

30 High Street



30 High Street is the property on the left (maroon sills)

◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

1771 Part of feu to John Stodhart, blacksmith, Gatehouse

1795 Sold to James Thomson, junior, merchant in Gatehouse

1825-6 Pigot & Co. Directory : Mary Thomson owned a tavern & public house on Front Street called “The Crown & Grapes”.

1829 Ownership recorded of John Thomson, weaver in Gatehouse, only son and heir of James Thomson, junior, merchant, Gatehouse.

1829 John Thomson borrowed £100 from James McNish, writer, Gatehouse

1839 John Thomson, sometime weaver, then worker in the cotton mills at Gatehouse sold to William Connell, farmer at Tonguecroft and Isabella Brown his wife.

1841 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 6 Page 4 [Front Street 20 & 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>
Thomson	Mary			f	70		England
Thomson	Mary			f	30	sewer	Kirkcudbrightshire
Marsden	Edward			m	17	mason apprentice	Kirkcudbrightshire
Thomson	Mary			f	8		Kirkcudbrightshire
Thomson	Jessie			f	4		Kirkcudbrightshire
Thomson	John			m	40	hand loom weaver	Kirkcudbrightshire
Thomson	Margaret			f	30		Ireland
Pitt	Ann			f	7		Kirkcudbrightshire
Thomson	James			m	5m		Kirkcudbrightshire

It is unclear why John Thomson was still living in High St in 1841 after he had sold the property in 1839 (per deeds notes). Front Street 20 entry was probably John's mother and sister. The 2 families probably lived in the same building.

1851 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 2 Page 8 High Street (South) 17 & 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>
Thomson	Mary	head	s	f	41	spirit dealer	Kbts, Girthon
Thomson	Mary Ann	dau.	s	f	16	milliner app.	Kbts, Girthon
Gibson	Dixon	head	m	m	45	hostler	Berwick, Hutton
Gibson	Mary	wife	m	f	42		Berwick, Hutton
Gibson	Joseph	son	s	m	16	saddler app.	Kbts, Girthon
Gibson	John	son	s	m	14	tailor app.	Kbts, Girthon
Gibson	Dixon	son		m	12	scholar	England
Gibson	Jane	dau.		f	10	scholar	England
Gibson	Francis	dau.		f	8	scholar	England
Cain	Thomas	head	s	m	38	mining engineer	England

1852 Slater's Directory : Dickson Gibson was a shopkeeper & grocer in High Street.
 Mary Thomson was also a shopkeeper & grocer in High Street.
It does seem strange that both would operate similar businesses out of the same building, but maybe they were partners, or even relatives.

1859 Valuation Roll : Grace Maizland, wife of Douglas Maizland, farmer, owned a house & garden that was occupied by Dickson Gibson, merchant.

1861 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 1 Pages 7 & 8 High Street South 10

<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>
Gibson	Dixon	head	m	m	55	grocer & hostler	Berwick, Hutton
Gibson	Mary	wife	m	f	51		England
Gibson	Joseph	son	s	m	26	master saddler emp. 1 boy	Kbts, Girthon
Gibson	John	son	s	m	24	postmaster	Kbts, Girthon
Gibson	Jane	dau.	s	f	19	dressmaker	England
Gibson	Frances R K	dau.		f	18	milliner	England
Gibson	Mary K	dau.		f	8	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Falconer	Margaret	sis-in-l	w	f	61	retired innkeeper	England
Gibson	Dixon	son	s	m	21	driver	England

1871 Girthon Census : Dixon Gibson & family have moved to live on the North side of High Street

1871 Girthon Census – Enumeration District 1 Page 7 High Street (S) 10a

<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>
Harper	William	head	m	m	56	agricultural labourer	Kbts, Girthon
Harper	Margaret	wife	m	f	56		Kbts, Minnigaff
Harper	Margaret	dau.	s	f	25		Kbts, Balmaclellan
Harper	Mary	dau.	s	f	22		Kbts, Balmaclellan
Tait	Mary Jane	niece	s	f	17	apprentice dressmaker	Kbts, Parton
Harper	Barbara	niece		f	10	scholar	Kbts, Borgue
Harper	John	head	wr	m	50	agricultural labourer	Kbts, Girthon

N.B. In the original census, the enumerator had listed the occupants of 32 High Street (Comline family) and the above Harper family as being different families in the same building. Closer inspection, however, shows that on the right of the page is a reference to the number of rooms in each building that have windows. There are separate entries in this column for the Harpers and the Comlines. We therefore conclude that a change of building had not been properly recorded at the left side of the page.

1879 Valuation Roll : Grace Maizland, wife of Douglas Maizland, farmer, owned a house & shop that was occupied by William Harper, merchant.

1884 Valuation Roll : Grace Maizland, wife of Douglas Maizland, farmer, owned a house & shop that was occupied by William Harper, merchant.

1891 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 1 Page 5 High Street (S) 10

<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>
Harper	William	head	m	m	76	living on private means	Kbts, Girthon
Harper	Margaret	wife	m	f	76		Kbts, Minnigaff
Harper	Mary	dau.	s	f	40		Kbts, Balmaclellan

1901 Girthon Census : William Harper was not living in Girthon.

We understand that William & Margaret Harper both died in 1897.

1901 Girthon Census – Enumeration District 1 Page 14 High Street 43

<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>
Clarke	John	head	m	m	72	needlework embroiderer	Ireland
Clarke	Jane	wife	m	f	65		Midlothian, Edinburgh
Porter	John	nephew	s	m	20	rural postman	Ayr, Largs

The Clarkes appear to live in the property previously occupied by the Harpers (next to the McMichaels & the Comlines).

1903 Sold by Mrs Grace McConnell or Maizland and William Corrie McConnell to William McGaw. William McConnell was the heir of William McConnell farmer in the Torrs in the county of Huron, Canada, heir of Isabella Brown or Connell, wife of William Connell, farmer at Tongue Croft.

1911 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 1 Page 3 & 4 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>
McLeod	Samuel	head	m	m	54	tailor	Kbts, Dalbeattie
McLeod	Euphemia	wife	m	f	48		Kbts, Kirkbean
McLeod	Robert	son	s	m	28	van driver	Kbts, Dundrennan
McLeod	William	son	s	m	22	grocer's assistant	Kbts, Gatehouse
McLeod	Samuel	son	s	m	17	grocer's assistant	Kbts, Gatehouse
McLeod	Norman	son	s	m	15	telegraph messenger	Kbts, Gatehouse
McLeod	Euphemia	dau.	s	f	12	school	Kbts, Gatehouse

William McGaw bought the property in 1903 and the 1912-13 Valuation Roll says that William McLeod lived there.

1912 Valuation Roll : William McGaw, builder, High Street owned a house in High Street that was occupied by William McLeod, grocer.

1926 Sold by William McGaw to Robert Ireland Walker

1952 Sold by R I Walker, now Salamanca Cottage to Mary Moncrieff Lunn, Ardmor

1954 Passed from Colonel Lunn-Rockliffe to Ishbel Cross, Earlston, Borgue in settlement of bond

1964 Sold by Ishbel Cross to Mere House Investments

1969 Sold by Mere House Investments to Julia J Wells

1975 Sold to John and Clare Dickie

1984 Sold by Clare and John Dickie to Robert and Irene Moir

1984 Sold by Robert and Irene Moir to Ian and Janet Kerr

1988 Sold.