BEITH

GENERAL

Johnston — Beth, 1178. Gaelic, *beath; beith*, "birch"
Giffen. Ante 1233, Giffin. Welsh, *cefn*, "a ridge".

Site Visits — 22.02.98

15th July 1892, election night — Appears to have been a bit stormy: see Chief Constable's report to Standing Joint Committee, 24.1.1893. CO 3/8/2/1, p.178 ff.

ACC, PHC 9.1.1936 — From 15th May 1936 Beith, Barrmill, Dalry, Kilbirnie, Glengarnock and Barkip Special Water Districts extended and combined as Pundeavon Special Water District.

BURGH

See SPECIAL WATER DISTRICT for reference to description of boundaries

CO 3/8/1/3, Ayr County Council 1895-98, 284, County Council 15.12.1896
Reference to £68 4s 4d, a sum raised by assessment in 1868, with a view to provision of a water supply in Beith, under Burgh Police and Improvement Act 1862. "The burgh afterwards lapsed and the money remains in bank"

SPECIAL WATER DISTRICT

CO 3/26/2 — Agreed 31.3.1871, the boundaries to be those of the town of Beith as specified and described by boundaries adopted under General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862. These are described in Sheriff's Decrees of 5 March 1867, extracted 18 March 1867.

CO 3/26/2 — Extended, 28.6.1881
By including therein the subjects within the area comprehended by a line beginning at the south-east corner of the enclosure marked no 693 on the Ordnance map of the parish of Beith, and running in a straight direction southward to the south end of the service road marked no. 697 on said map, thence along the south and west boundaries of the part of the enclosure marked no 696 on said map feued or let to Mr Robert Balfour, to the corner of the public road between Beith and Dalry as such western boundary is at present [marked] by a paling fence, thence north-eastwards along said road to a point opposite the south-west corner of the enclosure marked no 693 on said map thence to and along the line marked on said map as the south boundary of the enclosure to the point of starting, as also the enclosures amrked nos 675, 661, 646, 621 and 622, including Bunswynd Tollhouse and outhouses, and parts of enclosures marked nos 659 and 660 on said map occupied by M Wylie & Sons' ropework.
[The requisition to extend referred to
That field at the end of Eglinton Street, opposite the railway station, which had been built upon by Messrs Stewart, Miller, Snodgrass and Muir;
That field near the head of Mains Road on which Meadowbank Terrace is built;
That field behind Bunswynd Toll which has been built upon by Messrs Pollock and Fleming.]

ARCHAEOLOGY

Cuff Hill Chambered Tomb

Henshall
Smith

NS 386551. Bargrennan group long cairn, 3 chambers exposed.
Part of a cairn, originally a long barrow, and as such probably unique in Ayrshire, second only in interest to the Cave Cairn, Ballantrae. Opened in 1810 when cairn used as quarry for road material. 3 cists: left open.

