DAILLY

CASTLES AND MANSIONS

BARGANY

[See also extensive document, Bargany House: Historical Notes, prepared by Anthony Richardson and Partners]

HISTORY

Reg Mag Sig, III, no.2400	Charter granted by James V to Thomas Kennedy of Bargany lands of Bargany with castle and fortalice thereon. Dated 8th July 1541. Earliest charter mentioning the castle in RMS.

FACTOR

1862 - 1917	Robert Inglis.

OLD CASTLE

C&DA, IV, 367	Description, c.1680. Abercrummie described "in the midst of the forrest, rather than wood, stans in a low ground, near the brink of the river, the old castle of Bargany … a hudge, great, lofty Tower, in the centre of a quadrangular court, that had on the three of each corners, fine well-built towers of freestone, four story high."

BARGANY HOUSE

List 15	Main 2-storey and basement U-plan house 1681; 5 window E façade intact with moulded window surrounds and sculptured dormer heads to 1st floor windows, one of which is dated. Central main floor doorpiece now a French window, good wood and plasterwork of 17th and mid 18th Centuries within. 1845-1846 2-storey and basement bay-windowed drawing room wing added, William Burn school Jacobean with crowstepped gables and French rococo additions on W side; house re-orientated, main entrance is now by late Georgian single storey additions on that frontage. C&DA, iv, 367-368. Millar. A.
C&DA, IV, 367	Maintains its Scottish character. Window pediment bears date 1681 and initials HB.
Millar	The house is of considerable size and although the additions which have been made at various times have followed no homogenous plan, the architectural effect is very pleasing.
Desmond	Gardeners Magazine ix 1833 9 – CL 78 1935 64-70 – Tait – G A Little Scotland's Gardens 1981 244-245.
Abercrummie 1696	"… the new house, lately built after the modern fashion, stands upon higher ground, southward of the old castle, which furnished materials both for founding and finishing of the new house. It is a might commodious House, and if any make a greater shew and appearance, yet it has the advantage of them for contrivance and accommodation. It is flanked to the south with gardens, very pretty; and has orchards lying westwards of it."
NAS, GD 109/3272	Repairs 1683. List of wrights working at the House of Bargany in 1683.
NAS, GD 3430	Panelling, &c., n.d. Flooring and wood supplied for stair, panelling of dining room and various surrounds.
NAS, RH 4/57, vol 1/84	Repairs 1692. Plaster, mason and wright work on the House of Bargany. Estimated cost £3333 6s 0d.
NAS, GD 109/3544	Repairs 1715. Repair of windows of the House of Bargany. Discharge by William Kennedy, wright, to Mr Robert Dundas, advocate, of 10 guineas as payment.
NAS, GD 109/4335	Repairs 1736-1738. Extract of discharged accounts and receipts for mason work, wright, smith and glazier work. They amount to £624 12s 4d Scots, 1736-1738.
NAS, GD 110/1086/2	30 June 1747, letter from John Hamilton of Bargany to Lady Dalrymple. He is 'busy building', which he mentions again in this series of letters.
AA, 9.4.1846	Additions "lately finished."
NMRS, sheaf catalogue	Improvements and additions, 1862-1878. List of plans, &c.

ACC Planning 1168 — September 1938. Alterations, house, Bargany, for North Dalrymple Hamilton.

VR 1972/1973 — Prop: Admiral Sir F Dalrymple Hamilton.

nr — Restoration, 1985-. Patrick Lorimer, of Anthony Richardson & Partners, London, for Inverie Ltd.

GARDENS

See Mary Dalrymple Hamilton, As Lovely as a Tree, (Bargany), 1981, esp pp ix -xv. (PDF)

Tait — Landscape Gardeners employed here: George Robertson (1774, RHP 1724); Thomas White junior (1802, RHP 1725); John Hay (c.1818: Gardener's Magazine vii 1832, p.330); William S Gilpin (ante 1827, NAS RH4/57 vol.2)

Robertson "attempted in his 1774 plan for Bargany … to merge the elements of an older, more formal garden into a park landscape. This transition was most obvious and least effective in the woods surrounding the bowling green where the irregularity of the concatenation of small lakes, altered by W S Gilpin in the 1820s, was at odds with stumps of the radiating avenues. He was more successful in handling the planting along the river Girvan, where thick shelter belts beyond its banks, and individual trees beside it, transformed the periphery of the park into a lake-like composition, as well as creating an effective middle distance."

