

77 High Street - Laurelbank

The Brewery Buildings existed from about 1769. They were inherited by John McWilliam in 1834 and he bought, from Alexander Murray, land around the brewery in the same year. He was granted a feu in 1836, probably for the construction of Laurelbank, which was sold in 1847 to William Ramage. Ownership was divided in 1864 by the sale of no.77.



79 & 77 High Street, Laurelbank

◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

1836 Alexander Murray granted a feu charter to John McWilliam.

1841 census (Front Street 75)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Richardson | Andrew | | | m | 56 | independent | Kirkcudbrightshire |
| Halliday | Mary | | | f | 20 | female servant | Kirkcudbrightshire |

1846 John McWilliam sold Brewery to Andrew Kirk.

1847 John McWilliam sold Laurelbank to William Ramage.

1851 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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ramage | William | head | m | m | 68 | ret'd farmer | Dumfries, Sanquhar |
| Ramage | Janet | wife | m | f | 50 | | Kbts, Girthon |
| McGill | Margaret | servant | s | f | 30 | house serv. | Kbts, Twynholm |

1852 Ramage's trust disposition was registered.

1859 Valuation Roll : There were 3 houses with gardens owned by Mrs Janet Ramage. She occupied one herself and the others were occupied by (a) William Dacre Alder, writer and (b) Grace & Mary Walker. These properties were not necessarily listed as being in High Street.

1861 census (High Street N37)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Richardson | William | head | s | m | 35 | | Dumfries, Lochmaben |

Beith Agnes servant s f 43 housekeeper Kbts, Twynholm

1864 Trustees of William Ramage sold a dwelling house and garden then occupied by William Richardson, Doctor of Medicine. *We believe that William Richardson lived at 77 High Street.*

1871 census (Laurel Bank 2 = empty)

1877 Remainder of Laurelbank sold by trustees of William Ramage to Sir William Maxwell. *This looks like no.79.*

1878 Valuation Roll : There were 2 houses with gardens described as Laurelbank. One was owned by John Fraser Broadfoot (a minor) and the occupant was Mrs Euphemia Ross Broadfoot. The other was owned by Sir William Maxwell of Cardoness + William Francis Maxwell and it was occupied by Thomas & William Helme.

We believe that the Broadfoots lived at no.79 and the Helmes lived at no.77.

1881 census (Laurel Bank 1)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Helme | William | head | m | m | 65 | timber merchant & J.P. employing 30 | England |
| Helme | Jane | wife | m | f | 63 | | England |
| Helme | Sarah | dau | s | f | 40 | | England |
| Helme | William W | son | wr | m | 36 | | England |
| Helme | Jessie W | g-dau | | f | 7 | scholar | Kbts, Gatehouse |
| Telfer | Mary | servant | s | f | 23 | gen.serv.domestic | Dumfries, Dumfries |

1884 Valuation Roll : There were 3 houses with gardens described as Laurelbank. One was owned by John Fraser Broadfoot (a minor) and the occupant was Mrs Euphemia Ross Broadfoot. Another was owned by Sir William Maxwell of Cardoness + William Francis Maxwell and it was occupied by Thomas & William Helme. These are the same owners and occupiers as in 1878. The 3rd house & garden was owned by John McClellan of Australia, and it was occupied by Alexander McClellan, gamedealer. *We believe that, in the census return, the 3rd property has "ditto" marks in the wrong place and that the property referred to was in fact 69 High Street.*

1891 census (Laurel Bank 1)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Helme | William | head | m | m | 73 | ret'd wood merchant | England, Sparkbridge |
| Helme | Jane | wife | m | f | 73 | | England, Caldbeck |
| Helme | Sarah | dau. | s | f | 50 | | England, Caldbeck |
| Helme | Jessie Wilson | [g-]dau. | s | f | 17 | pupil teacher | Kbts, Gatehouse |

1901 census (Laurelbank 2)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Hunter | John | head | s | m | 72 | retired farmer | Dumfries, Sanquhar |
| Grimson | Marion | servant | s | f | 66 | housekeeper | Kbts, Kirkmabreck |

1911 census (Laurelbank)

| <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> |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Learmonth | William | head | m | m | 50 | school teacher | Edinburgh, Edinburgh |
| Learmonth | Catherine Craig | wife | m | f | 48 | | Ireland |
| Learmonth | James Rognvald | son | s | m | 16 | school | Kbts, Anwoth |
| Learmonth | Catherwood Craig | son | s | m | 14 | school | Kbts, Anwoth |
| Jarrott | Elizabeth | servant | s | f | 20 | gen. servant (domestic) | Wigtown, Whithorn |

1912 Valuation Roll : A house was owned and occupied by John Fraser Broadfoot, retired. Another house was owned by the School Board of Girthon & Anwoth and it was occupied by William Learmonth, teacher. *These are the 2 properties that make up Laurelbank.*

1920 Valuation Roll : There were 2 houses described as Laurelbank. One was owned by the Education Authority of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright (*no.77*) and this was occupied by William Learmonth,

teacher. The other house was owned and occupied by James McCandlish, retired (*no.79*).

1922 Trustees of James McCandlish sold to Annetta Elizabeth Gibson Tom or Ritchie or McCandlish.

1930 Valuation Roll : There were 2 houses described as Laurelbank. One was owned and occupied by Martha Jane Muir, spinster (*no.77*). The other house was owned and occupied by Anneta E G McCandlish, widow (*no.79*).

1940 Valuation Roll : There were 2 houses described as Laurelbank. One was owned and occupied by Martha Jane Muir, spinster (*no.77*). The other house was owned and occupied by Anneta E G McCandlish, widow (*no.79*). *These are the same occupants as in 1930.*

1945 (*No.79*) Owned by Annetta Ritchie or Fell, Gallowa' post office Kitale, Kenya.

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