CHURCHES

ST BRIDES CHURCH
List 2 B
visit — Low, harled, with odd gabled windows to front, and domestic 12-pane windows to rear. Attractive wooden Gothic lych gate, c.1930. Bell. Good graveyard, ?1712. Numinously nautical inside, with wood panelled walls and coved ceiling.
2 s.g. wndows to Archibald Kerr, ironfounder, †1900. Round window is i.m.o. Rev John Colville (lych gate is also in his memory).
--- — 1795/1835.

STAINED GLASS
Letter of Wren Gentleman, June 2007 — Circular window is 1931
Letter of Wren Gentleman, June 2007 — Framed windows are 1917, Parable of the Talents, design by **James Gordon Guthrie**, execution **J & W Guthrie & Andrew Wells Ltd**.

LYCH GATE
Letter of Wren Gentleman, June 2007 — 1931

MANSE
NAS, CH 2/1153/13, pp 526-527 — 30.11.1898. Plans for a Manse approved by Presbytery.

FREE CHURCH, ex
List 21 CS — c.1900, Arts and Crafts.
-- — Called, c.1992, Castlekirk.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

OUTDOOR CENTRE
SRC 1975/Print 8/548, Buildings & Property Cttee, 1 7.1975 — Architects, for a £50,000 contract, to be A D Holmes & McDonald, Glasgow

POLICE STATION
CO 5/3/1/1, Bute CC, 1890-1892 — 4.10.1892. A site for a Police Station at Lochranza has been agreed with Duke of Hamilton. To take 99 year lease. **John R Thomson**, Rothesay, appointed as architect.

PONTOONS
AV, 10.5.2008, 2cd — Work due to begin "this Friday" a pontoon facility at Lochranza which will alow berthing alongside by tenders, yachts, &c. Funded by HIE, NAC & Lochranza & Catacol Sea Society. Builders: Varis Engineering. Engineers: Walalce Stone & Partners. Spanning bridge from above high water, a 310m long 3m wide pontoon, with 2 10m pontoons at right angles at the far end. Metal box construction with timber decking, railings and a hoist. Summer use only: the end section taken away in winter.
AB, Sa 10.5.2008, 9ab — Work began yesterday (Friday) (9th May). Cost, £150,000

SCHOOL
SRC, E(Sv) 12.10.1978, 1227 — Former school declared surplus.
SRC, B&P, 6.2.1979, 203 — Sold to Dr H McKerrel, Lasswade, for £10,050.

LOCHRANZA CASTLE
List 5 A
C&DA, --, 490/93-94

This castle occupies the extremity of a low-lying peninsula jutting out from the west side of and stretching nearly across the loch, which is a well-sheltered haven, at the north end of the island, surrounded with hills. The structure is of the L-plan, the main block being 66 feet long by 35 feet wide, with a tower at the south-west corner projecting 15 feet 6 inches and in breadth about 16 feet 6 inches.

The approach is on the west or landward side, and the present entrance faces the approach. A stone bartisan [as seen on the Third Floor Plan and View] is projected on corbels over this doorway for its defence. Immediately inside the door a wheelstair on the left hand leads to the upper floors. On the ground floor one large [493] apartment occupies the southern part of the castle. The extreme south end is partitioned off and forms a passage, giving access to a long flight of stairs in the east wall, and also to a small arched chamber lighted with a loop, and having am oblong aperture in the vault, measuring 5 feet 11½ inches by 20 inches, opening on the dais floor of the hall above. This was probably a hatch by which barrels might be hoisted to the hall. A small sink and drain are connected with the above chamber.

The basement of the south-west tower seems to have been the dungeon, from its being guarded by a narrow door about 2 feet wide, secured outside with a sliding bar. The floor is about 2 feet lower than that of the cellar adjoining, and the ceiling is about 9 feet 4 inches high. The dungeon is about 7 feet 6 inches square. At the north end of the basement are two vaulted apartments, with a low door of communication about 4 feet high. A long straight staircase in the thickness of the east wall led to the first floor. It seems likely that there was a second entrance doorway on the east side, some few feet above the ground (the level of which is probably higher at this part now than it was originally), and that that door led into the mural stair, as if into a porch or lobby, near the point where the stair has a wide landing (as shown on Plan). There was evidently doors at this level across the staircase, for the purpose of preventing access up the stair on the one hand and down on the other. The top of the staircase is now built up, and has been so for long, as on the other side of the wall a garde-robe has been formed during the later occupation of the castle. That this staircase gave access to the hall above is quite obvious from the built-up door in the side wall. The dotted lines shown in the above garde-robe indicate partitions on the floor and ceiling, now removed. The wheelstair on the west side of the castle gives access to the hall and to the kitchen, which are on the same level, and have a service window between them. The hall measures 34 feet 6 inches by 23 feet, and has at the south end the dais, already referred to, which is raised above 2 feet. A doorway leading from the dais gives access to the room over the dungeon, and to a small wheelstair leading to several rooms above. It is surprising to find that there is no fireplace in the hall, but it is probably built up. It seems most likely that the fireplace was in the south wall of the hall, the floor of which was of timber, the cellars beneath not being vaulted; but a space, 5 feet in breadth, at the south end, is covered with flagstones, apparently so as to form a fireproof hearth near the fireplace. The kitchen contains a large fireplace, with drain and window.

The upper floors, which are reached by the two wheel-stairs, will be easily understood from the Second and Third Floor Plans. The south

west tower contains a vaulted story at a higher level than the main building, and the north-east corner is also carried up as a tower, and provided with a separate staircase. The south-west tower, the top of which is inaccessible, had in all probability a battlemented walk, with the south-west angle carried up as a watch-turret; indeed, the holes for the escape of water from the walk are distinctly visible along the north side.

