

The Smithy, 4 Victoria Street



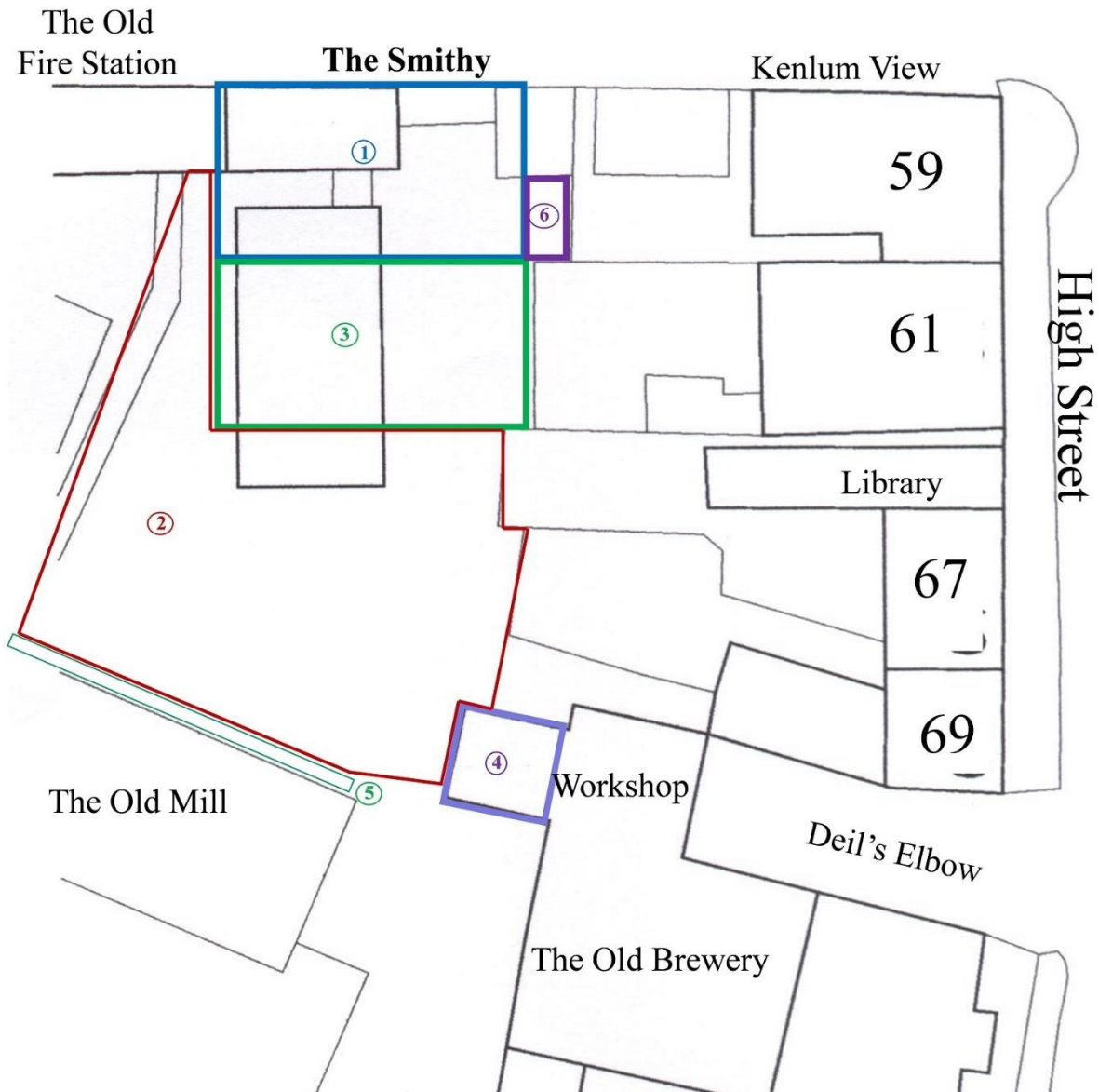
◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

Refer to diagram on the next page.

