BACKGROUND

| | |
|---|---|
| Pigot, 1837, 274 | The weaving of muslins is carried on here extensively, one thousand hands being employed in this branch of manufacture.' |
| Pigot, 1837, 274 | Agents to manufacturers: John Brown, Main Street; James Gemmell, Main Street; James Hood, Greenholm; Archibald Mair, Main Street; William Millar, Main Street; James Morton, Main Street. |
| Pigot, 1837, 275 | Muslin manufacturers: James Cameron, Main Street; Archibald Mackay, Main Street; Archibald Mair, Main Street; Adam Morton, Main Street; John Morton, Main Street; John Parker, jun, Greenholm; Alexander Paton, Main Street; James Smith, Main Street; William Young, Greenholm. |
| ASH, Sa 30.12.1876, 5c | "There is no prospect of a revival of the hand-loom weaving. A twelvemonth ago somewhere above 1000 hands were employed at this trade in Newmilns and Darvel, but now there is scarcely one-fourth of that number employed, and undoubtedly the majority of that number are now well advanced in years, who cannot easily turn their hand to anything else. Presently there are about 500 looms lying idle in Newmilns and Darvel, and those weavers who are out of employment may be said to be almost starving. There are rumours of a factory to be started in this district, which, if true, may improve matters a little". |
| ASH, Sa 6.1.1877, 3b | *A Townsman*, Darvel, in a letter says that 4 years ago there were 500 weavers in Newmilns and 600 in Darvel, and that many more than 500 are now idle. "I may say that had it not been for two gentlemen we would have been worse off in Darvel. These two gentlemen are Mr Joseph Hood, Newmilns, and Mr Alexander Morton, Darvel, who by their enterprise have started Nottingham curtains and screens - mainly power-looms, not hand looms. The young men and women have mostly got something else to do, and a great number had to leave their native place". |
| ASH, Sa 30.6.1877, 4c | Census taken at New Year. 1040 looms in Newmilns, of which only 490 were going. "It may also be stated that there are a few factories in Newmilns where the power-loom is used, but some of them are only building of at least have not got the looms in them".<br>Darvel. About 4½ years ago there were 580 looms going, now only 230. Average wage for men is c 10-12s per week, for women, &c., 6s. "between 40 and 50 years ago, plain weaving or lappits were the leading lines. The first Jacquard machine was used in Darvel 38 years ago, and was got from Dunfermline. Now looms, machines, and all the materials of the looms are made in Newmilns, and of better quality, they say, than can be got elsewhere".<br>"Within a short time, a firm - Alexander Morton & Co. - have started the manufacture of damask tapestries of the same kind as woven in the north of France. The firm has warehouses, showrooms, and other conveniences, and keeps a staff of designers to enable them to make first-class articles. Some of these goods we saw, and can affirm that they are really beautiful, showing elegant designs and brilliant colours. The same firm has also erected 4 Nottingham lace looms - the only specimens in Scotland of their kind. They are large and most intricate looking machines, and can turn out a large quantity of superior goods. Like the common Jacquards, curtains appear the class of goods made by these machines. In so far as they have gone, the firm have succeeded well, and it is to be hoped that their enterprise will be |

rewarded, and a stimulus given to the trade of the village". Their workers get a regular 18s per week.

AA, Th 13.1.1881, 6f — 6th lace factory about to be built. It will accommodate 10 Nottingham lace machines, and is by John Mackintosh, for Haddow Steel & Co.

AA, Th 31.3.1881, 5f — It is said that one of the largest lace-makers in Nottingham are about to remove to either Stonehouse or Newmilns. Labour costs in Ayrshire are about half of those in Nottingham.

KS, Sa 14.10.1893, 8de — [Obituary of James Cameron, 1799-1893, who was a weaving agent and latterly manufacturer. Born in Newmilns, 'he was deeply interested in all the changes of trade that have taken place in the town, from the simple plain weaving of his early days to the more complex form of harness muslin curtains, and following this the higher development which we now have inn our numerous handsome factories filled with Nottingham lace machinery'.]

Journal (EAFHS) 52, April 2023 — c.1891, Johnston & Shields seem to have opened a lace mill in Gothenburg. Employees sent out to train staff there included Alexander Boswell Thomson (see Card Index): he married a Swede, Maria E J Wiesner.

