

Aspects of the history of geology in Scotland and the North of England

Friday 12 July

A morning and afternoon stroll, each of two hours, around Edinburgh's Old and New Towns to explore some important sites connected with the history of geology. All of the walking will be on pavement, with some steps and hills. The excursion will finish at around 4pm.

The morning will examine the varied geology of the north side of the city (New Town), its building stones and sites of interest to historians of geology. A visit to Calton Hill which provides the classic view towards Castle Rock and the Old Town will be included. Led by Andrew McMillan (Edinburgh Geological Society).

In the afternoon we will wander over to Old Town where we will visit James Hutton's grave and look at some 'monumental geology' in one of Edinburgh's best-known graveyards. We will then see some well-preserved fossil fish and other sites of geological and historical interest on the South Side, including the site of Hutton's house. Led by Beverly Bergman (Edinburgh Geological Society).

Where possible, other places associated with Hutton and his Enlightenment contemporaries will be included (dependent on the state of public works and scheduled access).

10.00 Meet at the northeast corner of George Square for a walk on the city's South Side led by Andrew McMillan (Edinburgh Geological Society).

12.00 Lunch

14.00 Meet in the café in the foyer of the National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge for a visit to Huttonian and other sites led by Beverly Bergman (Edinburgh Geological Society)

16.00 End