AULDHOUSEBURN COLLIERY

Nr (flickr image) — Cairntable Gas Coal Co Ltd. (q.v.)

BANKEND FARM

ACC Planning, A6345 — August 1953. Win and work coal, Bankend Farm; James Burns.

CAIRNTABLE GAS-COAL CO. LTD.

CO 3/12/1/1, ADC 1893-1899, 416bis, Finance &c Cttee 15.2.1898 — Offices, 75 Bothwell Street, Glasgow. Secretary, John Clarkson.

EG 12537, Tu 11.2.1913, 170a — Reduction in capital from £52,000 to £27171.

EG, F 2.4.1915, 483b484a — Have approved members' voluntary winding up. Office is in Glasgow, and chairman Robert Barr

Nr — Proprietors of Auldhouseburn and Glenbuck Collieries.

CATCRAIG QUARRY, Glenbuck (disused: 749286)

CO 3/12/1/1, 391-2, ADC 19.1.1897 — Referred to as Ayr District Committee road stone quarry in report on them by Allan Stevenson.

EGLINTON IRON CO COLLIERY

CO 3/8/1/2, ACC 1894-96, 237-238, 24 July 1894 report on Mining Classes, giving number of men at every? Mine in Ayrshire.
Eglinton Iron Co., Muirkirk (not Lugar), 468 (4th, after Annbank, Common and Lanemark)

GASWORKS

ASH, Sa 24.2.1877, 3c — Eglinton Iron Co have built and put into full operation an excellent gas work "in close proximity to the old limited gas work: in fact there is just the corner of a huge slag hill between the two".

GLENBUCK COLLIERY

CO 3/8/1/2, ACC 1894-96, 237-238, 24 July 1894 report on Mining Classes, giving number of men at every? Mine in Ayrshire.
Glenbuck, 378, 9th.

Nr (flickr image) — Cairntable Gas Coal Co Ltd. (q.v.)

GLENBUCK IRONWORKS

Hodge — Iron manufacture began at Glenbuck, 1790. [AANHS, 5, concurs.]

Hume — 750295. Built c.1796 by John Rumney of Workington and others. The partly buried remains of a rubble structure, with portions of 3 walls, 1 with the head of a semi-circular arch, visible. This may well be the furnace, though only careful excavation would confirm this supposition.

AA, Th 21.8.1806, 1a — Reference to -- Farquharson, manager, Glenbuck Iron Co.

AA 12.3.1807 — Advert.

Census, 1821, 497 — 'Ironworks have been abandoned in the parish of Muirkirk.' [Here, or in Muirkirk?]

AA, Th 4.10.1838, 1f — Mineral Field of Glenbuck to let. Details from the proprietor, Captain Dixon, London, or from John Sloan, merchant, Ayr. 'The furnace formerly used is still in good order. The workmen's houses and other buildings still remain, as well as the pits ...'

HOUSE

AA, Th 31.5.1821, 1c — To let, the dwelling-house 'formerly occupied as the occasional residence of the partners of the Glenbuck Iron Company, nearly finished, and in complete repair.'

GLENBUCK RESERVOIRS

Hodge	Formed in 1802 to store water for the Catrine Co.
2SA	Two artificial lochs formed at Glenbuck, "about the year 1802".

GRASSHILL COLLIERY, Glenbuck

AP, F 13.7.2012, 16	Closed 1932.