[Until identifications have been fully established, listed in this order. 1- confirmed addresses; 2 - mill names; 3 - firm names]

N.B. In June 1952, the Valuation Committee proposed a re-valuation of lace factories in the county.

BROWN STREET, 52-54 — GREENHOLM POWER LOOM FACTORY

Sas Min 2494 of 1867 — Feu Disp by Thomas Brown of Waterhaughs of 1R 37P 3Y 3½' on the N side of Brown Street, Greenholm, to Joseph Hood & Co. Jacquard machine manufacturers [partners: Joseph Hood, machine maker: William Lambie, James Wilson and Hugh Morton, weavers' agents, and Alexander Lambie, residing in, all in Newmilns, except WL, Greenholm]

ASH, 16.9.1871 — John Wylie, junior, partner in Joseph Hood & Co., married 8.9.1871

ASH, 23.9.1871 — Ref to Alexander Lambie, managing partner, Joseph Hood & Co.

ASH, Sa 28.9.1872, 5b — Within the last few years the factory of Messrs Joseph Hood & Co has been erected ... winsey-cloth is the fabric produced here, and about a hundred hands are employed.

Mair, PHN, 8 — First lace loom was installed in 1876 in Joseph Hood and Hugh Morton's wincey mill, Greenholm.

AP 6.8.1886 — article on Hood, Morton & Co. (In 'Lace' file - not sure what that means any more - ex card index)

KS, Sa 14.10.1893, 8d — [Obituary of Joseph Hood, 1821-1893] [He was apprenticed to his half-brother Alexander Hood, was regarded as the best Jacquard machine maker in the trade.]

KS, Sa 17.2.1894, 8e — [Obituary of Hugh Morton, 1830-1894]. [He worked in the warehouse of James Hood, and when Hood left Newmilns, he 'began as an agent in a small way. He also had an interest in a clipping machine, which was satisfactory'. As hand-loom weaving declined, he joined a company to start 'a wincey factory, which under skilful management, did well'. Winceys becoming dull, he with partners entered lace trade as Hood Morton & Co.]

Sas Min 1548 of 1881 — Disp of the p.o.l. in 2494/1867 (above) by Joseph Hood & Co [Joseph Hood, machine maker and manufacturer; James Wilson and Hugh Morton, both weavers' agents now manufacturers; Alex Lambie, formerly of Newmilns now manufacturer, Glasgow. William Lambie is dead] to

