

Aerial View of Silloth showing part of Aerodrome 1950's



From Official Guide to Silloth 1948



Photo

Silloth from the Air, Docks in Foreground

Downie

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Canneryhead & Bannock Bridge
 Endorsements and Special Conditions.
 Extended to 16/12/40
 Robt. R. Black P/O.

D.R. Form 6.

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PERMIT No. D.R. 104791
 Issued under No. _____ of the Defence
 Regulations relating to:—

General Conditions

1. This Permit is available only for the purpose described on Page 2 and does not admit to any Protected Place or Area.
2. This Permit is issued subject to the provisions and penalties of the Defence Regulations.
3. The loss or finding of this Permit should be reported at once to the Issuing Office or to the Police. The Bearer should carry this Permit in an addressed envelope to preserve it from damage and to facilitate its restoration if mislaid.
4. This Permit must be presented on the demand of a person on duty who is a member of His Majesty's Forces, or acting on behalf of His Majesty, or a Policeman.
5. This Permit must be returned to the Issuing Office on or before date of expiry; and in the event of the Bearer ceasing to hold any appointment or occupation on account of which this Permit was issued.
6. This Permit must be supported by the production of an official Document of Identity.

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PERMIT
 (Name) *Mrs Esther Robson*
 of (address) *Canneryhead, Silloth*
 TO *Pass Canneryhead and Bannock Bridge and other points*
 for the purpose of *private*
 Available from *14/7/40*
 Validity expires *16/12/40*
 unless withdrawn, or extended by endorsement on p. 4.
 Issued at *R.A.F. STATION, SILLOTH.*
 On behalf of *Commanding Officer*
 by *Robt. R. Black P/O.*
 on *17/10/40*

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PERMIT No. D.R. 104791
 Nationality of Bearer. *British*
 R.A.F. STATION SILLOTH.
 (Office Stamp)
 16 OCT 1940
 This Permit is valid only when the Bearer produces the following Document of Identity on demand:
 No.
HCZJ/411
 Signature of Bearer *E. Robson*

The Airfield Industrial EstateCheri Foam Ltd (Incorporates Cheri Tex Ltd and Curled Hair Ltd)

This firm was established in Silloth in 1964 and are foam and curled hair manufacturers. They employ 152 people, 43 from Silloth and 109 from out of town.

Yates Circuit Foil Ltd

This company, formed in 1963, moved from Reading to Silloth in October 1966. Since the early seventies Yates concerned itself only with the manufacture of copper foil, a raw material in the manufacture of printed circuits. Prior to the early seventies the company both manufactured copper foil and acted as a supplier of machinery and materials to the graphic arts industry.

There are 129 people employed on the site, a number that has remained static for approximately two years. When they first moved to Silloth most employees lived in or about Silloth, but over the years, as more people were recruited they have had to draw from further afield. Of the 129 presently employed, 90 are from Silloth and 39 from out of town. Yates have built the largest new factory on the Airfield.

Micaply International Incorporated

An American based firm established at its present site in 1968. It is a laminate manufacturer and employed 128 people - 72 from Silloth and 56 from out of town. In recent years the premises have been extended to house new plant but this has not meant an increase in the workforce.

Carnation Crayon Co Ltd

A firm established by the Pigeon family on 1st July 1968. They manufacture childrens chalk boards, crayons, chalk and modelling medium.

They have employed 40 - 150 people, mainly women, depending on business which is seasonal. Approximately half of the workers come from Silloth.

In January 1982 the business was taken over by a Mr Ledger; the staff and range of products remains the same and Mr David Pigeon remains as Technical Adviser.

Tynedale Auction Company The Lairage, Silloth Docks

Importing Irish cattle into Silloth Docks started again in the late 1960's. Ownership of the firm has changed hands over the years but they now employ (1982) 16 people and were averaging in March 1982, 1000 cattle per week. But it seems to be a business which has frequent highs and lows and though still operating, not so many cattle are coming in at present.

Silloth Docks

Silloth Docks are now run by the Association of British Ports Co., a private industry. The Harbour Master, Captain John Myers, is in charge of the daily running of the docks. There are 4 full-time dock-gatemens on shift work and 1 day shift worker; their main duties are the operating of the dock gates - opening and closing them at high tide - and the general maintenance of the docks and equipment. There are also 3 full-time and 6 part-time dockers employed on the loading and unloading of cargo. There is one Customs Officer based permanently at Silloth, others come from Workington to help when a boat search is needed.

