

Horatio Square



◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

1783	A large triangular plot of land was feued by postmaster John McCoskrie, who built a house on it. This plot seems to have started at High Street and extend back to Catherine Street (ex Back Street).
	A later sasine shows that McCoskrie built a house on the plot and this must be what is now called Horatio Square.
1789	Plot sold to William Hannay (of the Kirkdale Hannay family)
1799	Sold to James Menzies (of the Bahamas).
	Inherited by nephew William McNish. James Menzies had a single sibling called Mary whose married name was Mary McNish. William was one of Mary's 2 sons. William McNish owned the Gatehouse Plantation in Georgia. His brother owned the Cairnsmore Plantation
1824	Front of plot, including the house, was sold to (1) Martha McNish, (2) Menzies McNish and (3) Jane McNish, widow of John McCartney.

1841 census Front Street 44 & 45

<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>
Hopkins	Hugh			m	40	teacher of music	Scotland
Hopkins	Cathrine			f	40		Scotland
McGuffie	George			m	30	saddler	Scotland
Strachan	Agness			f	45	female servant	Scotland

N.B. McGuffie may have lived at Horatio Square as a saddler where he might have been associated with the posting stables or Murray Arms farm.

1851 census

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<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>
High Street (North) 32							
Douglas	James	head	s	m	34	saddler emp.2	Wigtown, Newton Stewart
Douglas	Jess	sister	s	f	39	housekeeper	Wigtown, Newton Stewart
Spark	Minna	head	s	f	66	annuitant	Kbts, Rerrick
McKeand	Minna	dau.	s	f	32	annuitant	Ayr, Catrine

1859 Valuation Roll : Mrs Christina McClure, Gatehouse owned a house, shop, garden and back house next to the Bank of Scotland. James Douglas, saddler was the tenant (entry 153).

1861 census

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<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>
High Street North 06c							
Douglas	James	head	m	m	44	master saddler emp.2	Wigtown, Newton Stewart
Douglas	Barbara R	wife	m	f	39		Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Douglas	Janet	dau		f	6		Kbts, Gatehouse
Douglas	Margaret	dau		f	4		Kbts, Gatehouse
Douglas	Mary	dau		f	2		Kbts, Gatehouse
McGill	Ann	servant		f	14	domestic servant	Kbts, Gatehouse

N.B. The Douglas family lived next to Bank House.

1866 | Sold to Mrs Murray Stewart.

1870-71 Valuation Roll : Mrs Anna Eliza Murray Stewart of Cally was proprietor of a house occupied by John Brown, Teacher (entry 129).

1871 census

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<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>
High Street (N) 30							
Brown	John J	head	m	m	38	teacher of parish school	Wigtown, Whithorn
Brown	Sarah	wife	m	f	34		Ayr, Colmonell
Brown	John	son		m	11	scholar	Fife, Auchterderran
Brown	Jane R	dau.		f	7	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Brown	Annie L	dau.		f	5	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Gordon	William	boarder		m	11	scholar	England
McMaster	Elizabeth	servant		f	15	general servant domestic	Wigtown, Mochrum

N.B. James Douglas had probably died by 1871 and his family were living at Glenavon in Digby Street.

Henry D Glover, solicitor & bank agent lived at property (N) 29 on High Street which we assume is the Bank House. We assume that Horatio Square would have been suitable accommodation for a teacher and his family.

There were 3 more families before Mile End in Woodside Terrace, but we assume these would have lived in what became Hendersons grocery shop.

1878-79 Valuation Roll : Mrs Anna Eliza Murray Stewart of Cally was proprietor of a house occupied by Miss Menzies Galloway and Miss Mary Gardiner (entry 1731).

1881 census

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<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>
Horatio Square							
Gardiner	Mary	head	s	f	47	interest of money	Kbts, Girthon

N.B. This property is specifically called Horatio Square and it is next to the Bank of Scotland where Henry Glover lived.

1884-85 Valuation Roll : Mrs Anna Eliza Murray Stewart of Cally was proprietor of a house and garden in High Street which was occupied by Miss Mary Gardiner (entry 1824).

1891 census

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<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>
Horatio Square Gardiner	Mary	head	s	f	57	living on private means	Kbts, Girthon

N.B. This property is specifically called Horatio Square and it is after families living in Church Street.

