## Welcome to **Dudhope Park**

Ordinance Survey - 1922



Aided by subscriptions from local benfactors, £11,000 was raised to purchase this portion of estate land from the Earl of Home in 1893 by the town council. The castle was originally built in the late 13th Century as the home of

the Scrymgeour family who were appointed as hereditary constables of Dundee by William Wallace in 1298.

In 1683 the title and castle was conferred onto John 'Bonnie Dundee' Graham of Claverhouse, who went on to lead the Jacobites to victory at Killiecrankie in 1689.

In 1792 there was an unsuccessful attempt to turn the castle into a woolen mill. The Ordnance Office then had the lease of it for 95 years as a barracks and storehouse. A now demolished building to the east of the castle used to house Dundee's first museum, exhibiting items of technology and industry.

Other buildings to the west were a hospital for the 'deaf and dumb,' and an early form of leisure centre; teaching handicrafts and containing sports training facilities.

Although left as derelict for many years, the castle was restored by the city council in the late 1980's and has been used as offices and a conference venue.

The cannon overlooking Lochee Road was used for time keeping up until the 1930's. The 'One O'clock gun' was used by ships in the harbour and the many citizens who did not own a watch.

The original cannon sited here was presented to Dundee as a captured piece from the Siege of Sebastopol (1854-1855) but has been replaced at least twice due to wear.

practice of firing the gun stopped. Many fragile WW1 veterans were long-term patients and were tormented daily by the sound.

Visitor Guidelines:

We wish your visit to this park to be as pleasant as possible.

Dudhope park contains many fine mature tree specimens, including large elms which have escaped the beetle-borne plague which destroyed so many others around the UK.

The east lawn has a gloriously large swathe of daffodils in the spring and in autumn colourful foliage can be found throughout the park. The loose planting around the skatepark has created a fantastic refuge for insects and butterflies in particular.

The southern facing slope upon which the park sits provides a great view of the city and the river, and makes it a natural haven for summer sunbathers and picnickers.

Active facilities within the park include a very popular skatepark. a Multi Use Games Area, three tennis courts and an equipped play area.