

71 High Street - Bruachmore

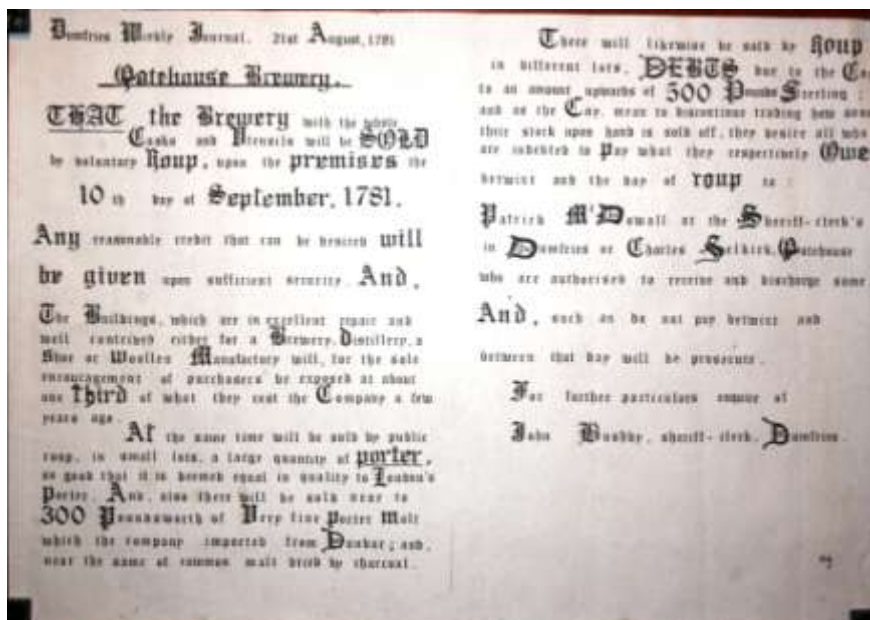
Bruachmore & Brae Cottage are part of the old “Brewery Buildings”, which also included the brewery itself which has been converted into flats. Parts of the “Devil’s Elbow” property was probably also included. *We are not entirely sure that we have separated the owners and occupants of each part of the brewery buildings correctly.*



71 High Street, Bruachmore

◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

- 1769** James Murray of Broughton, John Bushby, the Sheriff Clerk of Dumfries, and James Davitts, agreed to form, as equal partners, a brewery.
- 1770** The brewery was built on land belonging to James Murray, adjacent to the cotton mills and the River Fleet, and facing the Tannery.
- 1781** The business was not very successful, so the partners decided to dispose of the buildings and stock for £900. The buildings and contents were to be sold by public roup on 10th September 1781. Unable to find a buyer, James Davitts bought out his partners.



(transcript)

Dumfries Weekly Journal, 21st August 1781

Gatehouse Brewery.

That the brewery with the whole casks and utensils will be sold by voluntary roup upon the premises, the 10th day of September 1781. Any reasonable credit that can be desired will be given upon sufficient security. And the buildings, which are in excellent repair and well contrived either for a brewery, distillery, shoe or woollen manufactory, will be for sole encouragement of purchasers be exposed at about one third of what they cost the company a few years ago.

At the same time will be sold by public roup, in small lots, a large quantity of porter, so good that it is deemed equal in quality to London's Porter. And also there will be sold nearly 300 poundsworth of very fine porter malt which the company imported from Dunbar; and, near the same common malt dried by charcoal.

There will likewise be sold by roup in different lots, debts due to the Coy. To an amount upwards of 500 pounds sterling; and as the Coy. Wish to discontinue trading, how soon their stock upon hand is sold off, they desire all who are indebted to pay what they respectively owe betwixt and the day of roup to :

Patrick O'Dowall at the sheriff-clerk's in Dumfries or Charles Selkirk, Gatehouse who are authorised to receive and discharge same.

And, such as do not pay betwixt and between that day will be prosecute.

For further particulars enquire of John Bushby, sheriff-clerk, Dumfries.

1834 John McWilliam, heir to James Davitts, bought the land surrounding the building from Alexander Murray, James Murray's heir, for the sum of £300.

1836 Feu charter recorded in favour of John McWilliam.

1837 The property was bought by Mrs Jane McMirsh or McCartney and heirs.

1841 census (Front Street 80 to 83)

<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>
Robison	Maitland			m	57	agricultural labourer	Kirkcudbrightshire
Robison	Jane			f	72		Kirkcudbrightshire

unoccupied

Haffie	Jane			f	35	independent	Kirkcudbrightshire
Haffie	John			m	7		Kirkcudbrightshire
Haffie	William			m	5		Kirkcudbrightshire
McLellan	Samuel			m	72	independent	Kirkcudbrightshire
McLellan	Margaret			f	58		Kirkcudbrightshire
McLellan	Thomas			m	68	independent	Kirkcudbrightshire

The above suggests that 4 families occupied Bruachmore. The only information we have to go on is the order in which entries are made in the census.

1846 Sold back to Mr McWilliam for £600. *This was probably the time when McWilliam sold Laurelbank to William Ramage.*

1847 Brewery buildings (*inc. Bruachmore & Brae Cottage ?*) bought by Andrew Kirk for £425.

1851 census (High Street N04 & N05)

<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>
Baird	William	head	m	m	41	surgeon	Ayr, Newton on Ayr
Baird	Mary	wife	m	f	33		Ayr, Barr
Baird	Mary J H	dau.		f	6	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
McClirie	Margaret	servant	s	f	17	house serv.	Wigtown, Kirkinner
Milligan	George	head	m	m	35	house carpenter	Kbts, Girthon
Milligan	Jane	wife	m	f	45		Kbts, New Abbey
Milligan	James	son		m	6	scholar	Kbts, Girthon

The only information we have to go on is the order in which entries are made in the census.

