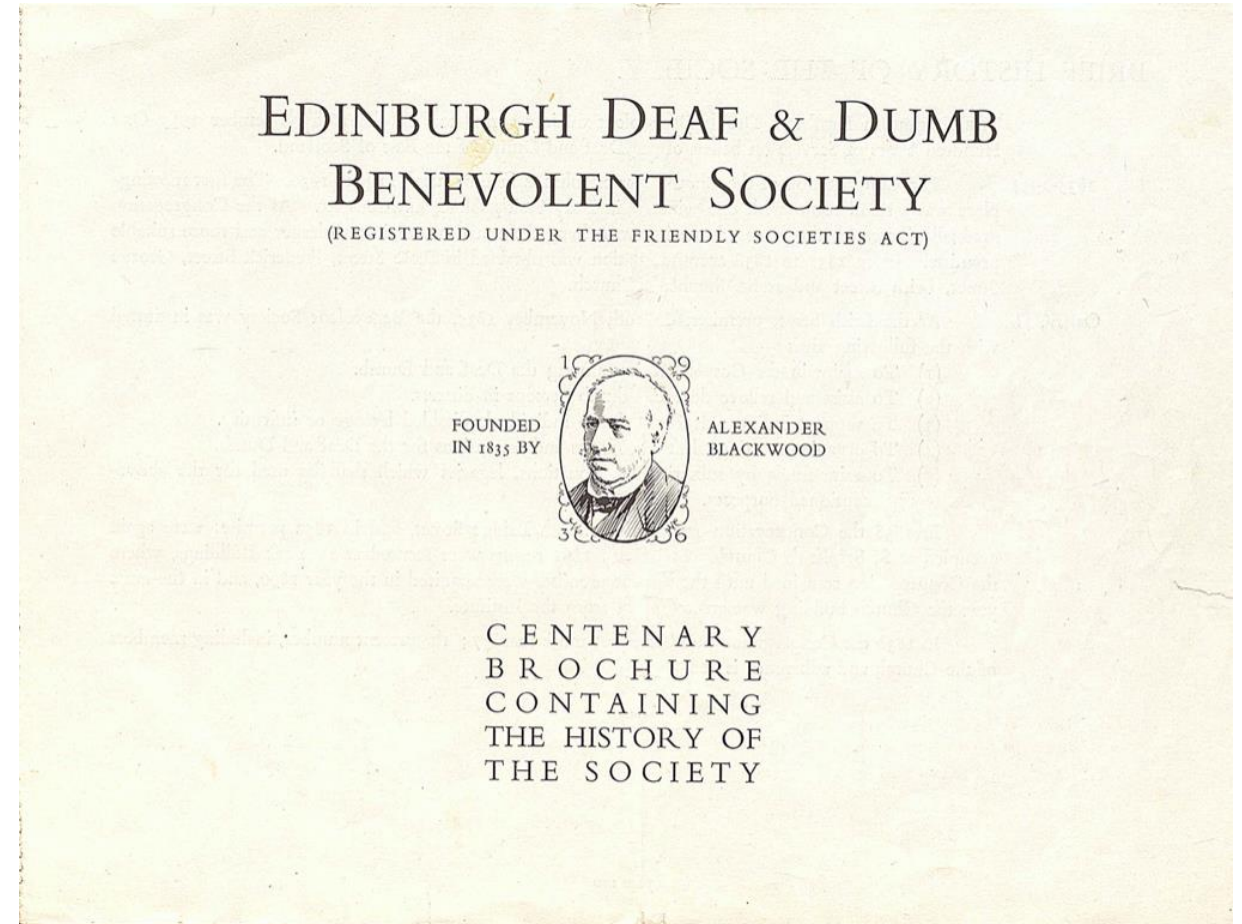


16 November 1835

Meeting led by Alexander Blackwood held at 35 Leith Street, to establish Edinburgh Benevolent Society for the Deaf and Dumb supporting deaf adults in need.

Objectives of the EBSDD

- 1) to maintain the Gospel Mission.
- 2) to assist and relieve deaf and dumb persons in distress.
- 3) to support indigent deaf and dumb individuals disabled by age or infirmity.
- 4) to organise meetings, lectures, classes, and recreation for the deaf and dumb.
- 5) to raise funds by subscriptions, donations and legacies that shall be use for the above-mentioned purposes.



Pastors of the Congregation.

June 1830 Matthew Robert Burns,
resigned 1834. now at London
September 1830 Alexander Blackwood

Elders of the Congregation.

1834 James Napier, resigned
June 1838.
1834 Thomas Pattison, went to Australia 1838
1834 John Drysdale
1834 Alexander Drysdale, resigned 1846
1851 Charles F. Mackenzie
1856 John Simpson
1861 Andrew Clark
1861 John Fesson
1861 David Nairn
1861 Peter McDonald

List of
Members and
of Non-Members
Belonging to the Deaf and
Dumb Congregation of Edin^{burgh}.

