

A chemistry map of Scotland

Ten years ago now the RSC set up a project to produce a map of sites related to Chemistry in Scotland. Sadly, this is now defunct and the web page has expired. Given the huge importance of chemistry in the history of Scotland, it seems a good idea to see about reviving the idea.

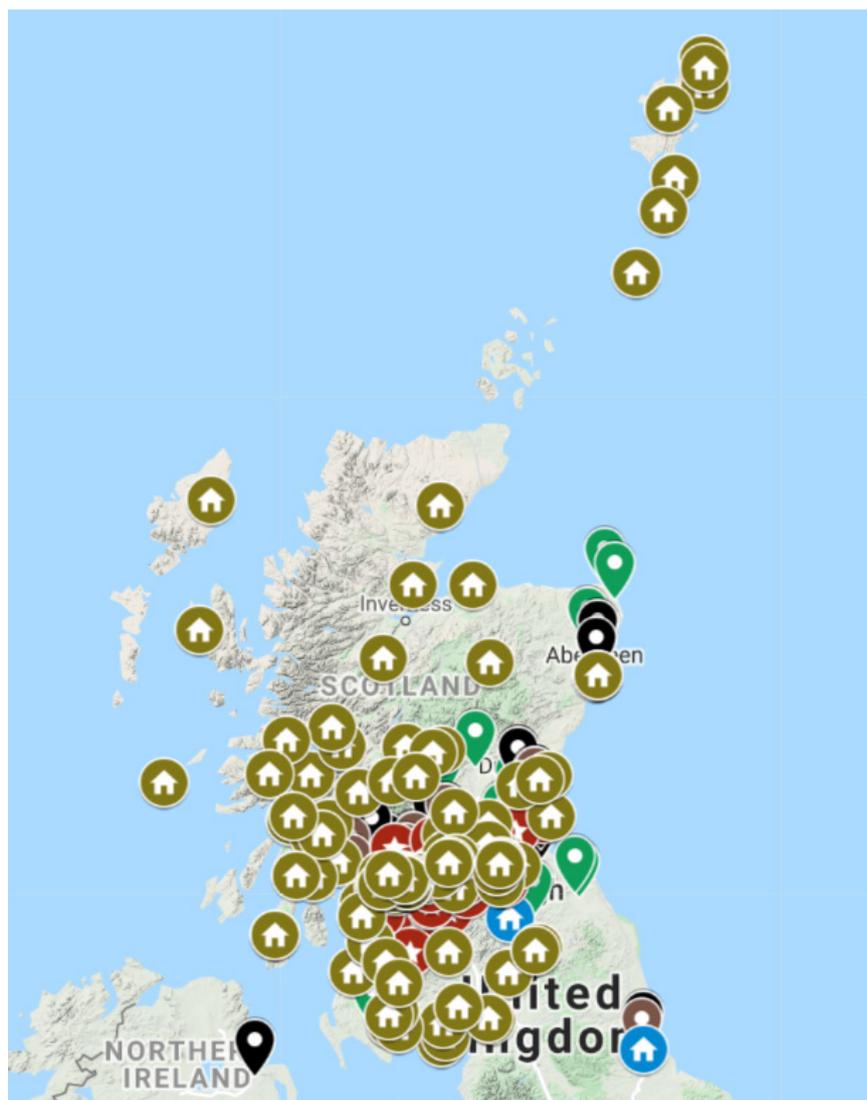
As a result, we have produced a map, on Google Maps, showing the location of a large number of sites relating to the history of chemistry in Scotland.

It includes:

- Locations where well-known Scottish Scientists were born, lived and died and where they are buried.
- Sites relating to the boom in the Shale oil industry in Scotland (mainly) in the 19th century.
- Sites of chemical-related industries from gunpowder factories through to oil refineries.
- Sites of some significant mines of metals – including a couple of Scottish gold rushes!

One element of surprise in the research has been seeing how much information has been lost – or at least is not easily available without lengthy spells in the national archives. As a result there are bound to be many omissions and inaccuracies, hopefully fewer of these. If anyone spots any of these, please get in touch so we can update the map.

So, you may be asking yourself, what is the point of all this? Aside from simple academic curiosity, we see this as a resource that could be used for cross-curricular work, particularly as part of the BGE or perhaps as a Transition project. Students can research the industries local to their school (or homes) and perhaps take part in some practical work relating to it.



You can access the embedded map via the chemistry resources page [1] or see the original on Google Maps [2].

References

- [1] <https://www.sserc.org.uk/subject-areas/chemistry/chemistry-resources/>
- [2] <https://tinyurl.com/ek9ndjzk>