ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH [Ruined], and GRAVEYARD

List [P/BL/5/AR: June 1963] 1		Originally a simple oblong chamber, but considerably altered; north wing added after Reformation; belfry erected at that period still exists.
nr		C13 nook-shafted doorway. Has double-bonded masonry, similar to Craigie Church.
1SA, 1793	VI, 459	Side walls are 3'6" thick; W gable is 3'10" thick. Still standing but "bended of perpendicular on one side, and rent in the west gable".
Paterson, 1842, III, 380		Built in form of a cross. Saxon arch over main entrance. bell insc: sancte Cuthberti ora pro nobis. Wallace is said to have worshipped here.
M&R, Ecc Arch, II, 1896, 287		Simple oblong 46' by 20' internally. These walls are ancient, but altered and North wing added post-Ref. Belfry erected at that time still exists. Doorway in S wall had round arch with C13 mouldings. there has been a nook shaft on each side with bell-shaped caps, and inner order with large roll.
Cowan, 1978, 150		Known also as Monks Prestwick or Prestwick St Cuthbert. Church granted to Paisley by its founded Walter FitzAlan, who also founded Paisley Abbey, before 1165, and not later than 1172. Annexed to Paisley between 1220 and 1232.
AP 19.10.1956, 13bc		History traceable as far back as 1163, when gifted to Paisley. "According to tradition, prior to the Burning of the Barns, William Wallace experienced a remarkable dream in the old church, in which his future exploits against the English were foretold symbolically". Sketches, copied herewith, including arched doorway.
CH2/532/1	15.8.1650	Following annexation of lands of Corsbie to the parish, Adamtoun loft to be rebuilt and seating arranged to accommodate Laird of Corsbie. Place of repentance moved to own loft above the "other door" of the kirk. [Hewat, 1887, 67, quoting KS records says this was above the Kirk doors]. To be completed by 1.8.1651.
CH2/532/7	11.7.1754	Structural repair, 1754. S side wall rebuilt. Common loft repaired and stairs to Adamtoune loft repaired. Roof repaired - 1000 slates.
CH2/542/5	3.4.1766	To be enlarged rather than rebuilt. est cost; £139 17s 3d.
HR 413/1	27.10.1785	Roof repaired; walls pointed and limewashed. New gates erected and trees taken down and new ones planted in their places. Conts: Hugh jamieson, wright - Allan Wilson, ironfounder.
	19.12.1788	Alterations 1788. 3 new windows made in roof; 2 same size as those at present and 1 above pulpit 2' square. Conts: William Andrew, mason - Hugh Jamieson, wright. Completed by 24.11.1789. Cost: £75 10s 4d.
B6/27/3, p.31		1800. Newton Town Council asked for money towards repairs.
HR 413/1	24.3.1838	Materials rouped 1838.
AA, Th 15.3.1838, 1a		Material of old churches at Monkton and Prestwick to be rouped, Saturday 24.3.1838.
AA, Th 26.4.1838, 1d		Materials of old church of Monkton to be rouped 7.5.1838.
HR 413/2	30.4.1883	Bell taken down [Hewat, 1887, 41, bell fell "a few years ago"]
	29.11.1884	Church walls pointed, and permission given for it to be used as burial ground by Mr Baird.
	GRAVEYARD	
List 1, contd		Churchyard contains some interesting monuments; Doric mausoleum of William Weir of Adamton. Refs : Ecc Arch, ii, 285-8. A.
HR 413/1	19.12.1788	Dykes to be built around kirkyard, 1788. To be 6' high and 22" at founds and 10" thick at top. William Andrew, mason, cont.
	27.5.1824	Iron gateway and new pillars built.
HR 413/2	24.12.1859	Walls heightened, 1859.

	31.8.1899	Old houses on N side of kirkyard taken down, and burial ground extended, and the stone used to erect new boundary wall on Tarbolton Road, 8' high.
HR 413/3	20.12.1919	Old kirk ruin property of Angus of Ladykirk since 1910. Plan submitted by him for enclosing the burial ground within the old kirk approved. P Macgregor Chalmers, architect.