| | |
|---|---|
| | Hood Morton Cleland & Co. [Joseph Hood and Hugh Morton as before: James Cleland, manufacturer, Darvel: James Findlay, manufacturer, Glasgow] |
| AP 6.8.1886 | 1 column article on Hood Morton & Co., GF, taken from "The Mercantile Age". |
| KS 25.2.1888 | Social gathering. Mr Morton said Hood Morton & Co were the 2nd firm in the valley to take up the lace trade, now there were 2 in Darvel, 8 in Newmilns and 2 in Galston. In 1880 there were c.10 lace machines in the valley, now there are about 110. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | **Hood Morton & Co**., Greenholm Factory. Lace, tapestry, chenille and madras curtains. 1st lace making in Newmilns. Company began about 30 years ago, making shirting and wincey. |
| VR 1899-1900; VR 1900-1901 | Hood Morton & Co. Partners: Joseph Hood, Jacquard machine maker; William Morton, merchant, Newmilns; Andrew Blair, Janetta, N; Alexander Goldie, chenille manager, Jamieson Terrace, N; John Young, tapestry manager, Darvel; William Murray, cashier, Nelson Street, N. |
| VR 1910-11 | Hood Morton & Co Ltd. |
| VR 1934-35 | Greenholm PLF, 52-54 Brown Street: Hood Morton & Co Ltd. |
| See also | JAMES WILSON |
| | |
| BROWN STREET, 78-86 | IRVINEBANK POWER LOOM FACTORY |
| Hume 532371 | Built 1877 for Morton Cameron & Co., and rebuilt after a fire in **1923**. A very handsome brick range, with a 3 storey 6 bay main block and a 2 storey 9 bay wing. Both have segmental low relief arches along the ground floor and sandstone cornices. Now occupied by the Vesuvius Crucible Co. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | David Ligat & Son, Irvinebank Factory. Lappet manufacturer, with some muslins. [Lappet is a form of mulsin, much exported for use in turbans] |
| VR [1899-1900] - [1910/1911] | William Morton & Co. Partners: William Morton, manufacturer, Albert Street, B....: Thomas Campbell, m/t Newmilns; Andrew Smith, baker, Newmilns; James Morton, manager, Kilnholm Street, N: Alexander McCulloch, merchant, Newmilns.<br>Partly tenanted by David Liggat & Sons, Glasgow. Partners: Robert Leggat, lappit and muslin manufacturer, View Park, Barrhead: David Leggat, junior, Hillisde, Barrhead. |
| VR 1934-35 | Irvinebank PLF, 78-86 Brown Street: William Morton & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A665 | February 1949. Roof over factory pound, Brown Street, for William Morton & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A2200 | April 1950. New shed roof, &c., Brown Street, for William Morton & Co Ltd. |
| | |
| BROWN STREET, 88-90 | VALE LACE WORKS |
| Hume | 1886, for Johnston Shields & Co. A complex of 1- and 2- storey buildings with a 2 storey and attic 2 by 11 bay sandstone frontage. [To E of Annabank Factory] |
| Sas Abridgement 333 of 1886 | 15.3.1886. Disp by Stewart, Moir & Muir, lace manufacturers [surviving partners; John Morrison Stewart - Alex Moir, both Glasgow] - to Johnston & Co., lace manufacturers, Newmilns [Edward Birkhead Steegmann, Leicester - John Shields, lace manufacturer, Newmilns] - of 3R 12P 12Y on N side of road lately formed in Greenholm. 3.3.1886. 465.169. |
| AA 4.3.1886 | The lace factories in Ayrshire have for some time been fully employed and, as an outcome of the extra trade, more new factories are about to be put up ... At Newmilns the new lace factory of Shields Johnstone & |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Co., of which notice was taken some time ago is about to be proceeded with. |
| AP 5.3.1886 | Brick, facing Union Street. To make madras curtains. Masons: R & J Anderson, Galston. Ornamental enamelled frontage. [I wonder if this ref is a muddling of the two factories in the AA ref: this and J & J Wilson's - qv] |
| Sas Abridgement 2024 of 1887 | 8.1.1887. 492.51. Change from Johnston & Co to Johnston Shields & Co (partners Edward Birkhead Steegmann, Leicester, and John Shields). The abridgement also involves Robert Henry Steegmann, yarn merchant, Nottingham. |
| ASH, F 18.11.1887, 8d | Court of Session case involving Johnstone, Shields & Co., Vale Lace Works, following on a fatal fall from a ladder while making a Jacquard loom. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | Johnstone Shields & Co., Vale Lace Works. Only factory of 3 storeys. Founded 10 years ago; factory built 4 years ago. Lace. |
| AA, Th 24.9.1896, 5c | Presentation to W.C. Wragg, chief designer, who is going to Stewarton, as a partner in Forrest, Wragg & Co., lace manufacturers. |
| VR 1899-1900 | Johnston Shields & Co, lace manufacturers, e.g. John Shields, Glenrosa, Newmilns and E B Steegman, manufacturer, Barcelona. |
| VR 1910-1911 | Johnston Shields & Co Ltd. |
| VR 1934-35 | Lace factory, 88-90 Brown Street: Johnston Shields & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A1997 | February 1950. Winding shed, and lavatories, Brown Street, for Johnston Shields & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, B1924 | November 1957. extension and alterations; Alexander Dunlop, for Johnston Shields & Co.Ltd. |

see also LAWSON, GOLDIE & Co
GOTHENBURG

| | |
|---|---|
| Journal (EAFHS) 52, April 2023 | Lace mill here c.1891. |

FOOTBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| Mair, PHN, 60 | Johnston Shields & Co had a factory in Barcelona from 1893. The works football team, Escoces, won the first Spanish Cup in 1900-01. They also had a factory in Gothenburg, and the first Gothenburg FC, c.1891, was mostly men from Newmilns. |

