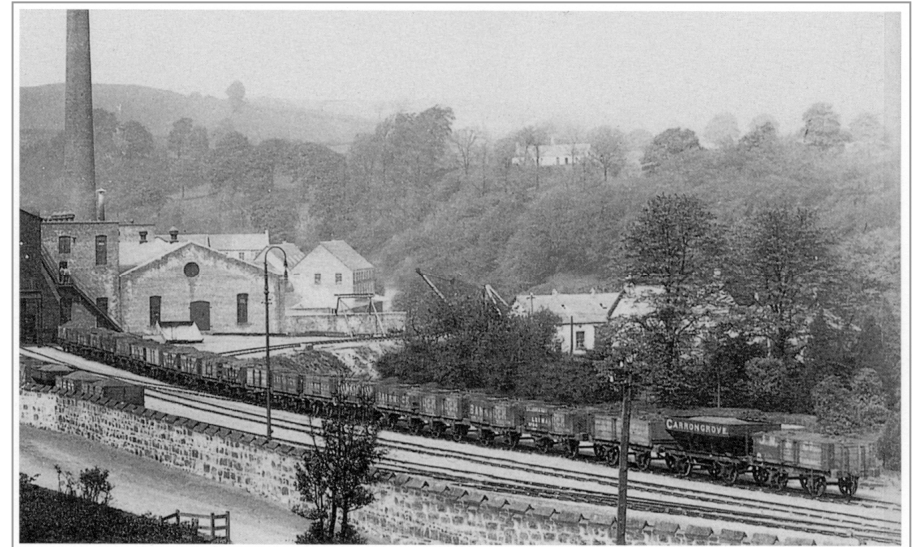


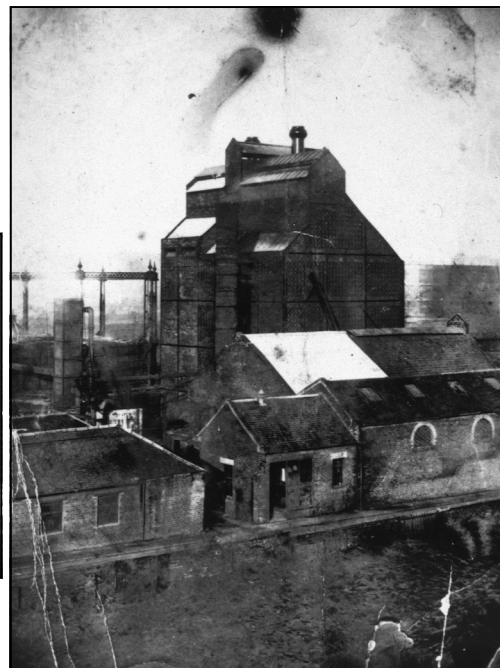
800 Years of Industrial Heritage...

The Denny area has been home to industry and mills of all kinds - corn, fulling, lint, pot barley, paper, chip, char, dyewood, carding, spinning wool and bleach - since 1200 A.D. In a 2004 historical inventory of mills in the East Stirlingshire area, John Reid recorded 112 mills of all types in the area from 1200 - 1980s, 34 of which had been located in Denny/Dunipace. (*Calatria: The Journal of Falkirk Local History Society*, Vol 21, pp 61-80). In 1841 alone, 11 mills and factories were located on the banks of the River Carron within 1.5 miles of Denny. The Denny & Dunipace Mills Oral History Project focuses on the 220 years' paper mill history of the Denny area which formed much of the foundation of this community since 1789, even as it currently exists in its mostly post-industrial era. The people of Denny and Dunipace regret that much of this history has been lost - many of our old buildings have been torn down, historic sites have never been identified or marked. Some of our older citizens who carried the history have died, but some are still with us and we decided, in the spring of 2009, that we should take advantage of that.



Old photo post card, Carrongrove Mill rail line, courtesy of J. Young, DDHS archives

Unnamed paper mill, Denny area
Early 20th Century
Courtesy Callendar House Library



Over the last few years, the Heritage Society has been in the process of recovering and securing as many artefacts and old photos as possible, and now we are linking those mementos with the knowledge and those who worked in the mills, foundries and factories. We believe that such a critical element preserving our heritage but that will help instilling a pride in this community to go forward. To that end, we have engaged the youth of our community in this project to conduct the interviews, to give them some understanding of the industrial background which created their community and underpins its culture, even to this day.

The history of the world is the record of man in quest of his daily bread and butter.

~Hendrik Wilhelm van Loon

Please visit our website at www.dennyoralhistories.co.uk to learn more about our oral history project. If you have more information, memorabilia or photographs to add to our project, please contact us. We see our history as a living thing and are always happy to expand our knowledge.



Broomhill Paper Mill, Post 1900, courtesy of Callendar House Library.