From June 1830, when the Con-
gregation was first established
to the spring of 1831, during
which time we occupied our
first Meeting Place at ^{opposite} Lady
Stair's Close, High Street.

- 1 Matthew Robert Burns now in London
- 2 James Napier died 23 January 1836
aged 65
- 3 Thomas Pattison, now at Australia
- 4 Charles F. Mackenzie Brother of No 100
- 5 John Drysdale husband to No 79
- 6 Alexander Drysdale his brother now at Dundee
married to a hearing wife
- 7 John Simpson, Married to a hearing wife
- 8 Andrew Johnstone married to a hearing wife

1838 – 1852

The church and the society operated from its South Bridge premises before moving on to St Stephen's School, Brunswick Street (now renamed as St. Stephen's Street), Stockbridge*.

1851 – 1880

Church services were conducted in a room within St Stephen's Parish Church*.

February 10th 1871

Meeting held at Macgregor's Royal Hotel, Princes Street to execute the scheme to *erect the Hall or Place of Worship for the use by the Edinburgh Deaf and Dumb Congregation; or for the erection or purchase of a permanent building or institute to contain not only a place of worship for the deaf and dumb congregation, but likewise accommodation for carrying out operations the various operations of the Original Benevolent Society within the walls.*

"Proposed Church for the Deaf and Dumb."

"A Meeting of the Committee formed for the promotion of the above Scheme was held in the Bible Society's Room, 5 Saint Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Friday December 20th 1871."

"John M. Lazen Esq. occupied the Chair (in the absence of Charles Cowan Esq., the President, who entered the Room after the Chairman had addressed a few opening remarks to the Meeting."

"There were present among others
"Alex. Blackwood, Esq. Mrs. W. Blackwood.
"Miss Blackwood. Mrs. French.
"Mr. J. M. Donald. Mr. John Graham.
"Mr. James Graham. Mr. A. M. Ruff."

"The Secretary having submitted his Report as to the state of the Building Fund, and also having submitted a proposal for the erection of a place of worship for the Deaf and Dumb in Edinburgh Street at the Meeting which was on

1878

Due to Blackwood's inability to *continue his missionary labours among the deaf and dumb to the full extent as has been wont for upwards of 48 years*, W J Hansell, a Head Teacher of Hull Deaf School was appointed as Blackwood's assistant Missionary and successor.

1889

Purchase of a 4-storied lodging house at 49 Albany Street. Robert Wilson was engaged to undertake architectural works to refurbish the premises and to erect the church at the rear.

1 March 1890

Will or deed made with his brother, William being nominated as the executor.

29 November 1890

Died at his home shared with his two sisters, Jessie and Catherine in 19 Dean Terrace, Stockbridge. Leaving a legacy of £500 to the EBSDD Buried in his family mausoleum at the Nursery section of Old Calton Cemetery.

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Death of Blackwood
their sense of the great loss the Society has sustained by the death, (on the 29th Nov.) of the venerable founder of this Society, Mr Alexander Blackwood, whose lifelong interest in, & efforts for, the welfare of the deaf & dumb have secured him their love & gratitude. A letter of sympathy to the bereaved family of our late Pastor was unanimously approved.
J. C. Mackenzie is President

From Acc. 13643/13 – (References to the church-fund and to Blackwood's death.)

3 January 1891

Probate granted to his brother, William Blackwood, 5 Clarendon Crescent, Edinburgh with estate being valued £4,431 12s 10d, leaving a legacy of £500 to the EBSDD. Information Display Stand featuring Alexander Blackwood, erected at the main section of the Old Calton Cemetery