BROWN STREET, 92 ANNABANK FACTORY

| | |
|---|---|
| Hume 530370 | Built 1882 for Robert Muir. the 1st Irvine Valley lace factory of more than 1 storey, with the characteristic tall ground floor for the lace looms and lower upper floor for mending and making up. A 2-storey and attic, 4 by 16 bay yellow brick building with single storey weaving sheds. Now disused. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | Robert Muir, Annabank Factory. Business established 1872. Lace. |
| EG 10225, F 30.1.1891, 154a | Trustees of late Robert Muir resigning the position; one is Robert Haddow, junior, Newmilns. |
| VR 1899-1900; VR 1900-1901 | T.l. Robert Muir (Samuel Ross, manufacturer). |
| VR 1910-1911 | A & J Muir & Co Ltd |
| EG, Tu 4.5.1915, 656a | On-going sequestration of Robert Muir (a company) and the partners, and trustees of late Robert Muir: Samuel Ross, Afton Cottage, and Robert Haddow Muir, Valeview. |
| VR 1934-35 | Annabank Lace Factory, 92 Brown Street: A & J Muir & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A3964 | August 1951. Addition to lavatories, Brown Street, for A & J Muir & Co Ltd. (or 94) |
| ACC Planning, A5958 | May 1953. Addition to office, Brown St; Alexander Dunlop, for A & J Muir & Co Ltd. (or 94) |

| | |
|---|---|
| BROWN STREET, 94 | CALEDONIA FACTORY |
| Hume | 1886, to the east, and similar to Annabank. 23 bays. |
| AA 3.9.1885 | Bailie Muir - late of Stewart & Moir - has nearly completion a very large building similar in design to Annabank Factory, and capable of holding a large number of machines. |
| Sas Abridgement 2024 of 1887 | 8.1.1887. 492.51 refers to A & J Muir (Allan Muir, James Muir) |
| WS 1.8.1890 | **A & J Muir**, Caledonian Factory. Established 1885. Lace. |
| VR 1899-1900 | Partners: Allan Muir, manufacturer, Brown Street: James Muir, manufacturer, High Street. |
| VR 1910-1911 | A & J Muir & Co Ltd. |
| n.r. | Charles Frederick Bryson, The Grange, Darvel, head of A & J Muir & Co Ltd., died 14th January 1929. |
| VR 1934/35 | Caledonia Lace Factory, 94 Brown Street: A & J Muir & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A3964 | August 1951. Addition to lavatories, Brown Street, for A & J Muir & Co Ltd. (or 92) |
| ACC Planning, A5958 | May 1953. Addition to office, Brown St; Alexander Dunlop, for A & J Muir & Co Ltd. (or 92) |

| | |
|---|---|
| DARVEL ROAD, 2 | TOWNHEAD LACE MILLS |
| Hume 541373 | Built 1898 for Henderson Morton Inglis & Co., architect Thomas B Todd. A typical 2 storey and attic Newmilns lace factory, 6 by 10 bay, of yellow brick with a sandstone frontage. |
| VR [1899-1900] - [1910-1911] | New lace Factory, Townhead: Henderson Morton Inglis & Co. [Partners: John Galloway, Cambuslang: John Henderson, 24 Leven Street, Glasgow: James Inglis, junior: John Morton, Newmilns] |
| VR 1934-35 | Lace Factory, 2 Darvel Road: Henderson Morton Inglis & Co [James Inglis, sole partner]. |
| ACC Planning, A342 | November 1948. Canteen, Townhead Lace Mills, for Henderson Morton & Inglis. [**Alex Dunlop**, Kilmarnock] |
| ACC Planning, A492 | December 1948. Nissen huts (yarn storage), Darvel Road, for Henderson Morton & Inglis. |
| PEOPLE | |
| Mair, PHN, 49 | Chief designer c.1917 was W Bennett Brown. |