AA, Th 7.1.1864, 5d

Discovery of Human Remains. About forty years ago there was lying a cairn of stones at the foot of the Cuff Hill on the estate of Hessilhead, in the parish of Beith. At that time the late Dr Patrick, who had just bought that estate, ordered the removal of the cairn; but after a few cart-loads had been removed, two tombs of a very coarse structure were discovered. Dr Patrick then stopped the removal, and had the cairn enclosed and planted. Nothing more was done to it until the other day, when some men were removing a few of the stones for the purpose of making caves for the protection of foxes, when they came upon a tomb, larger and of a finer structure than the former. This tomb is built of limestone slabs, of the same stone that is wrought at present at Overtoun quarry. The slabs, one on each side, measure 8 feet 5 inches in length, by 3 feet 5 inches in breadth, and there appears to have been an attempt to polish one of them. The tomb lines due NE by N, and measures 8 feet 5 inches in length, 3 feet 5 inches in depth, 2 feet 5 inches wide at the north-east end, and 3 feet 9 inches at the south-west end. All the tombs lie in the same direction, and from this they would appear to be of druidical origin, as they lie in a line with the rising sun, at the summer solstice. When the tomb was opened, a number of bones were found, which were taken care of by Mr Hugh Parker, factor on the estate. They were submitted to Dr Speir, Beith, who called Dr Boyd to his assistance; when they found them to be the humerus and ulna of the right arm, the femur, fibula and tibia of the right leg, and a jaw bone, all human remains. There being two fibulae of the right leg, it shows that two bodies at least were interred in the tomb. It would be vain to speculate when these interments took place, but as there is a rocking stone and four large stones set about 5 feet apart, and in a square on the hill at a short distance from this (the latter supposed to be a place of sacrifice) and the name of the hill, Cuff, supposed to be derived from Cuffi, the name of a druidical priest, all point to a period anterior to Christianity. From the size of the bones, Dr Speir is of the opinion that they have belonged to a stout made man, of about 5 feet 8 inches in height; and from the structure and position of the tomb, being in the centre of the tumulus, the conclusion is evident that the individual was a chief among his party, whatever they were. The tumulus is about sixty yards in circumference and ten feet high, and is composed of loose stones thrown upon the top of the tombs - a number of which are supposed to exist below the cairn of stones which forms the tumulus.

AA, Th 18.2.1864, 5f
See also PSAS, XI.

Lengthy description. TRANSCRIPT herewith.

Moot Hill
Smith

Mound. Near it at one time stood a square tower, which belonged to the Cunninghames. Mr Dobie informs us that on its top the Abbot of Kilwinning was wont to administer justice to his vassals and tenants.

Loch Brand
Smith
Groome, 1884, xxx

Drained 1780. Remains of a crannog.
Drained c.1780.

GENERAL

GENERAL

1SA, [1791], VI, 70 — Linen trade c.1707 expanded, and many houses built as a consequence.

1SA, [1791], VI, 71 — In 1791 there were in the parish 2 candle works, 3 distilleries, 1 tobacco company, 1 tan works, 1 malt works, 4 corn millsm, 5 lint mills and 1 wauk mill.

Census, 1831 — Beith. 'There are in this parish juvenile operatives indiscriminately called Drawboys, from 7 to 13 years of age, of whom 126 are males and 94 females; they are attached to Harness Looms, and are a great support to industrious but indigent families.'

ASH, Sa 17.3.1860, 3b — A new road is to be opened between the town and the station, cutting off the zigzagging Low Road.

BORDER TRUST

ACC, Finance Committee 9.3.1950 — The funds popularly known as the Border Trust arose from 1812, when John Blair gave £560 to the Kirk Session; Elizabeth Gavin and Mrs Black gave, date unstated, £150, James Gavin gave £100 in 1821, and Jean Patrick £50 in 1822. The lands of Border Farm were acquired in 1822, and later £125 was received from GSWR as compensation for loss of land. The farm was sold in 1944 for £680, and the money invested in Ayr County Council loans and British Transport stock. Also administered as port of the Border Trust is the money which derives from the 1693 gift to the heritors and session by James Caskie of the lands of Sidehead. The farm was sold during the management of the Parochial Board, and the money invested in feu duties and ground annuals. Total is about £3500 (ACC Loans 664, BT stock $145 14s 5d; Duties £2222 15s 2d)

UNLOCATED

Union Bank in course of erection, AA 14.1.1858. Mr Snodgrass, architect.

RSA, 1882, 905 — Exhibited. executed in 1882. Mantelpiece, for Dining Room of house of Matthew Pollock. Designed by **John William Small**.

ASH, F 28.9.1888, 3b — [Hugh Melville, Roebank] used to live in James Melville's house, infra, "till he built a fine villa on the Beith road, beside Mr Barr's property, and near the Free Church manse.
[James Melville, Roebank] lives in a house beautifully situated on the hill adjoining the works. [May be in Renfrewshire].

