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## 47 High Street - Bank o' Fleet Hotel

This property has been a home to the Birtwhistle family, an office for 4 banks (National Bank, Western Bank, Union Bank and Bank of Scotland), a guest house and is now the Bank o' Fleet Hotel.



The Bank o' Fleet Hotel



Union Bank of Scotland; Andrew Crosbie c.1930s



Bank of Scotland

### ◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

- 1783** Feu to John McClure, mason, Gatehouse.  
**1786** Sold to Alexander Birtwhistle. The Birtwhistle family had signed an agreement with James Murray in 1785 to establish a cotton mill in Gatehouse.  
**1799** Catherine McGeoch or Brown sold her property back to Alexander Birtwhistle.  
**1810** Property inherited by John Birtwhistle on his father's death.
- 1837-8 Pigot & Co. Directory :** Commercial Bank of Scotland (Branch) - agent Richard Mundell.

**1841 census** (Front Street 22)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Dun	George			m	37	public schoolmaster	Scotland
Dun	Agness			f	37		Scotland
Dun	Agness			f	14		Scotland
Dun	Helen			f	12		Scotland

Dun	Georgina	f	9	Kirkcudbrightshire
Dun	Orr	m	5	Kirkcudbrightshire
Dun	Marion	f	3	Kirkcudbrightshire
Dun	Edmund	m	5m	Kirkcudbrightshire

**1846** Sold to Western Bank of Scotland. The property had previously been occupied by John Smith and then let to the National Bank.

**1851 census** (High Street (North) 18)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Sherriff	David	head	s	m	39	banker & factor	Haddington, Athelstoneford
Grieve	Elizabeth	servant	w	f	48	cook	Kbts, Girthon
Kie	Catherine	servant	s	f	34	house serv.	Wigtown, Kirkinner

**1852 Slater's Directory :** David Shirriff is agent for Western Bank of Scotland.  
David Shirriff is also agent & factor to H G S Murray of Cally

**1859** Sold by liquidators of the Western Bank to the Union Bank. Union Bank later amalgamated with the Bank of Scotland.

**1859 Valuation Roll** A house, bank office & garden was owned by the Union Bank and the occupier was William S Sutherland.

**1861 census** (High Street North 21)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Sutherland	William S	head	wr	m	32	banker	Forfar, Montrose
Sutherland	Forrest	son		m	9	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Sutherland	Elizabeth	dau		f	7	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Sutherland	Annie N	dau		f	5	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Glover	Henry D	boarder	s	m	28	solicitor	Dumfries, Dumfries
Fletcher	Louisa	servant	s	f	35	governess	England
Beattie	Isabella	servant	s	f	21	cook	Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Carter	Jane	servant	s	f	20	housemaid	Kbts, Kirkcudbright

**1871 census** (High Street (N) 16)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	William	head	m	m	37	bank agent	Wigtown, Leswalt
Cairns	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	36		Wigtown, Sorbie
Cairns	Isabella	dau.		f	11	scholar	Renfrew, Paisley
Cairns	Helen	dau.		f	9	scholar	Renfrew, Paisley
Cairns	David	son		m	7	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Cairns	Alexander	son		m	6	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Cairns	William	son		m	4	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
McGowan	Margaret	servant	s	f	19	cook	Kbts, Girthon
Stark	Barbara	servant	s	f	17	housemaid	Kbts, Anwoth

*N.B. This family would have been in Paisley in 1861, as Isabella & Helen were born there, but they were in Gatehouse by about 1863 when David was born.*

**1878 Valuation Roll** A house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the occupier was William Cairns, bank agent.

**1881 census** (Union Bank of Scotland)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	William	head	m	m	48	bank agent	Wigtown, Leswalt
Cairns	Isabella	dau	s	f	21		Renfrew, Paisley
Cairns	David	son	s	m	17	bank clerk	Kbts, Girthon

Cairns	William	son	s	m	14	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Bennet	Agnes	servant	s	f	31	general servant (dom.)	Kbts, Twynholm

**1884 Valuation Roll** A house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the occupier was William Cairns, bank agent.

**1891 census** (High Street (N) 15)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	William	head	m	m	58	bank agent	Wigtown, Leswalt
Cairns	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	57		Wigtown, Kirkinner
Cairns	Isabella	dau.	s	f	31		Renfrew, Paisley High
Williamson	Nellie	dau.	m	f	29	farmers wife	Renfrew, Paisley High
Cairns	James	nephew	s	m	18	post office clerk	Wigtown, Leswalt
Cairns	David	nephew	s	m	17	scholar	Wigtown, Leswalt
Cairns	Robert	nephew	s	m	14	scholar	Wigtown, Leswalt
Haugh	Isabella	servant	s	f	20	cook domestic	Kbts, Kirkmabreck
Davidson	Bessie	servant	s	f	14	nurse domestic	Kbts, Girthon
Williamson	Elizabeth Campbell	g-dau.		f	9m		Kbts, Borgue

**1901 census** (High Street 12)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	William	head	m	m	67	bank agent	Wigtown, Stranraer
Cairns	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	66		Wigtown, Kirkinner
Cairns	Isabella	dau.	s	f	41		Renfrew, Paisley
Cairns	David	son	s	m	37	bank agent	Kbts, Gatehouse
Haugh	Isabella	servant	s	f	31	gen. dom. serv.	Kbts, Kirkmabreck

**1911 census** (High Street)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Laurie	Andrew	head	m	m	43	bank agent	Dumfries, Tynron
Laurie	Agnes Sarah	wife	m	f	39		Ayr, Kilmarnock
Laurie	Margaret Harke	dau.		f	4		Perth, Longforgan
Cameron	Margaret Wallace	m-in-l	w	f	67		Ayr, Girvan
Cowie	Elizabeth McNaught	servant	s	f	20	general servant (dom.)	Kbts, Balmaghie

**1912 Valuation Roll** A house plus a house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the bank agent was Andrew Laurie. *He was not specifically mentioned as the occupier.*

**1920 Valuation Roll** A house plus a house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the bank agent was Andrew Laurie.

**1920-1 Stewartry P.O. Directory :** Andrew Laurie was agent for the Union Bank of Scotland Ltd.

**1924-7 Stewartry P.O. Directory :** Andrew Laurie was agent for the Union Bank of Scotland Ltd. Tel : 23.

**1930 Valuation Roll** A house plus a house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the bank agent was Andrew Laurie.

**1940 Valuation Roll** A house plus a house, bank, offices & garden in High Street was owned by the Union Bank of Scotland and the bank agent was Andrew Crosbie.

**1963** Sold by the Bank of Scotland to Catherine Fraser or Twiname, became known as Old Bank of Fleet Guest House.

**1981** Sold by David and Anne Twiname to Jean Walker.

**1987** Sold to David and Mary Blackley.

**1988** Sold to Haworth Old Hall Hotel (Alistair Hamilton).

**1995** Sold to James Watson.

**2001** Sold to Pat and Paul Jacques.

**2008** Sold

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Adverts

**BANK O'FLEET HOTEL**  
High Street, Gatehouse of Fleet  
*LOCAL FAMILY-RUN HOTEL*  
*Bedrooms with ensuite facilities*

Catering for Local Events.  
Specialising in traditional  
'Farmhouse Style' cooking.

*The 'INN' place  
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**Live music - Scottish & Modern  
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Refreshments and Food available  
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*Last Updated :31 March 2015*