



Welcome to Lewiston and Drumnadrochit

Fàilte gu Blàr na Maigh is Druim na Drochaid

Pronounced: Falchay goo Blar na My is Dreem na Drocheet

Lewiston dates from the early 19th Century. It was a planned village created by the local laird (landowner) "Good Sir James", Sir James Grant. This was a time when many Highland lairds uachdarain Ghàidhealach were "clearing" "a' fuadach" their tenants from their native glens to make way for more profitable large-scale sheep farming.

Many people left the Highlands to find a living in the south of Scotland or abroad. Some went willingly, others were forced to go, sometimes violently. Here at Lewiston, however, Sir James provided his tenants with houses and plots of ground, plus the opportunity to make crafts or work on his estate.

Milton also has a strong connection with Good Sir James. He encouraged the growth of weaving fìghe in the village and also built several mills to create employment.

Drumnadrochit is now a popular stopping-off point for tourists. In the past, it was also a place cattle were rested before being driven south from the Highlands and Islands A' Ghàidhealtachd is na h-Eileanan to markets such as Falkirk and Crieff. The life of a cattle drover was hard - they lived off oats and whisky, often spending the night outside wrapped in their plaid, ready to guard their cattle against raiders.

Did you know...?

As in other parts of the Highlands, local place names here provide fascinating clues to the area's landscape and past.

Craigmonie:

Mony's rock. Named after Mony, a Norse prince, who is said to have landed on the west coast of Scotland with a large invading army, only to be defeated and killed in the Drumnadrochit area.

Drumnadrochit:

From the Gaelic "Druim na drochaid" (the ridge of the bridge).

Borlum:

Board land - the land which provided the food for the laird's table (board) at Urquhart Castle.

Urquhart:

Thought to be Pictish in origin, from "air" (in) and "cerddin" (woodland or thicket).

Strone:

From "sron", the name of the promontory on which Urquhart Castle stands.

