MISS ANNIE N TURNBULL ARIBA
SI Dunfermline President 1954

Miss Annie N Turnbull was born in 1913. She completed her training at the Edinburgh School of Architecture in 1938. Annie was an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, a Member of the Town Planning Institute, and an Associate of the Royal Incorporation of Architects (Scotland).

Annie had started work as an assistant in the Edinburgh City Architect’s department before taking up post as a planning officer within the Department for Health for Scotland. Annie stayed at Braid Road in Edinburgh until she was appointed by Dunfermline in 1948, at a salary of £750, and was the first woman town planning officer in Scotland and as Dunfermline’s first planning officer. She started in October 1948 and in June 1949 she gave a presentation to Dunfermline Rotary Club on the new Town Planning Act. There were several articles in Scottish newspapers regarding Annie’s firsts, which were also recorded in the Amarillo Globe, Texas in November 1948 and the Tuscon Daily Citizen in December 1948.

As a founding member of SI Dunfermline, her first club role was on the Speaker’s committee. The speakers during the club’s first year were mostly regarding nursing and welfare topics. During Annie’s year as President she was able to congratulate members Mrs Ritchie on her award of the MBE and Miss Leslie as being appointed President of Scotland South Divisional Union. In January 1955 the club had an interesting debate regarding the question of the finances of Elizabeth House in London with the club recommending that the Divisional Union requested from the Board of Governors guidance as to the form of assistance required. Unfortunately, the minutes do not explain the function of Elizabeth House!