

EXTRACT FROM Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland Records

King's Seat

Site type [STONE](#)

Canmore ID 51102

Site Number NT19SW 4

NGR NT 1276 9045

Council FIFE

Parish DUNFERMLINE

Former Region FIFE

Former District DUNFERMLINE

Former County FIFE

Archaeological Notes

NT19SW 4 1276 9045.

(NT 1276 9045) King's Seat (NR) (Site of)

OS 6" map, (1938).

Site of King's Seat - Tradition states that this was a seat hewn out of a large rock and that it was customary for some of the James of Scotland to rest here when passing from Falkland to Dunfermline. It is also stated that some of the fragments were to be seen c 1803-13. Through the extension of the Craigencaat Quarry the stone in all probability fell and was lost sight of. Name Book 1853.

The site of this supposed antiquity falls at the bottom of some cottage gardens. Enquiries of an old local inhabitant obtained no confirmation of the tradition.

Visited by OS(AC) 25 February 1959.

Books and References - Ordnance Survey (Name Book) Object Name Books of the Ordnance Survey

Page(s): Book No.129, 59

EXTRACT FROM THE PLACE-NAMES OF FIFE VOLUME 1
PARISH OF DUNFERMLINE Author Simon Taylor with Gilbert Markus

KINGSEAT DFL S NT125904 1 384 165m WEF

the *Kynset* 1542 *Dunf. Recs.* {228} [Edward Elder tenant of the *Kynset* by Dunfermline; see also {229}]

Kingseat 1775 Ainslie/Fife

Kingseat 1828 SGF

Sc *king* + Sc *seat* or Sc *set*

OS 6 inch 1st edn. (1856) shows no houses on the site of the later village of Kingseat, only the farm of *Kingseat* at the northern edge of the present village NT125906. It also shows the antiquity *King's Seat* at NT127904. The OS Name Book (1853), as quoted on the RCAHMS Canmore (NMRS) website, has the following: 'Tradition states that this was a seat hewn out of a large rock and that it was customary for some of the James [sic] of Scotland to rest here when passing from Falkland to Dunfermline. It is also stated that some of the fragments were to be seen c.1803-13. Through the extension of the Craigencaat Quarry the stone in all probability fell and was lost sight of. There is, however, a local tradition that fragments of this stone are still to be seen in a cottage garden to the north of the village.³⁶ The name of the now disused quarry Craigencaat,

which appears as 'Craigencaat Quarry (whinstone)' on the OS 6 inch 1st edn. map (1856), would seem to derive from G *creag a' chait* or *creag nan cat* 'rock of the (wild)-cat(s)', unless it has been transferred from Craigencaat in the northern part of DFL. The name 'Craigencaat' has been preserved in a house-name beside Loch View a few hundred metres to the north-east of the old Craigencaat Quarry. For an explanation of Kingseat within a hunting context, see Kings-Seat DFL. The farm of Kingseat may be *Eldars Bath* on Blaeu (Pont) West Fife (1654, surveyed 1590s). In 1542 Edward Elder appears as a tenant of the *Kynset* (*Dunf. Recs.* {228}), and Kingseat would have lain at the north-west corner of the extensive lands of Beath. It has probably generated the settlement-name (originally a hill-name) Kingseathill DFL.

/ˈkirjsit/

³⁶I am grateful to Mrs Russell of Kingseat Post Office for this information

“Note: The cottage owned by Ian Whitelaw, next to the cattery on Cuddy House Road, is named “Craigencaat”