KAMES COLLIERY

B, 16.9.1932 485	Proposed PHB. Architect: J Dempster, Miners Welfare Association, Westminster.
CC, F 26.1.1934, 4fg	[Events of 1933]. Pit Head Baths opened 16th September 1933.
AJ, 12.7.1934 54	Pithead Baths opened 16.9.1933. J A Dempster, architect, for Miners Welfare Cttee (chief architect: J H Forshaw]. Separated from the colliery by the Garpel water, over which a reinforced concrete bridge has been built. White cement finish to exteriors. Accommodates 540 men, with 44 shower cubicles. Cost £9,430. Photograph.
ABN, 28.2.1936 291	proposed extension, J H Forshaw. see also B., 8.5.1936, 953.
ACC, YSFE 15.10.1952, 27-28	Used for practical courses in connection with the NCB/Lanarkshire training centre at Dungavel, which opened in February 1951.
ACC Planning, A4973	August 1952. New access, with new bridge, and diversion of river. National Coal Board.
ACC Planning, A5106	September 1952. Refuse tip, Kames Colliery, for N.C.B.
ACC Planning, A6511	October 1953. Fan and Meter House, Kames Colliery, for N.C.B.
ACC Planning, A7133	April 1954. Railway access, and increased binging area, Kames Colliery, for N.C.B.
ACC Planning, A8512	April 1955. Temporary offices, for N.C.B.
ACC Planning, A8655	June 1955. Sub-station, for N.C.B.
ACC Planning, A8656	June 1955. A.i.P., Surface re-organisation, for National Coal Board.
ACC Planning, A8733	June 1955. Canteen, Medical Centre and extension to Pit Head Baths, for National Coal Board.
ACC Planning, B623	October 1956. New gantry for conveyors, 2 new head frames. &c.; **Blyth & Blyth**, Edinburgh, for National Coal Board.
ACC Planning, B1705	September 1957. Headframes, for Nos 1 and 2 shafts, for National Coal Board.
AA, CO 3/8/1/30, County Council 30th July 1968	Closed 12th July 1968.

TRAINING CENTRE

ACC Planning, A4171	November 1951. Training Centre, Kames, for National Coal Board.

LINNBURN QUARRY, Muirkirk

CO 3/12/1/1, 391-2, ADC 19.1.1897	Referred to as Ayr District Committee road stone quarry in report on them by Allan Stevenson.

MUIREND MINE

ACC Planning, A7249	May 1954. Electricity supply.

MUIRKIRK IRON WORKS

List 4	The Baird Iron & Coal Co. Battlemented Gothic tower and retaining wall; now disused since blast furnaces were closed but an interesting survival of industrial architecture. Refs 3SA, pp 673-675; Ayrshire Soc & Ind Hist pp 233-236. C. [Deleted]
1SA, [1791-92] VI, 476	Iron furnace established in 1787.
McClelland Diary	Various refs, e.g. 14.3.1792, 17.5.1792, 9.8.1792
AA, Th 21.9.1809, 1b	Ref to Duncan Stewart, at the Iron Works, with inference of some influence.

AO, Tu 12.2.1833, 1a — For sale. Upset is £15,000. Advertised again in AO, Tu 2.4.1833, 1a: Roup to be in Glasgow, W 10.4.1833.

AO, Tu 18.6.1833, 1b — For sale. Upset is £12,000. Roup to be in Glasgow, W 14.8.1833. Ref to William Falconer, manager of the works.

Pigot, 1837, p.238 (Ayrshire introduction)

'Cumnock is celebrated for its ingenious and beautiful snuff boxes, as is Muirkirk for its ponderous ironworks.'

Pigot, 1837, p.273 — 'At the Muirkirk Iron Company's works are three blast furnaces, constantly in operation, for the manufacture of pig-iron; the malleable description is also produced here, both in a rolled and hammered state.'

Pigot, 1837, p.273 — Muirkirk Iron Company. Thomas Carswell and William Falconer, resident partners.

2SA [7/1837] 155 — 3 large blast furnaces producing pig-iron and 1 extensive forge producing bar-iron, with foundry and other inferior works.

AA, Th 29.11.1838, 1b — For sale, 'those well-known and recently extended ironworks'. Capable of producing pig iron and castings, rolled and hammered bar iron, &c.

AA, th 21.3.1839, 1b — First printing of the sale advert, noted below.

AA, Th 11.4.1839, 1d — For sale. Detailed inventory reproduced herewith, but includes 4 blast furnaces (one 'recently erected' and, in bar iron dept, two forges, one steam driven, one water driven. Also counting house, houses for manager, mining overseer, and workmen's housing for 160 families.