White: "Bargany was perhaps his first independent commission in Scotland and here he was part of a chain of gardeners associated with the house, from George Robertson in 1774 to W S Gilpin in the 1820s. His scheme, however, outshone them all, for it was larger, grander, bolder and more mechanical and less sensitive than any of the others. While Robertson's plan showed a willingness to work with the formal elements of the existing setting and Gilpin's scheme a sympathy with the romanticism of the house and its old-fashioned setting, White's was inflexibly modern. His enormous design of 1802, physically cast in his father's mould, not only wished away the public road from Dailly to Girvan, as well as the system of small lakes fed by the Weaver's Burn, but also demanded the destruction of the classical bridge of about 1753 and its replacement by three others, the razing of the existing U-plan house, and the tripling of the park so that it extended across the river Girvan and upstream as far as the village of Dailly. Any trace of the formal gardens that had been sensitively naturalized in Robertson's scheme was removed. Only the bowling green was allowed to remain, and it and the surrounding beech woods were thrown into the new kitchen garden and the adjoining gardeners cottage. Presumable the Hermit's Hut of about 1778, set down in the Lady's Wood, with its 'wattled roof of straw' and the rustic bridge of 1794 were destined to follow the rest into oblivion. What the ultimate effect of so radical a reform in so old a landscape would have been is hard to say, for little if anything of White's scheme was ever attempted. The abandonment of what he had marked on his map as the 'intended new castle' on the other bank of the Girvan from Dailly no doubt led to a similar shelving of the equally grandioise landscape park. Such an economic pattern was a familiar one in Ayrshire. It was repeated a year later, in 1803, at … Blairquhan, where White senior's commission and the proposed new castle vanished simultaneously in a proprietorial change of heart. Sadly for White, at least, Bargany was instead patched up, and in 1813 a certain amount of levelling and turfing was carried out around the front of the house as a sop to landscaping. (NAS, GD 109/3772/1: Gardener's Magazine, ix, 1833, p.9)

A PINEAPPLE HOUSE was added by John Hay about 1818, when the gardens and greenhouses were set up in a position a little beyond that marked for them in White's plan. [These houses are still extant] [The road was moved to the line suggested by White early in the 19th Century, probably when Hay's greenhouses were built in 1818]

Sometime about 1826 the park was finally and decisively shaped by W S Gilpin, taking in the area on the other side of the Girvan as White had intended. It was then laid out in characteristic Gilpin fashion with the plantations tortuously grouped in his picturesque style, while on the other side of the 18th Century bridge the open and clumped parkland contrasted with the dense woods that overhung the enlarged lake. Gilpin seems to have carried this out with a sensitive hand, sparing much of the formal planting around the bowling green, and forming Robertson's two lakes into a larger one with a small and thickly wooded island similar to that he intended for Bowhill a little later. Under his direction, the head gardener James Dodd formed the plantations, worked on the lake and laid out the present east and west approaches to the house, where a gate lodge, remarkably like that of Blairquhan, was built.

The schemes produced by the Whites for Bargany and Blairquhan were remarkably similar. The blind spots were much the same – the lack of interest in water, insensitivity to the past – and the conventions similar – the circular belts, the peripheral ride, the alignment of house and approach with a constant and clear view of each other. The final effect (of Gilpin's plan) fell radically short of White's total vision of a classical park. Instead the fortuitously haphazard landscape with its bits and pieces of different styles makes a better if less cerebral garden. At Bargany, Kinfauns and Balcaskie, Gilpin achieved intricacy and richness by playing formality against the picturesque.

ACC< PAHC 21.10.1930 RW. Alterations to house, Bargany Gardens, for Dalrymple-Hamilton.

BRIDGE [WOODEN]

NMRS, AYD 125/2 Plan of wooden bridge, c.1794.

"CRAIGHEAD LODGE"

ACC Planning, A7366 June 1954. Additions and alterations, Craighead Lodge, Bargany, for Admiral Dalrymple Hamilton.

DUKE'S BRIDGE

List 16 In policies of Bargany, spanning Water of Girvan. Graceful single span, balustraded parapet in centre; steep approach ramps have solid parapet. Circa 1756. Repairs 1820 (dated). B.

GATESIDE, 236998

KENNELS

VR 1962/1963 'Under Reconstruction.'

LODGE, near Lovestone, 238997

NORTH LODGE

ACC Planning, A6904 February 1954. Additions and alterations, North Lodge, for Admiral Frederick Dalrymple Hamilton.

SUMMER HOUSE

NMRS, AYD 125/1 c.1740 plan for Summer House. Building not extant.

ESTATE

Millar, Castles and Mansions £20,000 spent on improving estate between 1862 and 1878.

[VR 1962/1963 – VR 1972/1973] Proprietor: Bargany Estate Trustees.

LOVESTONE, 234997

C1861 585-2-31 James Hamilton, m41, property agent, b. Colmonell.

VR 1892/1893 Prop: Countess of Stair Tenant: Robert Inglis, factor

VR 1902/1903 Prop: Col Hon North Dalrymple Hamilton. Tenant: Robert Inglis.

VR 1912/1913 Prop: North Victor Cecil Dalrymple Hamilton. Tenant: Robert Inglis.

