

# Key

**A** Maybole's Community Chest  
● Selection of local assets.

✱ Heritage Point  
✱ Scenic View Point

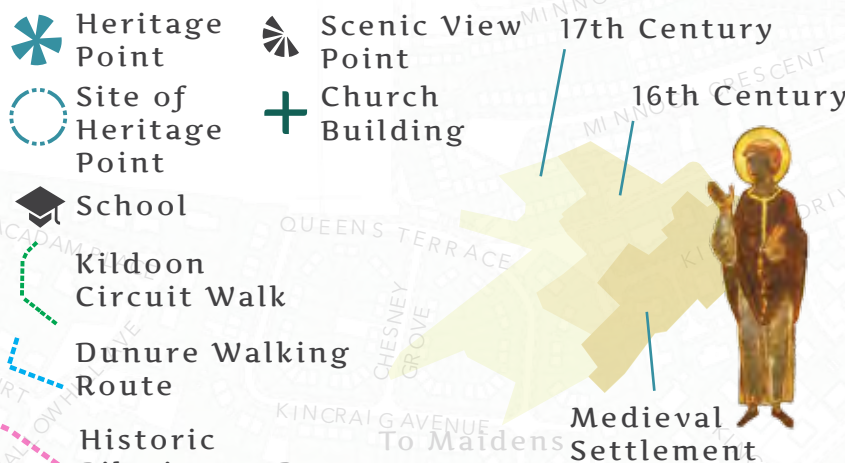
○ Site of Heritage Point  
+ Church Building

🎓 School  
Kildoon Circuit Walk  
Dunure Walking Route

Historic Pilgrimage Route & Dunure (The Whithorn Way)  
National Cycle Route 7

Maybole 500 Heritage Walk  
Developed as part of M500, 2017.

On the Trail of the Tacketties  
Can you spot 'Auld Tacketties' about Maybole?  
Look out for the boots which mark the factories producing this famous footwear.



Carrick Academy



Crossraguel Abbey



War Memorial



Gardenrose Primary

Covenanters' Memorial, Cargilston

Maybole Castle

The Pump

Carnegie Library

Kirkwynd

St Cuthbert's

Old Kirkyard & Site of Historic St Cuthbert's Church

The Collegiate Church

The Garden of Eden

Poor House

The Wee Spout

Town Hall

Lorne

Formerly Weaver Vennel

Ladywell

Welltrees

Possible Site of Maison Dieu

To Kilkerran & Dailly

A GUIDE TO

MAYBOLE

"The toune of Mayboll stands upon an ascending ground from east to west, and lyes open to the south. It hath one principall street, with houses upon both sides, built of freestone; and it is beautified with the situation of two castles, one at each end of this street."

REV. ABERCROMBIE, 1696

Today there is much more to discover in Maybole. Take in the views, make use of the facilities and discover its vibrant past and promising future.



Medieval Settlement:

(5th - 15th Century) Maybole first appears in history in 12th Century as **Meibothel**. Its name may reflect the local geography; coming from the word 'miry' or bog land.

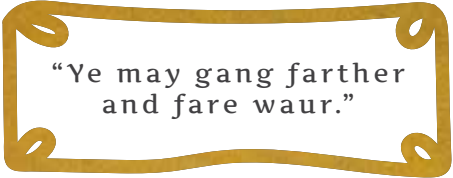
16th Century:

1516, Maybole is granted Burgh of Barony status with Gilbert Earl of Cassillis, as the tenant-in-chief, a landowner who held his estates directly from the crown. Medieval Maybole had been built around religion but now, as a result of the barony status, commerce began to thrive and the town centre developed on the High Street. 16th Century evidence along the High Street particularly on the northern side could be hiding under later buildings.

17th Century:

The High Street was now the 'principall street' in the town and Maybole increased in wealth and significance due to opportunities in commerce and its development as a tourist destination for gentry as Rev. Ambercrombie suggests "were wont to resort hither in winter." Moreover, the religious and political significance of Maybole continued as it became the bailiership (Head Court) of Carrick and signing of the National Covenant; this is also marked as significant in gender equality movements, as there is evidence women were also allowed to sign. (Look out for the site of Mercat Cross which marks the markets held on the High Street, remains can be seen in the Castle grounds and dates from 1707.)

After its burgh of Barony status Maybole continued to thrive in the 18th Century. In fact William and Agnes Burnes, parents of Scotland's National Poet Robert Burns, married in Maybole on 15th December 1757 after their meeting in the bustling Maybole market on the High Street. They moved to Alloway were Burns was born in 1759.



Inscription found on top of the Wee Spout.

Old Kirkyard and Site of St Cuthbert's Church

Site of the first Parish Church in Maybole c1193. The church was dedicated to St Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindesfarne. No evidence of the church remains visible; however, a stone, which can be seen as you enter the Kirkyard, marks its place. There are also references to an unmarked font which was found in the kirkyard next to a gravestone. The font is now in the care of South Ayrshire Museum Stores. Could this have belonged to the early church? If so, who might have used it?

Robert the Bruce was born in Turnberry c1274. Where could he have been baptised?



The Collegiate Church The Garden of Eden

The Collegiate Church (*the Auld College*) is the oldest visible structure in the town. It is a category A-listed Ancient Monument, under the protection of Historic Environment Scotland. Founded by Sir John Kennedy of Dunure in 1371. There is a reference in 1577 to *Masondeu* (Maison Dieu meaning House of God), a hospital connected to the church. Could this be a stop for weary pilgrims? **The Garden of Eden** located south was associated with Paradise as it was the monastic gardens for the Church.



Memorial Park

The War Memorial in the centre of the park sits on one of the higher points of Maybole. It gives an excellent viewpoint of the town and surrounding countryside. A peaceful and appropriate tribute, well used and loved by the town.