| | |
|---|---|
| GREENHEAD, 5/6 | GREENHEAD MILLS |
| Hume 540373 | Built from 1877 for **J & J Wilson**. A group of single storey sheds, with a handsome 5 bay enamelled brick frontage, built in 1886, as part of a madras shed. |
| AA 4.3.1886 | Messrs J & J Wilson are likewise erecting an additional shed to their already extensive buildings, with extended frontage, built with enamelled brick, facing Union Street. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | J & J Wilson, Greenhead Mill. Muslin, madras and leno curtains. The business is 60 years old. factory of 1870. 1st power-loom weaving of leno curtains in Ayrshire. In course of extension. |
| Sas Min 10171, of 7.10.1890 | RS91/618 fo.173. Feu Disp by James Wilson, senior, manufacturer, Newmilns, to J & J Wilson {partners: sd Jas Wilson senior - James Wilson junior - John Wilson, all manufacturers, Newmilns) - of 3R 12P 5Y o.g. known as the Persian Sands, no.2 on plan bounded on the north by road leading past Old Wool Mill. |
| VR [1900/01] - [1910/11] | Weaving Mill, Greenhead. J & J Wilson & Co. |
| VR 1934-35 | Madras lace factory, 5/6 Greenhead: J & J Wilson & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A1371 | August 1949. Loading shed, Union Street, for J & J Wilson. **Hay & Steel**. |
| ACC Planning, B861 | January 1957. Addition, Greenhead Mill, for J & J Wilson & Co Ltd. **James Hay & Steel**. |

See also JAMES WILSON

NORTH BANK, 9-11 NORTHBANK FACTORY

Hume 531371 Built 1905-1906 for D Ligat & Co as a muslin factory and subsequently extended. The original block is 3 storeys high, flat roofed and the extension 2 storeys high, both yellow brick.

KS 7.10.1905 New mill for D Ligat & Co passed at Dean of Guild last Wednesday. North side of river near the Jubilee Bridge.

AA 31.5.1923 Slightly damaged by fire: see full ref below.

VR 1934-35 Madras & Muslin Factory, 9-11 NB: David Ligat & Son Ltd.

ACC Planning, A3890 August 1951. Additions and alterations, Shields Road, for D Ligat & Son.

STONEYGATE ROAD, 2 RIVERBANK LACE FACTORY

Hume 528371 Built 1897 for Goldie, Steel & Co. A 2 storey and attic 3 by 10 bay office block with single storey weaving sheds at the side and rear, and a circular section chimney.

VR [1899-1900] - [1910/11] Goldie Steel & Co [Partners: Alexander Goldie and William Steel, manufactuers, Newmilns: Matthew Steel, manufacturer, 788 London Road, Glasgow: Robert T Lennox, manufacturer, Newmilns, and Hugh Aiton, manufacturer, Darvel] HA gone by 1910.

VR 1934-35 Riverbank LF, 2 Stoneygate Road: Steel & Co [Newmilns] Ltd.

ACC Planning, A1438 September 1949. Lavatories, Riverbank Factory, for Steel & Co (Newmilns) Ltd.

STONEYGATE ROAD, 10-18 MORTON YOUNG & BORLAND LTD

Mair, PHN, 31 Opened in 1901

VR 1910/11 Factory, Stoneygate Road. Morton Young & Borland (Thomas Morton, Alexander Young, David Borland sugar broker Glasgow, George M Borland sugar broker Glasgow, Hugh H Borland Glasgow)

VR 1934-35 Factory, 10-18 Stoneygate Road: Morton Young & Borland Ltd.

The Bailie, 22.9.1920, Men You Know 2501 (incoming Glasgow Deacons)

[New Deacon of the Barbers is George M Borland, senior partner in Borland Brothers, sugar brokers, Virginia Street, and a director of Morton Young & Borland, lace and madras manufacturers. Born in Newmilns, and on leaving school spent 8 years with Johnstone & Shields, lace and madras manufacturers, and then joined MacCallum & Lochhead, suger brokers, Greenock, and then started in business on own account with brother David. He recently acquired the estate of Kincardine Castle 'with the idea of giving more time to the pursuit if up-to-date farming'. He is the right side of 50.]

ACC Planning, 3132 August 1945. Alterations, for British Lace Furnishing Ltd.

ACC Planning, A5895 April 1953. Addition, Stoneygate Road; Alex Dunlop, for Morton Young & Borland Ltd.

UNION STREET, 21-27

Hume 541373 Built c.1915 for J Muir & Co Ltd. A 2- and 3- storey 6 by 8 bay block with a 2 storey building to the north, both yellow brick.