VR 1922/1923 Prop: Lt/Col N V C Dalrymple Hamilton Tenant: Robert Inglis

INGLIS, Robert, factor, Lovestone, Dailly, 1837 - 1926

AP, F 24.9.1926, 6a Born, Stair House, 29.7.1837, son of John Inglis, seed merchant. factor, bargany 1862 to 1917, and continued to live at Lovestone until 1923, when moved into Ayr (died Blackburn Road). Worked for Duchess de Coigny, then for her daughter (Lady Stair), and then (1896) Stair's s2, Colonel N D Hamilton, and then (1906) his son, Mr N D Hamilton). Changed leases from split entry to Martinmas entry. Was JP, County Councillor, on Road Board, chairman Dailly parish Council, Girvan School Board, Dailly School Board, &c., &c.

[VR 1932/1933 – 1942/1943] Prop: Lt/Col N V C Dalrymple Hamilton Tenant: J J Inglis.

VR 1952/1953 Prop: Colonel Sir N Dalrymple Hamilton, per JJ Inglis, Estate Office, Girvan. Tenant (I.O.): Duncan MacLellan.

VR 1962/1963 Prop: Bargany Estate Trustees per D MacLellan, Estate Office, Girvan. Tenant (I.O.): Duncan MacLellan.

VR 1972/1973 Prop/Occ: Captain North Dalrymple Hamilton.

MISCELLANEOUS

CH, F 6.6.1924, 2d Joyce Wethered and Mrs Hambro staying here while competing in Ladies Foursomes at Turnberry.

BRUNSTON CASTLE
List 14

BRUNSTON CASTLE GOLF COURSE

Golf South Ayrshire Brochure (Homecoming 2009)
"Designed by one of Scotland's leading course architects, **Donald Stee**l …"

AP, F 11.11.2011 Scaling back operations. Taking itself out of wedding and party venue market, to focus entirely on the golf course. Upstairs events room 'will no longer operate.'

CAMREGAN CASTLE, 21519870

DALQUHARRAN NEW

AA, Th 1.9.1881, 6e Entertainment to workmen, to mark completion of roofs of two new wings. Plans of Wardrop & Reid, Edinburgh.

AP, F 6.7.2012, 10 (Edwin Lawrence, Just call him Prince Philip after evacuation to a castle.)
Bought in WW2 by John Stewart, partner in Hutchison & McCreath. Requisitioned as a school for deaf and dumb children. See PHOTOCOPY herewith.

AA, Th 15.8.1968, 21a Residue furniture sale, Wed 21st August 1968.

STABLES

ACC Planning, 3117 1945. Creation of 3-apt house within stable block. Stevenson & Ferguson for John Stewart.

KILKERRAN, 304030

ESTATE

EG 5296, F 26.1.1844, 29c Petition by Sir Charles Dalrymple Fergusson to vary the entail, by disentailing lands in Barr (q.v) and adding Crosshill (also q.v.) to the entail.

HOUSE

Fergusson, B, TW, 11 ".. a large, imposing but benevolent house, of four storeys and a basement, built of a local stone which has the magic property of

sometimes looking grey, and of sometimes glowing with the vague pinkness of a trout."

Fergusson, B, TW, 11 — Dates primarily from the 16780s, "when it was enlarged to embody an old tower which is known to have been standing in 1517."

Sas Abr 5261-1797 — In 1779 Adam Fergusson borrowed £6000 (secured over Dalmorton, Straiton) from George Willison, portrait painter, Edinburgh.

Fergusson, B, TW, 11 — "Later, the middle of the house was gutted to afford space for a graceful staircase; Regency wings of great elegance were added in 1815 .."

C1861 585-3-35 — Head of household: Andrew Buchanan, m44, landed proprietor, b Barony. Others in residence include 6-month-old niece, Susan G Fergusson, b Edinburgh.

Fergusson, B, TW, 11 — "… and my grandfather made further additions in the 1850s and 1870s."

Fergusson, B, TW, 32 — [1920s]. Some summers my father let Kilkerran and the grouse-shooting for August and September to prosperous Americans such as Otto Kahn, while we moved down to Ladyburn, the dower-house two miles away.

BURIAL GROUND, 31060337
BUS SHELTER, on Ayr-Girvan road

ACC Planning, A4064 — October 1951, for Sir James Fergusson.

DRUMGIRNAN, and KENNELS, 308041
DRUMGIRNAN GATE HOUSE, 306041
LADY CHAPEL, remains, 311032
LADYBURN, is in Kirkmichael Parish
LADYBURN LODGE, 311039
OLD KILKERRAN

Fergusson, B, TW, 11 — "What is left of 'Old Kilkerran' - three storeys of one wall, and the rest tumbled rubble, with a fallen turret lying on its side - still stands two miles further up the next hill to the south, on a promontory jutting out eighty feet above the deep Dobbingstone Burn.

