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## Wine & Spirit News

Annandale Distillery in Dumfries and Galloway is due to re-open after 90 years of silence.

Enterprise Minister Jim Mather has confirmed Regional Selective Assistance (RSA) support for the Annandale Distillery Company in Annan. The £150,000 grant is part of a £4m investment project which hopes to create a total of 18 new jobs. Mr Mather said the scheme was a "significant boost" for the region and whisky production in general.

"I hope that RSA will prove a valuable tool in creating new jobs and resurrecting whisky production at Annandale and I wish those involved with the project every success," he said.

Project director of the scheme, Prof David Thomson, said the main ambition was to create an "interesting and meaningful brand. Having conducted much of the detailed early planning, our project is now moving into the more advanced stages of design," he said.

The Annandale Distillery Company Ltd is owned by businessman David Thomson and his wife Teresa Church, who are spearheading plans to revive the old distillery, which originally opened in the 1830s, but has been silent since 1919

The Ordnance Survey map reference is NY194683, which is just to the north of the town of Annan. Gavin Smith in "Scotch Missed" says that it is located within a set of farm buildings

David Thomson is the founder and now Chairman and CEO of MMR Research, one of Europe's largest, independent consumer research businesses. He is also Visiting Professor in the Department of Food Biosciences, University of Reading, UK. Outside MMR, David has recently purchased the long-derelect Annandale Distillery (closed in 1919), with the intention of restoring the historic buildings and reinstating distillation.