1895-96 Valuation Roll : Mrs Anna Eliza Murray Stewart of Cally was proprietor of a house in High Street which was occupied by Miss Mary Gardiner (entry 252).

1896 | Sold by Mr & Mrs Murray Stewart to Mary Gardiner.

1901 census

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<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>
Horatio Square Gardiner	Mary	head	s	f	67	living on own means	Kbts, Girthon

N.B. This property is specifically called Horatio Square and is between Mile End and Bank of Scotland House

1905-06 Valuation Roll : A house in High Street was owned and occupied by Miss Mary Gardiner, spinster (entry 249).

Death of Mary Gardiner in 1910

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename</u>	<u>Age at death</u>	<u>Mother's Maiden Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>RD Name</u>
GARDINER	MARY	76	GALLOWAY	1910	866/ 5	Girthon

1910 | Inherited by niece Mary Waugh Gardiner.
Margaret was Mary Gardiner's sister-in-law and she and her daughter Mary W came to live at Horatio Square after Mary died in 1910.

1911 census

N.B. Horatio Square is not specifically listed in the census, but it appears to be unoccupied. The neighbour to the west appears to be Andrew Smith, bank accountant (probably living at Bank of Scotland House), and to the east are 4 properties on the Mail Road (now Woodside Terrace).

1914-15 Valuation Roll : Mary W Gardiner, spinster owned and occupied a house in High Street. Margaret Gardiner, widow was a tenant (entry 239).

1925-26 Valuation Roll : A house in High Street was owned and occupied by Miss Mary W Gardiner, spinster (entry 229).

1934-35 Valuation Roll : A house in High Street was owned and occupied by Miss Mary W Gardiner, spinster (entry 205).

1940-41 Valuation Roll : A house in High Street was owned and occupied by Miss Mary W Gardiner, spinster (entry 260).

1944-45 Valuation Roll : Not seen, but entry 260 refers to Hendersons grocers shop as being at Horatio Square.

1945 | Sold by trustees of Mary W Gardiner to Hugh Paton (who ran the Anwoth Hotel or Ship Inn).

1950-51 Valuation Roll : A house at Horatio Square was owned and occupied by Hugh S Paton, seed merchant (entry 405). Entry 277 refers to Dumfries & Maxwellton Co-Operative shop as being at Horatio Square.

1954-55 Valuation Roll : A house at Horatio Square was owned and occupied by Hugh S Paton, seed merchant (entry 420). Entry 299 refers to Dumfries & Maxwellton Co-Operative shop as being at Horatio Square.

1960-61 Valuation Roll : A house at Horatio Square was owned and occupied by Mrs Christina R Scott (entry 494). Entry 323 refers to Dumfries & Maxwellton Co-Operative shop as being at Horatio Square.

1965-66 Valuation Roll : A hotel annexe at Horatio Square was owned by Mrs E Murray-Usher, Cally Estate Office (entry 384). Entry 383 refers to Dumfries & Maxwellton Co-Operative shop as being at Horatio Square.

1970-71 Valuation Roll : A hotel annexe at Horatio Square was owned by Mrs E Murray-Usher, Cally Estate Office (entry 384). Entries 382, 382/1 & 383 refer to a display area, office and store all being part of The Giftie Gie Us, Cally Estate Office and were located at Horatio Square. These were all on the opposite side of Church Street to the house called Horatio Square. The office was tenanted by The Galloway & Dumfriesshire Tourist Association - Gatehouse thus became the location of the first tourist information centre in Kirkcudbrightshire. and it was next to the entrance to The Old Posting Stables.

1974-75 Valuation Roll : Entry 382 refers to the hotel annexe – this must be the house at Horatio Square. The Flat at Horatio Square that was owned by Mrs E Murray-Usher, Cally Estate Office. Entry 382/1 refers to an office that was tenanted by The Galloway & Dumfriesshire Tourist Association. Entry 383 is for The Gifie Gie Us shop. The flat, office and shop were all in the building across Church Street from Horatio Square. Entry 384 is for another hotel annexe, part of the Murray Arms Hotel.

1978 | Sold by Elizabeth Evelyn Murray Usher to Charles George Willink Pilkington.

Other owners of Horatio Square have been (1) Christina Scott, (2) the Lakes & (3) the Firths

2021 | Sold by Firth to Athol.