VR 1926-27 J Muir & Co (not a ltd co). Partners are Robert (Croydon), William (Norwood), Andrew (Wagner), James (King St), and Hugh (Killochview) Muir (all in Newmilns), Mary Aird, Westmore, Newmilns, Martha Kirkland, Brown Street, Newmilns and Alexander Muir, Carlisle.

VR 1934-35 Lace Factory, 21-27 US: J Muir & Co Ltd.

EG 17894, F 20.1.1961, 45a Reduction in capital approved.

ANNABANK FACTORY See 92 Brown Street.

CALEDONIA FACTORY See 94 Brown Street.

GREENHEAD MILLS See 5/6 Greenhead.

GREENHOLM FACTORY See 52-54 Brown Street.

IRVINEBANK POWERLOOM FACTORY See 78-86 Brown Street.

LANFINE BLEACHING WORKS

AA 8.3.1883 A new factory in course of erection for the bleaching and dressing of Nottingham lace at the extreme west end of the town and in close proximity to the railway station. Props: Messrs Forrest & Gillies, Glasgow. It will contain 14 12hp, 2 14hp, 2 16hp and 1 18hp engines. The architect is John Baird, Esq., of Glasgow.

WS 1.8.1890 Forrest Gillies & Co., Lanfine Bleaching and Finishing Works. Established about 7 years ago, to service the lace, &c., industry.

Sas Min 53 of 1899 Partners: T S Forrest, Kilmarnock: William Don Gillies, Denovan, Larbert.

VR 1899-1900 Partners: Thomas Scott Forrest, bleacher, Holmwood, Langside: John Gillies, ironbroker, 96 Miller Street, Glasgow.

VR 1934-1935 Brown Street. Forrest Gillies & Co Ltd, a branch of Bleachers Association Ltd., Manchester.

NORTHBANK FACTORY See 9-11 North Bank.

RIVERBANK FACTORY See 2 Stoneygate Road.

VALE WORKS See 88-90 Brown Street.

WOOLLEN MILL 8/9 Greenhead

VR 1934-35 WM, 8/9 G: T.l. Mr & Mrs James Wilson; tenanted by J & J Wilson & Co Ltd.

AIRD & CRERAR

AA 31.5.1923 Badly damaged by fire yesterday. See full ref below

BLAIR, MORTON & CO

ASH, Sa 6.10.1877, 1a Quoting EG 3.10.1877. On 28.6.1877 John Morton ceased to be a partner in Blair, Morton & Co., tweed manufacturers, Greenholm, Newmilns.

CLELLAND & CO

Hume 534372 Lace Factory. Built 1908 for Clelland & Co. A 2 storey yellow brick block on an L-plan, with an older front block and single storey ancillary buildings.

KH, F 3.2.1911, 8f Cleland & Co's Brown Street factory sold 'the other day' for about one-third of its original cost - "the Madras branch of the curtain making industry is not booming".

HADDOW AIRD STEEL & CO - HADDOW AIRD & CRERAR

AA, Th 13.1.1881, 6f Another lace factory is about to be erected in Newmilns by a new company of manufacturers, which will constitute the 6th establishment

| | |
|---|---|
| | of this kind here. the company is designated Messrs Haddow Steel & Co., and it is intended that the building will accommodate no fewer than 10 Nottingham lace machines. Architect: John Mackintosh, Galston. |
| ATD 16/2 | Mill for Haddow Steel & Co., 1881, John Macintosh. West elevation: chimney, single storey attached block, with main block of a half bay, 11 bays and a half bay, with flat headed pilasters. Long continuous rooflight. |
| Sasine Minute 530, 19.4.1881 | Feu Disp by Brown of Lanfine to Haddow, Aird, Steel & Co, Nottingham lace manufacturers, Greenholm, of 2R 12P 24Y o.g. on North side of Brown street. Partners are: Robert Haddow senior, flesher, Newmilns; William Steel, dairyman, Newmilns; James Clearer [sic], lace worker, Newmilns; Thomas Aird, muslin manufacturer, Darvel. 28.3.1881. 323.135. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | Haddow Aird & Co. Firm founded about 9 years ago. Lace curtains. |
| VR 1899-1900 | Lace factory, Brown Street: Haddow Aird Steel & Co. Partners: Robert Haddow, 12 Main Street, Newmilns: Thomas Aird, manufacturer, London Road, Newmilns: James Crerar, manager, Jeffrey Place, N. |
| KS, 19.1.1924, 3d | The rebuilding operations of Haddow Aird & Crerar are nearing completion. Some men have already been engaged for the construction of a new loom which has arrived from the makers. |
| VR 1934-35 | Lace Factory, 76 Brown Street: Haddow Aird & Crerar Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A1408, A1409 | August 1949. Canteen &c (A1408), Retaining Wall to river (A1409), Brown Street. Haddow Aird & Crerar Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A2155 | April 1950. Alterations and extension, Brown Street, for Haddow Aird & Crerar Ltd. |