TOMBSTONES

McQuitty, 1937, 7 — Notes HERE LYIS JHONE VALLACE BRODER GERMANE TO YE LAIRD OF ALDERSH DECEIST 24 DAY OF MAY 1618 -
HERE LYIS YE CORPIS OF MARGARET HAMILTON SPOVS TO JOHNE VALLACE IN MONKTOVNHILL AND DECESIT YE 11 OF GENVAR 1610. Others dated 1618 and 1607.
Also lC17 tomb of Hew Baillie LLD. Box shaped, at West gable of Old Church.

MANSE [1]

McQuitty, 1937, 6 — 1814 map shows "An old manse in ruins" near site of St Cuthberts Golf Clubhouse.

CH2/532/4	1.11.1721	Built or repaired 1721. 5 rooms with offices inc kitchen, brewhouse, barn, byre and stable. Declared complete.
	8.7.1731	Repaired: declared complete.

MANSE [2]

CH2/532/5	23.1.1740	Manse now rebuilt. Thomas Brown, contractor. Declared complete: 20.2.1740.
CH2/532/6	29.8.1776	manse to have 6 new windows in the attic storey. Lathed and plastered inside. Offices to be thatched. Est Cost: £23 2s 4d Stg.
HR 413/1	19.12.1788	Alterations, 1788. 4 sash windows put in dining-room. Garret wondows made 2'4" by 2'. Conts: William Andrew, mason - Hugh Jamieson, wright. Complete by 24.11.1789. Final cost £71 1s 2d.
	2.1.1806	New offices to be built. Plan for new manse prepared by Wlliam Gibson, but not executed. [Cf 1811, for which Presbytery records name Gibson as architect]. William Gibson, mason, architect. John Key, contractor. Complete by 24.7.1806.
AA Th 20.2.1806, 4b		Conts - offices for the minister, and a schoolhouse and schoolmaster's house.
HR 413/1	11.2.1820	Walls to be built up in front of manse. Old thatched offices to be taken down. McLauchlane, mason, Ayr is architect. 2 storey addition to manse of 46' by 26' within walls. McLauchlane, Ayr, architect. Plan drawn in 1811 but not executed. Conts: James Fulton - James McGeachie - James Barbour. Est cost: £606 15s inc materials of old manse. Complete by 19.7.1825. Final cost £770 2s 6d.

MANSE [3], 8 Main Street

List 2		Built 1822. Rendered; 2 storeys; 3 sash windows; boxed parapet and cornice, ridge slate roof, 2 splayed dormers. Projecting centre porch has curved splayed sides, flat panelled pilastered doorcase, rectaangular fanlight. Ref: NSA, v, 176-7. C.
CH2/532/10	14.2.1820	Plan of manse approved by Presbytery. Is this Gibson's 1806 plan. est cost £900. Architects: William Gibson, mason, St Quivox, and John Bryden, wright, Fairfield. Declared complete: 9.5.1822. [McQuitty, 1937,13, gives cost as £660]
AA 17.2.1820		Conts - manse at Monkton.
AA 16.5.1844		Conts - manse, Monkton. [This building?]
AA 11.7.1878		Conts - additions and alterations, Monkton Manse - John Murdoch, Ayr, architect.

HR 413/2	27.7.1878	John Murdoch, Ayr, architect for alterations and renovation. Conts: Adam Lawson, mason, Ayr; W & G Ferguson, Ayr, joiners and plasterers; John Meikle, slater. Est cost £325 19s. Complete by 20.11.1878.
	17.1.1895	Altered 1895. Oriel windows inserted in the dining room and drawing room above on the R side of the house. Roof stripped and reslated. Entrance hall altered. Thorough renovation. Offices altered and extended at rear. John Murdoch, Ayr, architect. James C Highet, cont.
HR 413/3	5.8.1905	Rear wing reroofed.
	26.7.1923	Some minor internal alterations, est cost £373 12s 6d. Allan Stevenson, Ayr, architect. Conts: J & J Andrew, masons; David watson, joiner. Final cost £614 8s 10d.
CH2/532/x	6.4.1938	Sold to SAL.
ACC Planning, 3892		September 1946. Subdivision [2 flats], Prestwick Road, M, for SAL. [I assume = here]
ACC Planning, A6448		September 1953. Alterations to form additional flat in attic, for SAL.