- 1788** – Nos 59 & 61 High Street were feued, each with a plot width of 30' and length 144'.
- 1841 & 1851** – Hugh Campbell, blacksmith lived with his family in Fleet Street.
- 1877** – Blacksmiths Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell bought 59 High Street. It is most likely that the Campbell brothers built a blacksmiths workshop at the far end of the garden. Alexander Campbell lived with his family at 59 High Street for both 1891 and 1901 census returns.
- 1923** – Sisters Jessie & Edith Campbell owned 59 High Street and sold Plot 1 to Samuel Corrie, blacksmith. The Campbell family were blacksmiths and Plot 1 included their smithy and a garage. Plot 1 measures 58' 9" by 30'.
- 1933** – Samuel Corrie sold his personal interest in Plot 1 to the business of S&T Corrie (Samuel & Thomas).
- 1949** – S&T Corrie sold Plot 1 to Rural Industries Loan Fund Limited who had a separate agreement with William Mackay to repay the loan over 15 years.
- 1964** – Mackay now owns Plot 1 including the smithy.
- 1968** – 59 & 61 High Street plots occupy 144' from High Street backwards. The library garden terminates with a masonry wall. Nos. 67 & 69 High Street gardens ended with the same wall and then a line of trees. The remainder of the ground between (a) the mill lade, (b) the Old Bobbin Mill, (c) the Deil's Elbow workshop that once belonged to Peter Jardine, and (d) the western edge of 69 High Street, was all land owned by Mrs Murray Usher. This is noted as Plot 2 in the above plan, and in 1968 Mrs Murray Usher sold all this land to Willie Mackay who erected a number of industrial-sized greenhouses on this land.
- 1978** – Ownership of plots 1 & 2 was divided between Willie & Annie Mackay.
- 1986** – Willie & Annie Mackay sold a piece of land 6.1m square (Plot 4) to Jack Pickthall in order for him to build an extension to his Deil's Elbow workshop.
- 1990** – The Mackays bought from the Baxters at 61 High Street the piece of land at the bottom of their garden. It is plot 3 in the plan below and measures 58' 9" by 30' – roughly the same size as plot 1.
- 1990** – Willie & Annie Mackay sold The Smithy plot to John & Susan Whittaker. Damage to the old smithy resulted in it being demolished and replaced with a narrower and shorter building which allowed a wider vehicular entrance. The residential property which is now The Smithy was built.
- 1991** – A plot of land measuring 6'6" (Plot 6) was sold by Mrs Murray Usher's executors to the Mackays and also agreed that the land could be used for residential purposes. This land has become the "turning area" for vehicles.
- 1991** – John & Susan Whittaker sold a piece of land 1m wide (Plot 5) which immediately overlooks the old mill. The company that bought this land no longer exists as it was owned by the Whittakers who are now deceased.
- 2006** – The Executors of John Whittaker sold The Smithy to Graham & Margaret Wright. During the sale process a number of boundary issues were cleared.
- The lade does not have a visible dog-leg : the change in direction is under the Fire Station building.
 - The turning area was included within the plot. It was owned by Willie Mackay (deceased).

- The boundary with 67 & 69 High Street properties were re-drawn in line with existing fencing.

Victoria Street



Aerial view of The Smithy grounds late 1980s :

- Post Office garage is in garden of 2 Victoria St.
- Pickthall's workshop extension is built.
- Old Jam Factory building exists.
- Old Mill looks like it is a wood store.
- Smithy greenhouses have been demolished.

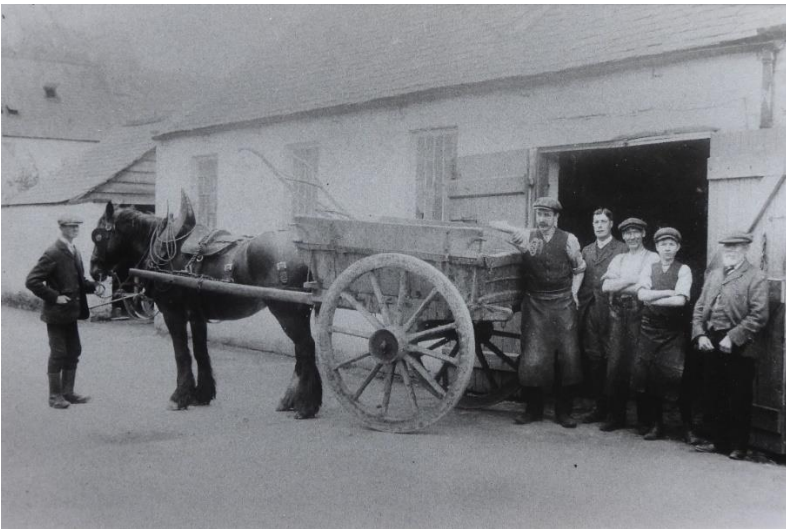
1978



Top, right of centre are Smithy greenhouses



N end of Victoria St. : top left are Smithy greenhouses.



