

79 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.



79 & 77 High Street, Laurelbank

◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

1836 Alexander Murray granted feu charter to John McWilliam (*for all Brewery buildings + Laurelbank ?*)

1841 census (Front Street 76)

There are 2 properties which probably refer to Laurelbank, Front Street 75 & 76. Andrew Richardson occupied 75, whilst 76 was unoccupied. We are suggesting that Richardson lived at no.77 High Street and that no.79 was empty.

1846 John McWilliam sold Brewery to Andrew Kirk.

1847 John McWilliam sold Laurelbank to William Ramage.

1851 census (High Street N01)

<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>
Thomson	Janet	head	w	f	51		Ireland
Thomson	John	son	s	m	28	parochial schoolmaster	Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Thomson	Barbara	dau.	s	f	27		Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Thomson	Mary	dau.	s	f	24		Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Thomson	William	boarder		m	13	scholar	Lanark, Glasgow
Thomson	Robert	boarder		m	12	scholar	Lanark, Glasgow
Harper	Mary	servant	s	f	13	house serv.	Kbts, Girthon

This family lived at the 1st property on the north side of High Street.

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 specifically listed as High Street.

1861 census (High Street N38)

<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>
Thomson	Elizabeth	head	w	f	51	proprietor of houses and fund widow	Kbts, Borgue
Kerr	Mary S	niece	s	f	24	proprietor of houses	England
Rae	Margaret	servant	s	f	19	domestic servant	Kbts, Kirkcudbright

This family lived between the unoccupied Free Church in High Street (now the Rutherford Hall) and William Richardson.

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 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>
Broadfoot	Euphemia R	head	w	f	48		Kbts, Castle Douglas
Broadfoot	John F	son		m	6		Kbts, Gatehouse
Gordon	Helen Jane	niece		f	10	scholar	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Gordon	John	father	wr	m	78	retired builder	Kbts, Gatehouse
Duncan	Elizabeth	servant	s	f	17	general serv.dom.	Kbts, Anwoth

The two Laurel Bank properties appear in the census before the 1st of the High Street north properties. Laurel Bank 2 was 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 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>
Gordon	John	head	wr	m	89	retired builder	Kbts, Gatehouse
Broadfoot	Euphemia R	dau	w	m	60	interest of money {imbecile}	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Gordon	Isabella	dau	s	f	29		Kbts, Castle Douglas
Broadfoot	John	g-son	s	m	16	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Gordon	Agnes	g-dau	s	f	18		Kbts, Castle Douglas

1884 Valuation Roll : There were 3 houses and 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 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>
Broadfoot	Euphemia Ross	head	w	f	68	living on private means	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Broadfoot	John F	son	s	m	26	lawyers clerk general	Kbts, Gatehouse
Gordon	John	brother	wr	m	55	ret'd tinsmith & gas-fitter	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Gordon	Isabella McMillan	sister	s	f	60	housekeeper domestic	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Jepson	Percy	visitor	s	m	6	scholar	England

1901 census (Laurelbank 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>
Broadfoot	John F	head	s	m	36	living on own means	Kbts, Gatehouse
Gordon	John	uncle	wr	m	70	ret'd tinsmith & gas fitter	Kbts, Castle Douglas
Gordon	Isabella McM	aunt	s	f	50	housekeeper dom.	Kbts, Castle Douglas

McLean Mary aunt w f 52 Kbts, Castle Douglas

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>
Broadfoot	John	head	s	m	46	private means	Kbts, Gatehouse
Gordon	John	stepson	wr	m	80	ret'd tinsmith & gasfitter	Kbts, Castle Douglas
McLean	Mary	aunt	w	f	63		Kbts, Castle Douglas

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 and this was occupied by William Learmonth, teacher. The other house was owned and occupied by James McCandlish, retired.

The McCandlish family seem to have owned 79 High Street.

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. The other house was owned and occupied by Anneta E G McCandlish, widow.

1940 Valuation Roll : There were 2 houses described as Laurelbank. One was owned and occupied by Martha Jane Muir, spinster. The other house was owned and occupied by Anneta E G McCandlish, widow.
These are the same occupants as in 1930.

1945 Owned by Annetta Ritchie or Fell, Gallowa' post office Kitale, Kenya.

Last Updated :2 April 2015