ASH, F 5.10.1888, 3b — [William Muir, Bath Lane Tannery] has a fine residence near to the GSWR, with finely kept garden grounds, greenhouse, and a well-stocked kitchen garden.

NMRS — Shrine, 1861, F T Pilkington.
RSA, 1861, 672 — Exhibited in, and to be erected in, 1861. Marble.

BS, Sa 27.8.1932, 7c [1893] — Beith 39 Years Ago. William Muir, builder, has taken feu adjoining Knockdale, and is to build a spec. double villa, 'of a substantial and artistic' style containing 8 apartments in each house.
[Knockdale is 7 Barrmill Road]

CO3/12/4/3 BBC 7.8.1902 — Cottages, GSWR

CO3/12/4/3	BBC 7.8.1902	Tenement; William Muir, mason
CO3/12/4/3	BBC 7.8.1902	Tenement; J & R Smith, joiners.

DSA 1960s, Houstons: Steel-framed house for Colvilles.

LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHEMES
[see also Streets file]

Mains Farm Site; 1961 Traditional Programme.

B	T	A	10	32/2	6-8 Chestnut Ave	19	20/2	2-4 Oakwood Dr
1	42/4	13-19 Laburnum Ave	11	32/4	10-16 Chestnut Ave	20	20/4	6-12 Oakwood Dr
2	42/2	9-11 Laburnum Ave	12	32/2	18-20 Chestnut Ave	21	42/2,32/2	14-20 OD
3	42/4	1-7 Laburnum Ave	13	32/2	22-24 Chestnut Ave	22	32/2	22-24 Oakwood Dr
4	20/4	1-7 Chestnut Ave	14	42/2,32/2	21-27 Oakwood	23	32/2	26-28 Oakwood Dr
5	20/4	9-15 Chestnut Ave	D			24	32/4	30-36 Oakwood Dr
6	20/4	17-23 Chestnut Ave	15	32/2	17-19 Oakwood Dr	25	42/2	38-40 Oakwood Dr
7	20/2	25-27 Chestnut Ave	16	32/4	9-15 Oakwood Dr	26	42/4	26-32 Chestnut Ave
8	20/4	29-35 Chestnut Ave	17	32/4	1-7 Oakwood Dr	27	42/4	34-40 Chestnut Ave
9	32/2	2-4 Chestnut Ave	18	20/2	33-35 Laburnum Ave	28	42/6	37-47 Chestnut Ave

VILLAS, UNSORTED
All taken from VR 1932-1933

Underlined names are, or appear to be, furniture manufacturing related, and may therefore have decent interiors.

Hillside, c76 Eglinton Street — Catherine Dunlop or Bell, Mrs Archibald Bell, solicitor [LB, c.1840]
[VR 1900-01, Hugh Brown; VR 1910-11, Catherine Dunlop or Bell]

The Mount, Glebe Road — Mary B Balfour, widow — £55
[Is this VR 1900/01, villa, Ingliallan, Glebe, Henry I Hutchison and Mary A Barr or Hutchison; VR 1910/11, Henry I Hutchison, and ? 30 Glebe Road]

Heathbank Cottage, Barrmill Road 29? — Catherine Bell — 29
[VR 1900/01, Daniel Bell; VR 1910/11, Elizabeth McCubbin or Bell. Sas Ref is probably RS 91/783.132, **1895**.]

Aldersyde Cottage, Barrmill Road 27? — Isabella, Susan & Annie Barr — 29

Fernlea, Barrmill Road — Ann Souter McLeod or Gillies, Mrs John Gillies — 29

Clovelly, Barrmill Road — William Scott, dentist — 29

Wilburn, Barrmill Road — George Robertson, doctor — 29

c, Knockhill, Barrmill Road 19-21? — William Holmes, joiner - tenanted — 26

c, Knockhill, Barrmill Road — Mrs John S Kerr - tenanted — 26

1 Arran View, Barrmill Road 15-17? — James Baird, shoemaker — 26

2 Arran View, Barrmill Road — John Baird, wood carver — 26

Arran View, Barrmill Road — Hugh Waterson, farmer, Angus — 28.3.