Approximately 5 boats a week come into Silloth Docks importing - 40,000 tons of grain per year for Carr's - mainly Canadian grain brought via Liverpool, but also some small amounts of continental grain.

12,000 tons of Molasses per year for United Molasses, run by D A Harrisons, who supply Carrs amongst their customers.

Irish Cattle brought in to Tynedale Lairage.

and exporting

25-30,000 tons of Animal Feed per year for Harrisons.

40,000 tons of Blue Circle Bulk Cement - D A Harrisons of West Newton own the installation where the cement is stored before transit, and Blue Circle has one of its own boats (MV Mercurius) which sails permanently from Silloth supplying coastal sites which cannot be reached easily by road.

5000 tons per year of general cargo, eg. coal, plaster, dried milk.

12-15000 tons of scrap metal, brought in to the Ward Ferris Scrap yard at the Marshall Dock.

There has been a nationwide revival in the fortunes of small ports as fuel has got more expensive and fuel costs are cheaper per ton of cargo sent by sea than by road or rail. Silloth has been fortunate to get some of the trade and looks busier and more prosperous than it has for some time. As well as the new plant and installations already built (United Molasses storage tank, Animal Feed storage shed and suction plant and the cement storage tanks and loading installation), a weigh-bridge has recently been installed and foundations are being laid for a general cargo warehouse and an office block for Harrisons and a new office for the Harbour Master and his staff.

Altogether there are 30 people employed at the docks.

Stanwix Park Holiday Centre

The Stanwix family had farmed at Blitterlees for eighty years, but in 1946 Mr Roland Hylton Stanwix decided to make a break and cater for the holiday trade. One of the farm fields was adjacent to the Silloth Golf Course and it was here that he started.

It was a modest venture at first, with home built chalets that could cater for just five hundred people. Thirtysix years later the quiet little field has grown into a holiday venue of the highest quality. First class accommodation can cater for a holiday population of 1500 a week. The camping site has space for one hundred touring vans or tents.

In Silloth itself the newly acquired Hylton Park Holiday Centre, planned to be brought up to the same standards of Stanwix Park, has caravan accommodation and a site for 95 tourers or tents.

Stanwix Park has been a gradual development over the years, starting in 1965, when the Stanwix sons, Eric and Roland, took over from their father. The old post-war accommodation went and they put in luxury caravans. In 1972 the Cabin Club was complimented by a sister club, the Sunset Inn. In 1976 the Sunset Inn was further extended; lounge bars were added as well as a night club, disco and amusements. In 1980 an outdoor heated swimming pool was added, and in 1982, 28 apartments were built in the American/Continental style, adjacent to the pool.

Other facilities on the site include a riding school, laundry, campers kitchen and mini-market.

Solway Lido Holiday Centre

The Solway Lido Site was purchased from the Air Ministry in 1959. It was previously part of No. 22 Maintenance Unit. The area owned by the Company (Border Developments Ltd. trading as the Solway Lido) is approximately 130 acres. All of this is not yet developed, some fields are let to a local farmer.

The Company is a two family business, the bulk of the shares are held by members of the Hodgson and Sutcliffe families. The present directors are Mr S W A Hodgson, Mrs K A Hodgson, Mr I M Hodgson, Mrs I F Sutcliffe and Mr I S Sutcliffe.

The site has four main activities:-

1. A residential area with approximately 50 permanent, all year round occupants of residential chalets and caravans.
2. A holiday caravan area for persons wishing to own their own holiday home for their private use - approx. 400 sites.
3. Company owned chalets and caravans which are let to holiday makers in the holiday season.
4. A touring area for towable caravans with 650 pitches.

As well as accommodation the site offers the following facilities - Supermarket, Chip Shop and cafe, Hair Salon, Launderette, Amusement Arcade, Swimming Pool and Paddling Pool; the Tipple Inn with bars, TV room, games room; the Lido Club with bars and entertainment rooms; Children's play areas, Fort Laramie, Crazy Golf, Roller Skating rink, Hire Shop, 'Lido Lugger' comedy train, Slippery Dip Slide, Child Care Centre and Pony Trekking.

At peak periods the site can cater for as many as 5000 people. They employ permanent office and maintenance staff, taking on extra workers during the summer season.