STABLES, in MANSE POLICIES

List 3	Simple 1 storey range, centre pediment has pigeon loft in attic. C.
AA 20.2.1806	Conts for new school and school master's house. Also new offices at manse.

FREE CHURCH see CARVICK WEBSTER HALL

CARVICK WEBSTER HALL, 14 Main Street

AA 10.8.1843	Free Church. Foundation stone laid last Thursday.
AA 7.12.1843	Free Church. Opened last Sunday. [Ewing, II, 59, confirms]
Ewing, II, 59	Free Church. After opening of Free Church, Prestwick, in 1874, converted into Church Hall for joint congregation.
AA 14.2.1929	Opened Friday last. **W R Watson**, Glasgow, architect.
AP, F 15.2.1929, 3ab	Formally opened last Friday. Gift of Mr and Mrs Carvick Webster of Orangefield and their daughters, in memory of sons/brothers killed on service in 1917 and 1923 (John A C, 19, † Istabulat, Mesopotamia 21.4.1917; Harry R F, 23, † Plazha, Waziristan, 6.7.1923). Substantial reconstruction of original 1843 Free Church. Architect; **W R Watson**, Kilmarnock. Mason: **R S Govan**, Prestwick.
AP, F 10.6.1932, 11c	Harry Carvick Webster died at Orangefield, 3rd June 1932.
AP, F 27.5.1955, 13a	Catherine A B F Carvick Webster, widow of Harry Carvick Webster, died at Helensburgh, 23rd May 1955.

CEMETERY, Newdykes

CO3/12/1/5	BBC 1.3.1910	Erect houses at New Cemetery; William Govan & Sons, Prestwick.
Planning Application C142		1963-1966, extension, Clark Fyfe.

FREE CHURCH SCHOOL, later PARISH HALL, later PIONEER CENTRE, 12 Main Street

AA 13.2.1845	Conts - Free Church school.
AA 10.4.1890	Mr J G A Baird of Adamton recently purchased the old Free Church School and has had it converted into a small hall, and built a small retiring room attached to it, for the benefit of the parish of Maybole [sic: Monkton is meant]. On Monday night the hall was formally opened.
McQuitty, 1937, 16	Renovated 1913
rainbowglass.biz, accessed July 2012	Stained glass at Pioneer Centre, no date.

MACRAE'S MONUMENT

List 6 — Ruined classical monument; square base, rusticated masonry, alcoves with shell ornament; Corinthian corner columns, frieze, corner urns; obelisk. Ref: JE Shaw, Soc & Ind History of Ayrs, pp 59 & 254. B.

1SA, 1791-93, VI, 466 — "Handsome sepulchral monument ... in memory of Governor McCrae, formerly Governor of Madras."

NMRS — 1748-1750, John Swan, builder?. [see D C Cuthbertson in Scottish Field, June 1942]

KS 31.8.1889, 3i — Built 1748 by John Swan, and fell, being nearly complete, on 13 August 1749. Rebuilt again by John Swan in 1750.

nr — Renovation, 2000-2001, **ARP Lorimer Architects**, Ayr

MONKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Web, June 2008 — The South Ayrshire PPP contract with **Carillion** was approved in December 2005. The buildings involved are new build Academies at Belmont and Prestwick, an addition to Kyle Academy and new build primary schools at Alloway, Barassie and Monkton.

South Ayrshire Council Update, Autumn 2008 — Construction work started in January 2007 to build new primary schools at Alloway, Barassie and Monkton, new secondary schools at Belmont and Prestwick and an annexe at Kyle Academy. The Kyle Academy annexe was the first project to be completed, its assembly hall and e-learning suite having been operational since October 2007. Monkton Primary School was finished in April 2008, being a complete replacement for the former school, parts of which dated back to 1850. Phase I of both Alloway Primary and Barassie Primary was completed in March 2008, Work is continuing to complete the second phase in each school. External works and landscaping remain to be completed at both schools. Belmont Academy moved into their new accommodation at the start of the current school year. Phase I of Prestwick Academy was completed in mid October with the pupils returning to the school after the October break. Phases 2 & 3 which include the PE Department and external works will be completed next year.