Fordun, writing about the end of the fourteenth century or beginning of the fifteenth (see Skeet's translation of Fordun, vol II) speaks of "Arran, where are two royal castles - Brethwyk and Lochransie". Shortly after that date it was held by John de Monteith, Lord of Arran, who in 1433 conferred it, with the lands adjoining, on Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochaw, from whom are descended the Argyll family. Between 1415 and 1450 Ronald McAlister was keeper and tenant, and by grant of James II, the castle and lands passed to Alexander, Lord Montgomery, ancestor of the Earl of Eglinton. His grandson in 1488 was keeper of Brodick, and in the year following of Rothesay Castle.

It is thus evident that a castle must have existed here from an early time; but it is equally clear from its style that the existing structure was erected subsequently to the above dates, although no record seems to be preserved of the builder. It corresponds in style with Elcho Castle, Fordel Castle, and similar structures of the latter half of the sixteenth century.

[Plans provided by **H J Blanc**]

-- (ref lost) — Called "ane uther auld house" in 1549.

Reg Mag Sig, III, no.708 — Charter of land of Lochranza in Arran granted by James V to Hugh Earl of Eglintin [no mention of castle]. 16 November 1528

Reg Mag Sig, IV, no.1674 — Charter of confirmation granted by Queen Mary to Hugh Earl of Eglinton of lands of Lochransay and Sannokis with tower and fortalice thereon. Dated 8 November 1565. [Earliest mention of castle at Lochranza in RMS]

VILLAGE

Lots of the houses in Lochranza are marginated with red stone, echoing the Castle.

ANCHORAGE, THE

VR 1926-27 — Isabella Kerr.

BARKING HOUSE

List 20 — B

nr — mC19. [There are also remains of a Barking House at Catacol, containing boilers.]

Judging from OS appears to be opposite cottages to W of Lochranza Parish Church. [Yes]

Bussell, 34 — 1860s.

RCAHMS, C20227 CN — 1993 Photograph. PHOTOCOPY herewith.

BENVAREN

--- — Harled Victorian villa with central chimney above balcony with Glasgow-style glass.

Sas Abr 17/1911 RS94/120 f187 — 56.195P. Allowed to build a villa and a summer house 'to be used for the said disponees occupation only and not to be let, and which summer house may be constructed in whole or in part of materials ... other than stone or brick and lime'.

C & I 1924 — William Marks died 8.5.1924 at Lochranza. Spo: Margaret Macdonald. Est: £16013 6s 7d.

VR 1926-27 — Margaret McDonald or Marks.

DISTILLERY

Bussell, 32 — Opened in 1997.

nr — **David Hutchison & Associates**, Glasgow, architects.

FAIRHAVEN

(Here?)

IOAH, 202 — 1932. (May be Catacol, Pirnmill, …)

GOLF CLUB

TT, F 9.6.1899, 5h — The first golf course on Arran was at Lamlash, and began about seven years ago. There are now also courses at Corrie, Shiskine and Brodick, and a 5th, at Lochranza, was opened on the 3rd June 1899.

CHALETS (PROPOSED)

06/1058/PP — General Chalet Development. John Stewart RIBA (01770), agent.

IRISBROOK

VR 1926-27 — John Currie.

KINCARDINE LODGE

--- — 2 storey Victorian villa. Has same Gothick timbering as Stoneleigh.

VR 1926-27 — Daniel McMillan. (also prop of Daisy Knowe)

LODGE, THE

-- — 1750 + Victorian. Unspolit small-windowed harled C18 house with unagressive bowed Victorian extension. Very nice ensemble.

List (Kilmory) 21 — CS, listed 26.2.1980.

ASH, Sa 29.3.1862, 3g — Died 18.3.1862 at Lodge, Lochranza, Esther Meikleham, daughter of Professor Meikleham. "Ldge built by themselves".

VR 1926-27 — Duncan Coll, retired police constable.

MILL

visit — Derelict.

OLD ANCHORAGE

--- — Single storey with rustic porch.

PIER

Arran: An Island's Story, 1982, p.101 — Pier built "by 1886".

BN, iii, 956 1887 — Pier being built in 1887. Of concrete and timber. length 13' from shore at low tide. Engineers: **Stevenson**, CE, Edinburgh. Contractor: **D Manwell**, Partick.

PRIMROSE COTTAGE

-- — 1s with slated dormers.

STONELEIGH

--- — (Lochranza Stores). Large with Gothick 'timbered' gable.

TIGNAMARA

VR 1926-27 — Jean, Mary and Margaret Steen.

YOUTH HOSTEL, formerly the LOCHRANZA HOTEL

visit	c.1890 Arts & Crafts, formerly "half-timbered", now wholly harled.
Danskin's Cube Book 1872-1901	1893, for Duke of Hamilton. Measured at £2434 13s 10½d.
Academy Architecture, 1894, 102	Hotel proposed to be built at Loch Branza [sic]. **John Burnet, Son, & Campbell.**
Architectural Review, liv, July-Dec 1923, 36	Lochranza Hotel, 1895, Sir **John James Burnet**.
RSA, 1894, no.523	Exhibited 1894. John James Burnet, architect.
BN, lxvi, 358 1894	Cottage style (part of scheme for Duke of Hamilton).
B, 9.6.1922, 875	Burnet's sketches exhibited at 1922 Paris Salon.

INDUSTRY

SALT PANS, Cock of Arran

RCAHMS, BU 386	1980 photograph of principal building. PHOTOCOPY herewith.
RCAHMS, A 57438	1979, site plan. PHOTOCOPY herewith.

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