1852 Slater's Directory : William Baird was a surgeon who lived in High Street.

1857 Still operating as a brewery it was sold to James Hunter, a farmer for £1,150.

1859 Valuation Roll : *No-one with surname Baird or Milligan was the principal occupant of property in Girthon*

1860 Building assigned to David Hunter (brewer) for £1,150.

1861 census (High Street N35 = empty)

1869 Sold to Thomas Campbell McNau for £2,000.

1871 census (High Street N03)

<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>
Wilson	Mary	head	s	f	54	teacher	Kbts, Girthon
Wilson	Eliza	sister	s	f	52	teacher	Kbts, Girthon
Wilson	Marianne	niece	s	f	22	teacher	Kbts, Rerrick
Craig	David	g-neph.		m	9	scholar	England

1874 Sold to Horatio Granville Murray Stewart for £2,200.

1878 Valuation Roll : Misses Mary & Elizabeth Wilson occupied a house and garden designated to be part of Gatehouse Brewery that was owned by Horatio G Murray Stewart of Cally.

1881 census (High Street N24)

<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>
Wilson	Mary	head	s	f	65	teacher	Kbts, Gatehouse
Wilson	Eliza	sister	s	f	63	teacher	Kbts, Gatehouse
Wilson	Marianne	niece	s	f	32	teacher	Kbts, Auchencairn

The Wilson's lived next door to Hunter Square (aka Devil's Elbow)

1884 Valuation Roll : No sign of Wilson's in Girthon, or of a property in High Street owned by HGMS.

1891 census (High Street N02)

<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>
Mears	Sarah	head	s	f	69	pauper	Kbts, Kelton
Laurie	Annie	boarder	s	f	50	pauper	Kbts, Girthon

These ladies lived next door to the Hay family who seem to be regular inhabitants of Hunter Square.

1901 census (High Street 23)

<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>
Hume	William	head	m	m	66	joiner & school board officer	Kbts, Gatehouse
Hume	Eleanor	wife	m	f	56		Wales
Hume	Eleanor	dau.	s	f	26	dressmaker forewoman	Kbts, Gatehouse
Hume	Louisa P	dau.	s	f	23		Kbts, Gatehouse
Hume	Forrest W	son	s	m	21	pupil teacher	Kbts, Gatehouse
Hume	Maggie L	dau.	s	f	16	dressmaker apprentice	Kbts, Gatehouse

The Hume family lived next to Murray Square. On the other side were Campbells who lived next to Laurelbank.

1904 The heirs of the above Murray Stewart sold the property to Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell.

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>
Hume	Ellen	head	w	f	65	private means	Wales
Hume	Eleanor	dau.	s	f	35	dressmaker	Kbts, Gatehouse

The Humes lived between the McLellans of 69 High Street and the Campbells of Brae Cottage. This implies that Hunter Square / Murray Square / Devil's Elbow was uninhabited.

1912 Valuation Roll : Ellen Hume, widow occupied a property owned by Forest Wallace Hume, who was a teacher of "Brewery Cottage", but who is not listed as an occupant of any property in Girthon.

1916 No longer operating as a brewery, the property was inherited by Mrs Nicholas James Milroy or Campbell, widow of William Black Campbell, who now resided in Glasgow.

- 1920 Valuation Roll :** Ellen Hume, widow occupied a property owned by Forest Wallace Hume, teacher , who is not listed as an occupant of any property in Girthon.
- 1923** On her death it was inherited by her 2 daughters, Jessie and Edith and their heirs.
About this time the property was divided between the heirs.
- 1924** The part known as 'Bruachmore' was sold to John Caig for £300.
- 1924-7 Stewartry P.O. Directory :** John Caig was a gamedealer who lived at Bruachmore, High Street.
- 1925** On death of John Craig, Bruachmore was inherited by his daughter Helen Caig (spinster).
- 1930 Valuation Roll :** Peter Jardine, motor mechanic, owned a house and offices, a store and petrol pump at the Brewery.
Elizabeth Heron, of Fleetview, owned a shop of wooden erection at Brewery Brae. The tenant was J Henry & Son, fishmongers.
Eleanor Hume, dressmaker, now owned a shop at 56 High Street and Ellen Hume, widow was deemed to be her tenant.
- 1940 Valuation Roll :** Peter D Jardine, plumber owned and occupied a store at the Brewery.
James Orr, haulage contractor, owned a house, garage & offices + 2 petrol pumps at the Brewery.
Eleanor Hume, dressmaker, spinster, now owned and occupied a house at 56 High Street.
- 1953** On death of Helen Craig, Bruachmore was sold to Philip Heriot Thomas, a farmer, for £1,200.
- 1959** Philip Thomas sold Bruachmore to Winterbottom Holmden and his wife for £3,000.
- 1959** Philip Thomas sold Brae Cottage (?) to Bank of Scotland.
- 1977** Having lived there alone since her husband's death in 1966, Mrs Holmden left Bruachmore to her daughter as sole owner, Mrs Catherine Bridget Holmden Van Drunen Littel.
- 1984** Bruachmore sold to Robert & Helen Greggan
- 1988** Bruachmore sold to Allan & Rosemarie Paul.

20th Century Adverts etc.



Last Updated :28 June 2015