

# A Map of Duff House & Park 2017

Updated from the 1997 map by  
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Duff House was built by William Adam in 1735 for William Duff, later the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl Fife, and is considered to be the finest example of Georgian architecture north of Edinburgh. The original design included Pavilions each side which were never built due to a dispute between the two.

Set in the rolling landscape of the Deveron Valley, beside the ancient and royal Burgh of Banff, and the harbour town of Macduff which was founded in 1783, DUFF HOUSE has several exterior attractions. Many were erected by James 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl Fife (1729-1809) and include the DUFF MAUSOLEUM and nearby ICE HOUSE within the picturesque Wrack Wood. This contains several walks and children will be fascinated to see the DOGS' HEADSTONE commemorating three favourite pet dogs of the Fife family.

A now-ruined FISHING TEMPLE is set on an island in the Deveron, and on Doune Hill sits the TEMPLE OF VENUS which once housed a statue of the Goddess. Some two miles upriver a spectacular gorge is crossed by the BRIDGE OF ALVAH erected in 1772.

The EAST LODGE is all that remains of a larger gateway consisting of two lodges close to Banff Bridge that formed the main entrance to Duff House, the road to Banff requiring a right hand turn along what is now Bridge Road, and much of the old estate wall encroaching into the town can still be seen. Within this are the Duff House public gardens, once the site of the House of Lord Airlie, but used by Duff House as the kitchen garden including a heated VINERY. The lead statues inside Duff House, and the replicas on the outside are said to have come from Airlie House.

## Bridge of Alvah

Built in 1772 to link Duff family property on either side of the River Deveron, the bridge is just over 2 miles south of Duff House. It also gave an easy route for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl Fife's travel to London where he often sat in the House of Commons (Earl Fife was an Irish peerage and hence without entitlement to the House of Lords). The Dukedom of Fife was created in the British peerage in 1889 when the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl married the Princess Royal.



The room within the bridge – an unusual feature – was possibly for use by the toll collector.

There is a route on the east side of the river back to Banff Bridge and hence to Duff House.

Up to the Mausoleum the land is privately owned but with access rights; these access rights do not extend further although there are public tracks and paths.

## 14 Mount Carmel

A man-made mound now topped with a relatively modern structure, but so-called as it is believed to have been part of the Carmelite monastery in Banff. An alternative is that this could have been a fort guarding a crossing of the river.



Printed by the Friends of Duff House, a Charity registered in Scotland, SC027830. Information and membership forms can be found in Duff House.

[www.friendsofduffhouse.org.uk](http://www.friendsofduffhouse.org.uk)



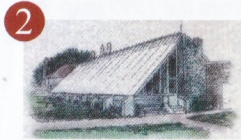


**1 Collie Lodge** Originally the north lodge to Duff House Park, the townpeople's entrance, this neo-classical building of 1836 is used as the Visit Scotland iCentre. This is very similar architecture to the old Academy building of 1837 on the hill above it.



**3 The Barnyards**

Once the stable block for Duff House, then converted to a nurses' home when Duff House was a sanatorium, the Barnyards is now the Duff House Royal Golf Clubhouse



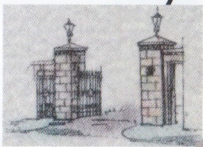
**2 The Vinery**

Built in 1872 within the present public gardens, this used to be heated, and according to a gardener's diary was well used.



**4 East Lodge**

This is all that remains of a larger 1777 gateway with two lodges. The original iron gates were re-erected at Banff Castle in 1968.



**5 Fife Gates**

These are at the entrance to the Wrack Wood, erected in the late 18th century. The Gate piers incorporate carved stone urns from an earlier period. The gates were refurbished in 2016.



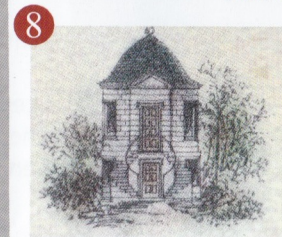
**6 Duff House Laundry**

Without the Pavilions being built Duff House was missing many rooms; one of these was the Laundry. Placed out of sight of the House itself, next to the Fife Gates.



**7 Dogs' Headstone**

This commemorates three family pets: 'Bevis' died 1872, 'Tip' who was buried in 1873 and 'Barkis', born at Duff House in 1863 died in 1875. A photo of Barkis can be seen on the 1st floor of Duff House with Lady Agnes, wife of 5th Earl Fife.



**8 Fishing Temple**

Designed by William Adam the Fishing Temple is on an island in the River Deveron and awaits restoration.

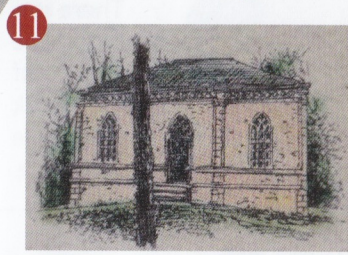


**9 Ice House**

A late 18th century egg-shaped underground chamber designed to store winter ice to preserve food. Ice could be kept for almost two years in such a store. A Gardener's Diary of 1873 notes that straw was used to layer between different foods.

**10 Landscaped Park**

In the late 18th century Duff House estate was said to contain every type of tree known in the UK despite being near to the sea. One example – a very large and old Monkey Puzzle - can be seen here. You can count the rings on fallen trees to find that some are from the Park's original planting. The Estate was gifted to the towns of Banff and Macduff in 1906.



**11 Mausoleum**

Built by the 2nd Earl in 1792 for the Duff dynasty it houses the mortal remains of five Earl's and a number of other family members. The tombs were filled with sand in 1912 and the steps covered over. Note the external frieze which is a great example of Coade stone – the first manufactured material to allow mouldings to be made instead of having to carve stone; it still mostly looks like new! The gate was refurbished in 2016.

**12 The Children's Playground**

with swings, slides and adventure facilities is adjacent to Duff House and the main Car Park.

**13 Duff House Royal Golf Course**

occupies a large area of Duff House Park, laid out in 1909 and improved in 1913. The private course is open to day visitors.