Blackwood Trail

Untitled layer



60 South Bridge



43 George St



14 Carlton St



19 Dean Terrace



14 George St



Chessels Court



Lady Stair's Close



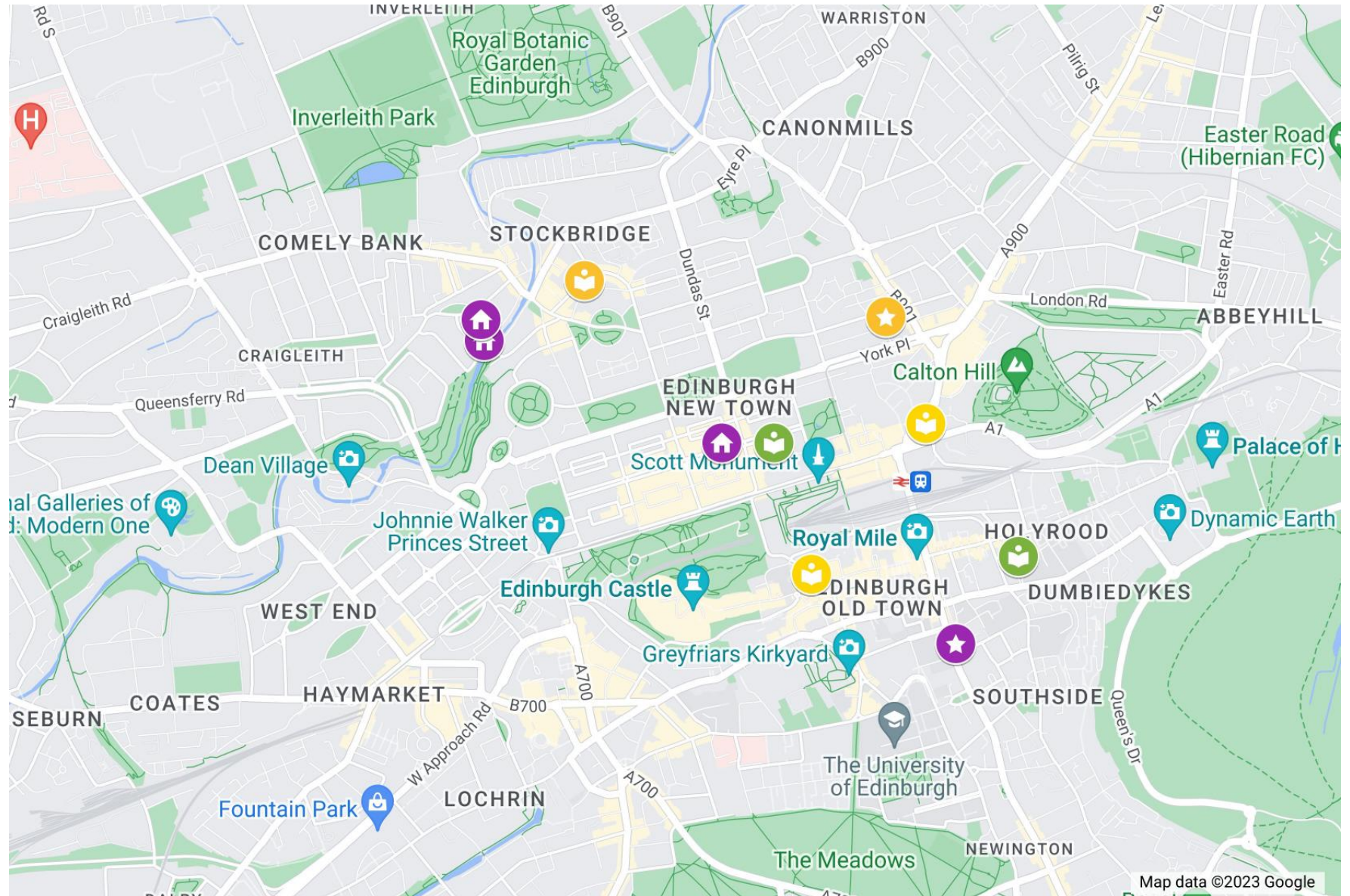
35 Leith St



Saint Stephen Street



49 Albany St



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SCOTLAND
NEW SERIES, 1897.

EDINBURGHSHIRE. SHEET III. N.E.

NOTE.—Black lines and lettering refer to Topography, blue to Geology.

CRAMOND PH. LEITH PARLY & MUNL BURGH WARDIE LEITH PH. LEITH PARLY & MUNL BURGH

EXPLANATION
of
Geological Signs
and Colours

(Included in One-Inch Map 32)