Will Kie, James Anderson, Mr Munro (banker), John Glen, Bill Patterson & Phil Downie. James Anderson ran the business with brother Henry until 1912



twins
William
& Alec
Campbell

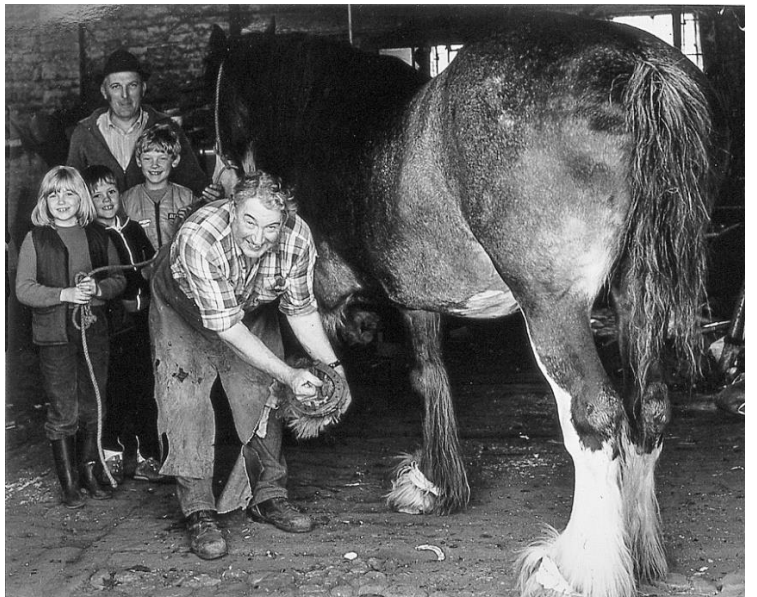




Left :
Tom Corrie -
Willie Mackay's
father-in-law.



Right :
Inside the smithy



Willie Mackay doing what blacksmiths do.



Willie Mackay



Smithy interior c.1977

1841 Anwoth Census

Fleet Street (probably no.29 Moravia)

<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>
Campbell	Hugh			m	35	blacksmith	Scotland
Campbell	Elizabeth			f	30		Scotland
Campbell	Elizabeth			f	10		Scotland
Campbell	John			m	5		Kirkcudbrightshire
Campbell	Robert			m	4		Kirkcudbrightshire
Campbell	Agnes			f	2		Kirkcudbrightshire
Campbell	Maryanne			f	1		Kirkcudbrightshire
Heron	William			m	9		Scotland
Solly	James			m	15	blacksmith app.	Kirkcudbrightshire
Dodds	William			m	28	blacksmith journeyman	
Dodds	Isabella			f	20		Scotland
Dodds	Peter			m	1		Scotland

1851 Anwoth Census

Fleet Street (probably no.29 Moravia)

<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>
Campbell	Hugh	head	m	m	46	blacksmith	Wigtown, Whithorn
Campbell	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	43		Wigtown, Sorbie
Campbell	John	son	s	m	17	blacksmith app.	Kbts, Girthon
Campbell	Mary Ann	dau.		f	11	scholar	Kbts, Girthon
Campbell	Alexander	son		m	8	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	William	son		m	8	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	Catherine	dau.		f	5	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	Jane	dau.		f	5m		Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Samuel	head	m	m	50	joiner emp.2	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Margaret	wife	m	f	49		Wigtown, Pen'ame
Henry	Elizabeth	dau.	s	f	24	general servant	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Robert	son	s	m	22	joiner	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	James	son	s	m	20	joiner	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Catherine	dau.	s	f	17	general servant	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Agnes	dau.	s	f	15	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Margaret	dau.		f	11	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Henry	Mary	dau.		f	8	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth

1859-60 Valuation Roll :

John Swainson owned a house and smithy that was tenanted by Hugh Campbell, blacksmith.

This could well have been what is now no.3 Victoria Street, opposite The Smithy. The part of the building next to the lade might have been the house, with the remaining workshop and/or store being the smithy. It is possible that Hugh Campbell remained in this property after Alexander moved into 59 High Street and William moved to Bridge Terrace.

1861 Girthon Census

Bank Street (old name for Victoria 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>
Campbell	Hugh	head	m	m	56	blacksmith employing 2 boys	Wigtown, Whithorn
Campbell	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	53		Wigtown, Garlieston
Campbell	Alexander	son	s	m	18	blacksmith apprent	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	William	son	s	m	18	blacksmith apprent	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	Catherine	dau	s	f	15	baker apprentice	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	Jane	dau		f	10	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	John	g-son		m	6	scholar	Wigtown, Wigtown

1871 Girthon Census

Cross Street (another old name for Victoria 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>
Campbell	Hugh	head	m	m	65	master blacksmith emp. 2 men + 1 boy	Wigtown, Whithorn
Campbell	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	60		Wigtown, Garlieston
Campbell	Alexander S	son	s	m	28	blacksmith	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	William B	son	s	m	28	blacksmith	Kbts, Gatehouse
Buchanan	Robert	g-son	s	m	17	apprentice blacksmith	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	John	g-son	s	m	16	scholar	Wigtown, Wigtown
Crichton	Ellen Jane H	g-dau.		f	5	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Dargie	Maggie H	boarder		f	12	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse

1875-76 Valuation Roll : Hugh Campbell, blacksmith tenanted a house and smithy in Victoria Street.