OLD SAWMILL COTTAGE

ACC Planning, A7876 — October 1954. Alterations, OSC; D B Imrie, factor, for Sir James Fergusson

STABLES, 303029
WALLED GARDEN, 309035

SVR 1971-1972 — Camping Ground, for Camping Club of G B, 16.5.1971.

AA, Th 29.7.1971, 14be — Formally opened last Saturday.

ESTATE

Scots Magazine, ns, vol 82, no 3, December 1964 — Letter from James Barton, Largs, describing Hogmanay in his family's cottage on the Kilkerran estate in 1900.

KILLOCHAN

AA, DHP — 1880, John Murdoch, additions and alterations

1906 — Passed from his father to Ivo D. Heneage (later Ivo D Cathcart Walker Heneage)(1870 - 1948)

1931 — Made over by Ivo D H to his eldest son, G J A Cathcart Walker Heneage.

AP, F 12.4.1935, 16c — Garden open, 29.5.1935. Mr G J A Cathcart-Walker-Heanage.

AA, Th 20.5.1954, 16b — For sale, with two cottages, and the charming house The Annex, &c. Agents are Jackson-Stops & Staff.

AA, Th 24.6.1954, 12a — Has been sold by Heneage to D R Somerville, Dunabie, Lockerbie.

AP, F 18.11.1977, 41g — Planning Notice. 32 double suites, 2 squash courts, male sauna/gym, female sauna/gym, stable, swimming pool, tennis court, &c. D R Hickman ARIBA, for Scott Sinclair Estates Ltd.

AP, F 26.10.2012 — Advert for sale, Bonhams, 7.11.2012, Edinburgh, of contents, property of Prinzessin Viola von Hohenzollern.

BARON'S STONE

AA, Th 27.5.1954, 12b — Geologically, this is a large glacial erratic, og granite from the Loch Doon area. Estimated to weigh 37 tons.

LODGE

AA, DHP — 1880, John Murdoch

LOCHMODIE CASTLE

LOCHMODIE COTTAGES

List 20 — Picturesque row (3 dwellings). 1 storey dwellings with ridge roof, stepped in places, old stonework patched in cement. CS.

PENKILL CASTLE, 213985

LODGE, 232986 (east)

PENKILL [FARM]. 232986 (west)

ROSSETTI

Franny Moyle, Desperate Romantics: The Private Lives of the Pre-Raphaelites, London, John Murray, 2009, 241-243

In September 1868 he [Rossetti] left town again in search of a rest cure. He headed to Penkill Castle in Scotland, the home of Alice Boyd, a close friend and almost certainly lover of William Bell Scott. Scott had never been very [242] happily married , and now he and his wife, Letitia, had apparently come to an arrangement that allowed him and Alice to be left to their own devices. Scott would stay at Penkill, and Letitia would visit for the sake of adding some veneer of respectability now and then. Equally, Alice would visit the Scotts in London.

The trip was successful in that Rossetti began to sleep better. But death and the dead were hovering over him. In his memoirs Scott recalled Rossetti reciting a lot of his old love poetry from memory during the trip, and getting very worked up. […]

By June 1869 Rossetti was back at Penkill again and 'more hypochondriacal than ever'. He began to suffer from hallucinations. In this first manifestation he thought he heard Lizzie. 'Mounting the ascending road towards Barr, we observed a small bird, a chaffinch, exactly in our path'. Scott recalled. 'We advanced: it did not fly but remained quite still, continuing so till he stooped own and lifted it. He held it in his hand: it manifested no alarm. "What is the meaning of this?" I heard him say to himself and I observed his hand was shaking with emotion … "I can tell you what it is, this is the soul of my wife, the soul of her has taken shape; something is going to happen to me."'

When Scott and Rossetti returned to the house, they were met with a story that while they were out the house bell had mysteriously rung, but no one was there. If Rossetti's visits with Jane to séances had been a bit of fun, now the world of the afterlife began to take on an all too real aspect.

Terrified by the apparently supernatural phenomena around him, Rossetti sank further into some form of paranoid despair. Scott described how he went out into the Scottish countryside and, discovering a little cave, cowered there writing the poem 'The Stream's Secret'. A contemplation on love and death, its reference to Lizzie is clear […] [243]

In the evenings at Penkill, Rossetti was in the habit of leaving the dinner table and going upstairs to read aloud to himself, Scott recalled. After Rossetti had left the party and returned home to London, the strange phenomena that characterised the sojourn continued. Both Scott and Alice Boyd were quite certain they could hear Rossetti reading upstairs in the evenings, even though he had been gone some time. In so many ways he was already a ghost.
[Quotes from W H Minto, ed., Autobiographical Notes of the Life of William Bell Scott, London, Osgood McIlvaine & Co., 1892]

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