Arran View, Barrmill Road — Hugh Waterson, farmer, Angus — 26.3

EU Manse, [13 Barrmill Road] — 30

v, Pedderland, Barrmill Road 11? — Annie Orr Wilson. Tt: John Holmes Wilson, cabinet manufacturer — 35
[Is it VR 1900/01, Villa, Bartleholm, Janet Bartlemore or Stevenson; VR 1910/11, V, B, Jessie Bartlemore Stevenson or Short]

v, Ramallah, Barrmill Road 9? — Robert Balfour, cabinet manufacturer — 40
[Is it VR 1900/01 & 1910/11, v, Muirfield, William Wilson, chair manufacturer]

Knockdale, Townhead [7 BARRMILL ROAD] — William James Dunlop Robertson, surgeon — 60
[VR 1900/01, Dr William Shedden; VR 1910/11, T.l. Dr William Shedden]

Taynish, [4 TOWNHEAD STREET, LB: eC19] James Caldwell MacNeill, cabinet manufacturer 30
The Bungalow, Knockbuckle Alexander D Osborne, solicitor 40
The Meadows, Roebank Road ?4 T/ees of Beatrice Anderson or Crombie. Tenant: Dizney Leith Cran
Crombie, shipowner 90
[Is it VR 1900/01, v, Gowanlee, Hugh Melville; VR 1910/11, v Gowanlea, John G Perman. This may be Sas Min 5752 of 1883, RS91/404.60, **1883**]
Ravenswood, Roebank Road 6? Hugh H Balfour, furniture manufacturer 50
[Is it VR 1900-01, James Stevenson; VR 1910-11, Margaret Caldwell or Stevenson]
Merlewood, Roebank Road John W Smith 28
Glenelg, [7 Roebank Road] Christina Bowes Kerr 28
[VR 1900/01 & VR 1910/11, James Stevenson, tenanted]
Roselea Cottage, [5 Roebank Road] James Stevenson 30
[VR 1900/01, Janet Bartlemore or Stevenson, liferentrix; VR 1910/11, James Stevenson, owner occupier]
Trinity Manse (FC), [3 Roebank Road] 33
[VR 1900/01, Free Church Manse - VR 1910/11, Hamilfield UF Manse]
Ridgehill, Roebank Road William C Wilson, junior 28
Hamilfield, [1 Roebank Road] Anna Jane Love or Williamson 81
[VR 1900/01 & VR 1910/11, Anna Jane Love or Williamson]
Myrtlebank Villa, Dalry Road Elizabeth Dunlop 27
Myrtlebank Villa, Dalry Road Helen McNeish 27
Viewfield Cottage, [28 Dalry Road] James Stirrat 35
[VR 1900/01, Robert Aitken; VR 1910/11, T.l. Alexander Love]
Fernbank Cottage, [18-22 Dalry Road] William Doctor 23
Fernbank Cottage, Dalry Road Isabella and Robert Maxwell 23
Fernbank Cottage, Dalry Road Daisy S Carroll or Murgatroyd, Mrs Frederick Murgatroyd 26
[These three appear to be VR 1900/01, William Tait, builder; VR 1910/11, Jessie Logan Parker Tait]
Gordonhill Cottage, [14-16 Dalry Road] John Shedden Snodgrass 35
Gordonhill Cottage, Dalry Road John Reid Anderson 33
[These two appear to be VR 1900/01, Heirs of Robert Snodgrass; VR 1910/11, Margaret Glasgow Smith Snodgrass]
Waverley Cottage, [12 Dalry Road] Percy Alfred Hayward 27
[VR 1900/01, John Glasgow; VR 1910/11, Isabella Robertson or Glasgow]
Hafnia, Dalry Road [10 DALRY ROAD] David Gemmell 55
[Is it VR 1900/01, v, Prospecthill, Jane Caldwell or Snodgrass; VR 1910/11, v, Prospecthill, Margaret Glasgow Smith Snodgrass]
Holmwood, Dalry Road [8 DALRY ROAD] William and John Gilmour 33
[VR 1900/01 & VR 1910/11, Alexander G Love, cf 6DR]
Albert Villa, Dalry Road [6 DALRY ROAD] James Young 34
[VR 1900/01 & VR 1910/11, Alexander G Love, cf 8DR]
The Limes, Dalry Road [4 DALRY ROAD] Margaret Kerr Craig or Logan. Tenant: Robert Andrew Logan 42
[VR 1900/01, Thomas Thorburn; VR 1910/11, Rachel Campbell or Thorburn]
Mainshill House, Dalry Road [2 DALRY ROAD] John Crawford 47.10
[VR 1900/01 & VR 1910/11, Andrew Stewart]
Kia-Ora, Dalry Road James Nicol 22
c, 10 Grahamfield Place, Dalry Road Miss Janie C L Fulton - tenanted 30
c, 11 Grahamfield Place, Dalry Road Miss Jessie W Fulton - tenanted 29.11
c, Craigengar, Dalry Road Colvilles Ltd 32.10
h, Toddville, Dalry Road Janet Reid or Allan, Mary Reid and Martha C Reid 37
[By VR 37-38, called Rockwood, and o/c'd by George L Thomson]
h, Drumrossie, Dalry Road Robin Stanley Balfour, furniture manufactuer 35