1877 59 High Street sold by Mary Menzies to Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell, blacksmiths in Gatehouse (*sons of Hugh Campbell*).

1878-79 Valuation Roll : Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell were proprietors of a workshop in Victoria Street.

1881 Girthon Census

High Street (no.59)

<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>
Campbell	Hugh	head	wr	m	75	blacksmith	Wigtown, Whithorn
Campbell	William B	son	s	m	38	blacksmith	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	Alexander S	son	m	m	38	blacksmith	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	Mary	dau-in-l	m	f	32		Kbts, Girthon
Crichton	Nellie	g-dau	s	f	16	general servant dom.	Kbts, Girthon
Campbell	Jane	g-dau		f	1		Kbts, Girthon
McKinlay	Samuel	servant	s	m	17	blacksmith apprentice	Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Davidson	William	servant	s	m	16	blacksmith apprentice	Forfar, Montrose

1884-85 Valuation Roll : Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell were proprietors of a house and garden in High Street that was occupied by Hugh Campbell. They were also proprietors of a workshop in Victoria Street.

1891 Girthon Census

High Street (no.59)

<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>
Campbell	Alexander	head	m	m	48	blacksmith	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	Mary	wife	m	f	42		Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	Jane	dau.	s	f	11	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Campbell	Alexander	son	s	m	4	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Telfer	Jane	m-in-law	w	f	73	living on private means	Kbts, Girthon

1891-92 Valuation Roll : Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell were proprietors of a house and garden in High Street – no occupiers name given.. They were also proprietors of a workshop in Victoria Street.

We do not know whether the workshop was part of what is no.3 Victoria Street or if it was a purpose-built smithy across the road in the grounds of 59 High Street.

1900-01 Valuation Roll : Alexander Stewart Campbell and William Black Campbell were proprietors of a house and garden in High Street – no occupiers name given.. They were also proprietors of a workshop in Victoria Street.
Nicholas Campbell, wife of William B Campbell also owned 4 houses in Victoria Street. She lived in Fleet Street.

1901 Girthon Census

High Street (no.59)

<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>
Campbell	Alexander S	head	wr	m	58	blacksmith	Kbts, Anwoth
Campbell	Jean	dau.	s	f	21		Kbts, Girthon
Campbell	Alexander S	son	s	m	14	scholar	Kbts, Girthon

1911 Girthon Census

High Street (no.59)

<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>
Walker	Roger	head	m	m	71	bobbin manufacturer	England
Walker	Jessie	wife	m	f	54		Kbts, Kirkcudbright
Walker	Roger	son	s	m	26	bobbin turner	Kbts, Gatehouse
Walker	George	son	s	m	24	bobbin turner	Kbts, Gatehouse
Walker	Jessie Roam	dau.	s	f	21		Kbts, Gatehouse

1912-13 Valuation Roll : Alexander Stewart Campbell & William Black Campbell, retired blacksmiths, owned a house & garden in High Street (*no.59*). The house was occupied by Roger Walker, wood merchant, whilst the workshop was tenanted by James Anderson, blacksmith. Nicholas Campbell, wife of William B Campbell also owned 3 houses in Victoria Street. Alexander & William also owned at least 3 houses in Bridge Terrace, one of which William occupied. William Campbell also owned 7 houses in Catherine Street – all rented out. Alexander & William also owned much, if not all, the Old Brewery buildings – rented. Alexander & William also owned all of Rosebery Terrace – one empty, the rest rented.

1915-16 Valuation Roll : The Campbell family owned 2 houses in High Street, a workshop, stores and houses in Victoria Street as well as several houses in Rosebery Terrace, Catherine Street, the Brewery, Neilson Square, and Bridge Terrace.

1923 Sisters Jessie & Edith Campbell owned 59 High Street and sold Plot 1 to Samuel Corrie, blacksmith. The Campbell family were blacksmiths and Plot 1 included their smithy and a garage. Plot 1 measures 58' 9" by 30'.

1925-26 Valuation Roll : Samuel B Corrie is listed as being the owner / occupier of a workshop etc in Victoria Street.

Given that we have a photo of William & Alec Campbell outside a 'significantly weathered' smithy it is clear that the building could have been built in the 1860s or 1870s when Hugh Campbell bought 59 High Street.

The Valuation Rolls seem to list the 'workshop' as being in Victoria Street, and clearly it would have been accessed from Victoria Street. However the smithy remained in the title deeds for 59 High Street until the Campbell sisters sold it to Samuel Corrie in 1923.

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