GLACIAL & RECENT

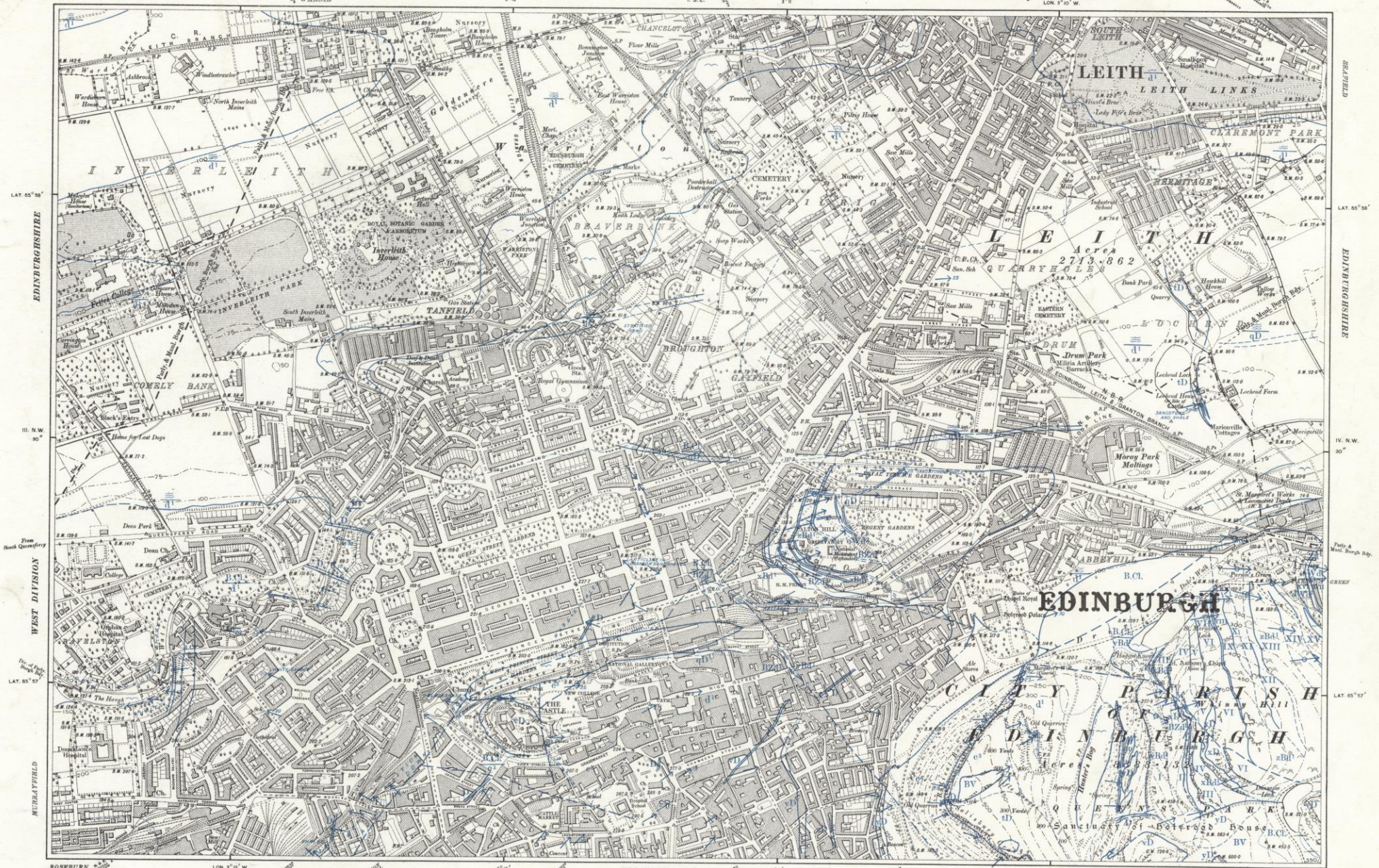
OLD LIME & CARBONIFEROUS

IGNEOUS

INTRUSIVE

↘ Dip observed at the surface.
→ Glacial Stria, the arrow shows direction of ice-flow.
— White lines show the position of faults at the surface: a cross-mark on the downthrown side.
○ Bore Hole.

Freshwater Alluvium	
25' Raised Beach	
Margin of 50' Raised Beach	
Margin of 100' Raised Beach	
Marine Alluvium	
Boulder Clay	B.Cl.
Glacial Deposits	
Limestone	d ¹
Carboniferous Sandstone Series	
Upper	o ¹
Tuff & Agglomerate	ZA ¹
Basic do.	BZd ¹
Markle type	zBd ¹
Dunsapie "	yBd ¹
Craiglockhart "	xBd ¹
Mugarite Lacs	oWa ¹
of Carboniferous Sandstone Age.	
Order of succession of Lava-flows shown by Roman numerals.	
Basic Agglomerate in Vents of Carboniferous Age.	BV
Dolerite	D
Olefine Dolerite	dD
Dalmey type	vD
Markle "	zD
Dunsapie "	yD
Craiglockhart "	xD
Intrusive Dolerites	
Quartz Dolerite	qD



Uncertain lines, outcrops and faults, shown by

References:

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Annual Reports of Edinburgh Institution of the Education of Deaf and Dumb Children. Edinburgh

Edinburgh Street Directories from 1804/05 to 1889/90

Hay, J. A. (2010) *175 Years of Deaf Action: From Benevolence to Empowerment 1835-2010*.

Edinburgh. Deaf Action

Jackson, P. W. & Lee, R. (eds) (2001) *Deaf Lives: Deaf People in History*. Doncaster. BDHS

Publications

Blackwood Family Mausoleum, Nursery Section, Old Calton Cemetery, Edinburgh

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Staff, National Library of Scotland

Staff, Edinburgh City Libraries