J M HOOD

| | |
|---|---|
| WS 1.8.1890 | Machine and frame maker. |

JAMIESON ANDERSON & CO LTD

| | |
|---|---|
| VR 1934-35 | Lace Factory, 41-43 Brown Street: Jamieson Anderson & Co Ltd. |
| ACC Planning, A7021 | March 1954. Alterations and extension, factory, Brown Styreet; Alexander Dunlop, for Jamieson, Anderson & Co Ltd. |

LAWSON, GOLDIE & CO

| | |
|---|---|
| KS, Sa 12.4.1924, 3e | John Lawson, 57, who died 4.4.1924, was for many years manager to Johnston Shields & Co., and then senior partner in Lawson, Goldie & Co., but he gave this up about 2 years ago, and has since been a yarn agent. |

W W McINNES & CO LTD

| | |
|---|---|
| VR 1934-35 | Madras Factory, 17-19 Union Street: W W McInnes & Co Ltd. |

WILLIAM MORTON & CO LTD

| | |
|---|---|
| WS 1.8.1890 | W Morton & Co. Lace. |
| AA 31.5.1923 | Badly damaged by fire yesterday. See full ref below. |

POLLOCK & CO

| | |
|---|---|
| Hume 544371 | Built 1904-05 for Pollock & Co., architect Thomas B Todd. A group of single storey red and yellow brick buildings, with a circular section red brick chimney. |
| VR 1910-1911 | Lace Factory, Townholm. Pollock & Co (William Pollock, Estcourt, Darvel Rd: Ernest Samuel Ling, manufacturer, Glenbarn). |

| | |
|---|---|
| =? VR 1934/35 | Lace Factory, 10 Townholm: Pollock & Ling Ltd. |
| EG, Tu 12.12.1961, 770ab | Pollock & Ling Ltd., lace manufacturers, Townholm Factory, Newmilns: voluntary winding-up approved by EGM in Glasgow, 5th December 1961. |

STEWART & MOIR

| | |
|---|---|
| AA, Th 14.7.1881, 8d | Died, Bellevue, Largs, aged 63, 13 July 1881, William Muir, manufacturer, Newmilns, and late of Stewart, Moir & Muir, Glasgow. |
| AA 3.9.1885 | Operations were commenced last week for the erection of a large addition to the Ayrshire Lace Company's works [Messrs Stewart & Moir]. The buildings will consist of a shed similar to their last addition, along with a 2 storey building having a frontage of 150' to the road. The latter will serve for offices, warehouse, &c. Contracting mason: James Brown. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | Stewart Moir & Muir. Lace. 2 storey red sandstone mill. |
| VR 1899-1900 | Stewart Moir & Muir Ltd., 28 Miller Street, Glasgow. |
| Mair, PHN, 31 | Stewart Moir & Muir's mill was destroyed by fire in 1915, and not rebuilt. |

MISS TODD

| | |
|---|---|
| WS 1.8.1890 | Stocking manufacturer. |

**UNIDENTIFIED**

| | |
|---|---|
| BN 7.2.1890 (per DSA) | 1890, Lace Mill, Newmilns, **John Gordon**. |
| B 139 5.12.1930 | Proposed extension to lace mills. W Whitie, architect, 226 St Vincent St., Glasgow. |

**GENERAL**

Caldwell, William, "Lace Industry in the Valley", dissertation: copy in Dick Institute, Kilmarnock.
Mainly concerned with late C20 travel to work trends, &c.