PLAYING FIELD

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

ACC Planning, A3791 — July 1951, for Ayr County Council.

POLICE STATION, 46 Main Street

BI 64/754 January 1953 — Proposed Police Station: Robert G Lindsay, County Architect.

POLISH CAMP

ACC, SWC 8.1.1948, 57 — Was due to be disbanded 11th December 1947.

WAR MEMORIAL

Now resited in Prestwick Burgh (q.v.)

SCHOOL [1]

McQuitty, 1937,24 — Built 1654-55. On 20.12.1655 £9 2s Scots paid to John Gottray for "bigging the schoolhouse".

CH2/532/5 3.4.1766 — School to be repaired. Ist ref in CH2/532 is in 1727.

HR 413/1 27.10.1785 — Rethatched 1785.

19.12.1788 — Addition, 1788. 12' added to end of schoolhouse and entirely reroofed. Conts: William Andrww, mason, and Hugh Jamieson, wright. William Gibson, mason, architect. Est cost: £65.

2.1.1806 — To be DEMOLISHED following completion of new school and master's house

SCHOOL [2]

HR 413/1	2.1.1806	New school and master's house to be built. William Gibson, mason, architect. John Key, contractor. Final cost £336 17s 7d, and complete by 3.1.1807.
AA Th 20.2.1806, 4b		Conts - offices for the minister, and a schoolhouse and schoolmaster's house.
HR 413/1	3.3.1838	Repair and alterations to stairs, 1838.
HR 413/2	21.8.1852	Addition, 1852. Old cottage contiguous to school purchased and rebuilt for school's use. James Andrew, contractor. Final cost, £36 14s 9d.
	7.8.1858	Internal walls lined to 5'.

SCHOOL

CO3/10/2/169		1877 additions, Ivie Alexander, Ayr, architect.
Groome, 1884, v, 49		160 places
BI 22/257	August 1911	MPSB to build new school at Monkton, for £950. Plans of W Reid, Glasgow, architect.
AA 10.8.1911		Plans of proposed school by W W Reid, Prestwick, architect. [Not accepted by Education Department]
BI 22/261	December 1911	Additions, Monkton School: J & J Armour, Irvine.
CO3/12/1/6	BBC 2.7.1912	Alterations, Monkton School, for MPSB. J & J Armour, Irvine.
AA 16.1.1913		Additions and alterations formally opened last Friday. Mr Armour, architect.
AA, CO 3/10/5/16		GPSC 25.9.1952 Proposed extension to be built with aluminium frame from Bristol Aircraft Co.
ACC, GPSC 18.12.1952, 18		Estimated cost of extension, £29,913.
ACC Planning, A6367		August 1953. Extension, for Ayr County Council.
Sv		Aluminium additions demolished 2008.

PRIZE

ACC, BAHSC 23.9.1953, 25	The £60 balance of the Monkton Coronation Celebrations Committee given to County Council, to support an annual general knowledge prize (Queen Elizabeth (Coronation) 1953 Prize)

WAR MEMORIAL

AA 5.12.1918	Under the chairmanship of L/Col K H M Connal of Monktonhead there will be a public meeting held in the school to consider some form of memorial for the men of HM Forces belonging to Monkton who have made the supreme sacrifice.
AA 7.10.1920	Unveiled last Sunday. Square column with laurel wreath, in Kemnay granite, designed and executed by Hugh McLachlan, Ayr.
ACC, Roads Cttee 4.12.1967	Permission granted to Ayr District Council to erect Monkton War Memorial on ground between Main Street and Tarbolton Road.
AA, Th 11.7.1968, 19cde	Photograph. Being moved, last week.

© Rob Close 2026