Greenside

One of the earliest references to the Greenside is from Rev. William Abercrombie in the late 17th Century "A Vennel from the chief street to the Green which is a pleasant plott of ground enclosed round with an earthen wall wherein they were wont to play at football but now at the gowffe and byasse bowls." Located south of the Greenside was the Parish School, giving School Vennel its name.

The Wee Spout Welltrees, St Helen's, The Pump

The Wee Spout was one of many wells in the town. The plentiful water supply was why the early town was established and up to the mid 20th Century, were places to meet, and previously to wash and work; a central part of town life. St Helen's Well located near Low Milton two and a half miles north of Maybole, was thought to have prevented disease in the town and frail children were brought to be cured. **Welltrees Spout** and My Lord's Well or 'the Pump' provided a consistent water supply for the town, "springing at times so abundantly that when its waters were brimming over, it sent down the channel (of water) which carried them away." *Historical Tales and Legends of Ayrshire*, William Robertson (1889). Today there is a tap at the Castle which is rumoured to still serve.

Crossraguel Abbey

'Cross of Riaghail' meaning Royal, or Regal Cross was founded 1244 by Duncan, first Earl of Carrick. After a dispute with Paisley Abbey, all Carrick possessions held by Paisley were transferred to Crossraguel; making it a popular stopping point for pilgrimage for national and international visitors. The ruin is one of the best examples of Medieval architecture in Scotland today. Its history has been interwoven with the greatest events in Scottish history from the War of Independence (1300s) to the Reformation (1560) and has been a place of inspiration, including for Charles Rennie Mackintosh. (There is also evidence of a helicopter landing by Anneka Rice in the 1980s.)

Maybole's Community Chest

1 Maybole Shore

"Our best kept secret!" Sandy beach between Croy Bay and Culzean Bay. It is reached down an un-signposted minor road, locally known as the Wrack Road; off the A719 just to the west of B7023 Maybole junction. Car park at Goats Green.

2 Memorial Park & Facilities

"If I had a day in Maybole..." Memorial Park includes public walking routes, War Memorial, playpark facilities. **Maybole Golf Course** 01292 616255 www.maybolegolf.com **Swimming Pool** 01655 882568 www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/leisure/swimming-pools/maybole/ **Memorial Park Bowling Club** 01655 883533

3 The Boag Skatepark

"An alternative space." Free access to the public.

4 The Speakers

"Great for coffee and a natter." Licensed Pub, Cafe, Upstairs Hall and Main Room: Available to hire for parties and groups. 01655 718080 www.thespeakers.co.uk

In 2017, as part of M500, the town was asked to play a game of Mayboly; based on Monopoly. The game aimed to discover the town's top things to do, places to visit and hidden gems! It is by no means a full picture of the town but a highlight of places, sites and buildings which came up through conversations; and there is much more to discover and celebrate in Maybole!



(From Left Clockwise) Maybole Amateur Swimming Club, Views across North Carrick at Kildoon Hill, Jousting at the Glebe.

5 The Carrick Centre

"Great for young people." Parish Church, Soft Play Area, Cafe, Auditorium and Rooms: Available to hire for parties and groups. 01655 883222 www.carrickcentre.co.uk

6 The Town Hall

"Perfect for a party." Main Hall and Stage, Kitchen, Council Chambers and Lesser Hall: Available to hire for parties and groups. 01655 889732

7 Kildoon Hill

"Super view of the town." Kildoon Circuit is one of Maybole's favourite walks. Five miles in all. www.ayrshirepaths.org.uk/walkmaybole.htm

8 The Glebe

"Great for a game of fitba'." Free access to the public. Football and play park facilities.

9 High St

"Grab a bargain and a butty." Shops and facilities on the High Street: including Cafes, Butchers, Pet Shop, Pharmacy, Hairdressers, Bakeries, Charity Shop, Grocery Shops and Newsagents, Pubs, Post Office, ATMs, Library, Petrol Station and Council Offices.

Town Hall



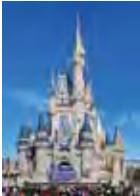
In 1674, the town purchased the land and town house from the lairds of Blairquhan. It was used as a Tolbooth and later a jail. The original bell dated 1696 can be viewed in the Council Chambers. It was extended in Scots Baronial style in 1887. A further addition was 'Spooncreel'. The shop on the ground floor sold tackettie boots and later was a fish and chip shop which locals still remember as the 'best poke of chips' in Maybole. (Though they might not meet standards today, locals will tell you.) Today visit the beautiful gardens which display the original tiles from the Co-operative Butchers.

Scots Baronial Architecture



Maybole Castle is a fine example of 16th Century Scots Baronial Architecture; the style developed out of the tumultuous period of history and the need for 'fortress-like' buildings. Towers were adorned by small turrets, high walls and crow-stepped gables which gave the impression of impregnable strength.

The style was revived in the 18th and 19th Centuries.



Ashgrove Home was built c1860. One of several examples in the town including the Town Hall of revived Baronial Architecture.



Site of the Black House

The Black House's name came from the Dominican monks for whom it was built. The Dominicans were famed for their intellect and were coined 'Blackfriars' in Scotland and England. The name paints a vivid picture; can you imagine them in the Black House pictured here?



Weaving provided industry for cottage weavers found on Ladywell Road, (Weaver Vennel). The south-facing cottages maximised on daylight when working from home. However, as the Industrial Revolution motored on, handloom work became inefficient and the weavers became shoe and bootmakers. Shoe and bootmaking was big business up until the mid 20th Century and people worked in the tanneries, shops and factories across the town. It brought much wealth and allowed supporting industries to flourish like the town's two lemonade factories. The boots known as **Tackettie Boots** are known for their strength and suitability for work.