

James Bremner, C.E., the Round House

Home of Wick engineer **James Bremner**, the Round House was designed by **Thomas Telford** and is an example of a bow-fronted mansion. Built about 1807, it was originally the home of **George Burn**, appointed as master of the new harbour works at Pulteneytown by the British Fisheries Society. The Pulteneytown harbour was completed in 1811. However, because of its position, it soon silted up and became inadequate for vessels of any size. The success of the herring fishery at Pulteneytown necessitated expansion of the harbour, a contract won by **James Bremner** and completed in 1828.



Bremner's hospitality was famous. The house was a welcome refuge for strangers, especially those wrecked at sea. He had been known to board officers and crew of shipwrecked vessels at his home for months at a time.¹

James Bremner died in the Round House in 1856, three months after his wife **Christian Sinclair**.

¹ *James Bremner Wreck Raiser*, John Mowat, page 16.

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