Alex Morton was born 9.2.1844 at Darvel. c.1865-1866 he was responsible for winding up affairs of his sister's husband, William Bowie, a manufacturers' agent. There were still some webs to be given out to the local wavers, which Morton did, and so, by accident, started his career as a manufacturer. He saw that the Glasgow middlemen could be bypassed if operations such as bleaching and dressing were carried out locally, enabling the valley weavers to sell finished material. In the 1870s Morton recognised the threat/opportunity posed by machine-made lace, already being produced in Nottingham, and brought machines into use in the valley.

| | |
|---|---|
| KS 25.2.1888 | Social gathering. Mr Morton said Hood Morton & Co were the 2nd firm in the valley to take up the lace trade, now there were 2 in Darvel, 8 in Newmilns and 2 in Galston. In 1880 there were c.10 lace machines in the valley, now there are about 110. |
| WS 1.8.1890 | Article on mills, taken from North British Daily Mail, nd. Noted under the various mills. Full transcript in Ayrshire - Lace Industry file in Ayrshire ringfiles |
| AA 31.5.1923 | Two mills badly damaged by fire yesterday - Aird & Crerar and William Morton & Co Ltd. D Ligat & Sons mill also slightly damaged. |

**1897 STRIKE**

See Jim Mair, A Community Rent Asunder

TT, F 3.12.1897, 3def — Mr Graeme Hunter and His Men. Report of a dinner given to the strikebreakers by Major Shields. Transcript herewith.

## PEOPLE

JAMES HENDRIE

KS, Sa 29.12.1951, 8c — Lace manufacturer, and chairman of Hendrie & Co Ltd., Galston. Died, at Gilfoot House, Newmilns, aged 62, 3.5.1951.

HOOD, Joseph, manufacturer, Newmilns, 1821 - 1893

KS, Sa 14.10.1893, 8d — Died M 9.10.1893, 73rd yr. Born 18.2.1821. Apprentice to ½-bro Alexander Hood 'where he was long employed making the various weaving utensils required in the tappet and harness weaving looms'. The first prominent development of his mechanical genius was … when thrown on his own resources, he planned, improved and put into general use the Jacquard machine.' Became best jacquard machine maker in the trade, and it was his staple industry. Founder of Hood Morton & Co., ex-Provost of Newmilns.

JAMES INGLIS

KS, Sa 29.12.1951, 8d — ChaimanHenderson, Morton, Inglis & Co Ltd, lace manufacturer. Died, at Westview, Newmilns, in 80th year, 14.5.1951.

ANDREW JAMESON

C&I 1897 — Died at Riverbank House, 30 January 1897. His sister, Marion, is the widow of William Steel, manufacturer.

MATTHEW S MITCHELL

KS, Sa 29.12.1951, 8d — Retired lace manufacturer, Darvel. Died, at London Road, Kilmarnock, in 80th year, 12.6.1951.

WILLIAM MORTON

KS Sa 29.12.1951, 8c — Madras manufacturer, of Lintholme, Darvel. Died 11.1.1951.

EDWARD BIRKHEAD STEEGMANN, Leicester

See above — Fl. 1887. Partner in Johnston Shields & Co. Note also Robert Henry Steegmann, yarn merchant, Nottingham.

JAMES WILSON, c1810 - 1896

nr — Died 25.12.1896, aged 86. Began as a hand loom weaver. c.1865 he founded, with others, as Hood, Morton & Co., the "wincey factory". c.1872, were first in valley to manufacture madras and other fancy muslins by power-loom.
c.1877, when lace appeared in the valley, he took it up as J & J Wilson & Co.

JOHN McMATH WILSON

KS 4.4.1891 — Examined in bankruptcy. Called "lace manufacturer". In 1879 employed as a designer in Darvel, then moved to Newmilns, and in 1888 became partner in Wilson Hendrie & Co. Built 2 tenements in Jamieson Terrace, N [1882]: built Park View [1885], and Meadowbank/Albion Cottage [nd]

EG 10230, Tu 17.2.1891, 214b — Petition for his sequestration made by John Aird, lace manufacturer, Darvel.

EG, Tu 9.2.1892, 137a — "lace manufacturer and designer". Address given as Parkview, Newmilns. Dividend postponed.

© Rob Close 2026