Kirkland, Wardrope Street		David Wardrop	31
Dunardrie, Wardrope Street		Wilhelmina M Pollock	35
Kirkton Cottage, Wardrope Street		Jeannie Hamilton	25
Netherhill Cottage, Hill of Beith		Dr George Miller - tenanted	28
Netherhill Cottage, Hill of Beith		Dr George Miller - tenanted	27
Craigvue, Hill of Beith		David Mackie - tenanted	60
Geilsland Park, Hill of Beith		John Rendall	28
Dagshai, Barrmill Road, Hill of Beith		Margaret Millar	28
Craigallan, Glebe Road		Robert Gray	46
c, Craigallan, Glebe lands	?12	Janie and Jessie Fulton	26
[VR 1900/01 & 1910/11, prop James Fulton, builder]			
v, Hill Crest, Glebe Road	?14	T.l. Rachel Campbell or Thorburn	42
[VR 1900/01 & 1910/11, prop James Fulton, builder]			
v, Innesdene, Glebe Road	?16	Taylor Seth	28
[VR 1900/01, nf: VR 1910/11, prop James Fulton, builder]			
[CO3/12/4/5, BBC 4.8.1910, d.villa for J & T Seth, **Fryers & Penman**]			
v, Innisfell, Glebe Road	18?	Margaret Allan (Mrs John Allan, net manufacturer)	28
[VR 1900/01, nf: VR 1910/11, prop James Fulton, builder]			
c, Holmlea, Glebe Road		William Wilson	26
Crummock, Glebe Road	?4 Bigholm Road	Linwood Property Co Ltd, tenanted by Bryce Knox	90
[VR 1900/01, James Melville, silk printer; VR 1910/11, T.l. James Melville]			
Knockbuckle, Glebe Road	[2 TOWNHEAD STREET: LB, eC19]		
		James Dunlop Bell	42
[VR 1900/01 & 1910/11, prop Andrew Wilson Faulds]			
c, Crummock Knowe, Glebe		Martha Wylie	-
h, Grangevale, Glebe		Mary and Elizabeth Wilson	-

[Also villas, &c, in Old Lea Road and others to be added to this list)

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