AA, Th 25.4.1839, 1d — Sale adjourned to 8.5.1839, and upset reduced to £17500. 'Since the previous announcement, a new stratum of black band ironstone has been discovered near to the works'.

AA, Th 16.5.1839, 1a — Sale adjourned to 29.5.1839, and upset further reduced to £15000.

AA, Th 5.12.1839, 4b — 'The Muirkirk Iron Company have four blast furnaces, three of which are in blast, with an average produce of about forty tons of bars weekly, with the capability of extending to 100 tons, without increase of power'.

AA, Th 14.5.1840, 1a — Prospectus of proposed Glasgow & Ayrshire Iron Company, which intends to purchase the Muirkirk works.

'These Works have been already established for about half-a-century, and have yielded handsome returns to the Proprietors, who are desirous of retiring from the active charge of the business. There are four Blast Furnaces, with Blowing Engines for the production of Pig Iron; two Forges for the manufacture of hammered Bar Iron and Implements; and a Mill for making Rolled Iron; together with all the requisite Buildings and Machinery, a great command of Water Power, and extensive accommodation for Workmen.'

AA, Th 21.5.1840, 1c — lists Interim Committee of proposed Glasgow & Ayrshire Iron Co.

AA, Th 27.9.1849, 1b — TO LET. THE COAL, LIME, IRONSTONE, FREESTONE AND FIRECLAY ON THE LANDS OF CROSSFLAT, PARISH OF MUIRKIRK.

The coal consists of various workable seams, from 4 feet to 9 feet. The 7 and 9 feet seams have been wrought, and proved, by crop pits, to be of the best quality, and there is Gas Coal in these two seams from 5 to 12 inches thick, of superior quality. The Limestone Post is what is called the Blue Hawthorn Lime; the Post is 9 feet thick, with from 4 to 5 feet of White Lime; both are of the best quality. The ironstone consists of all the different Clay Bands hitherto wrought by the Muirkirk iron Company, and is of the best quality. The Mineral Field is extensive, and lies about half-a-mile from the village of Muirkirk and about one mile from the Auchinleck and Muirkirk Railway Station. Coal and Lime are much wanted in the district for Agricultural and Building purposes. 17th September 1849.

AA, Th 19.4.1855, 4c		"All departments connected with the ironworks here are in operation except no.3 furnace, of which the blast has been taken for a short time, to admit of its undergoing repairs."
Groome, 1884	V, 82	Now extensive manufacture. 3 blast furnaces, 10 puddling furnaces and 2 rolling mills. Ammonia works erected 1883, reclamation of waste ammonia from iron furnaces.
3SA, 1951	674	Kames Ironworks opened 1870. In 1890 large plant installed for recovery of by-products from furnaces.
Hodge		Ironworks begun in 1787.
Hume		Founded 1786. The substantial remains here were demolished by the NCB in 1968.

Sasines 3421 and 3422 of 1792 refer to Muirkirk Iron Co.

AA 23.7.1818		Contractors - Engine House, &c. - Muirkirk Iron Works

Business was carried on by Dalnotter Iron Co [surviving partners in 1804 - James Gillies, Dalnotter and James McDowal, presently in West Indies], and the Smithfield Co [surviving partners in 1804, George Boyle, William Robertson and John Robertson, all merchants in Glasgow.] See Sasines 7594 of 1804 and 2708 of 1825.

AA, Th 26.6.1851, 1g	[1845]	Robert Napier, engineer, Glasgow, retired from the partnership (Muirkirk Iron Co), 6.3.1845.
AA, Th 26.6.1851, 1g	[1849]	James Ewing of Strathleven retired from the partnership (Muirkirk Iron Co), 10.9.1849.
RQR, September 1857		Registrations "are all below the average, in consequence of a decrease of workmen at the iron works, and also in the mining department connected with these works."
3SA, [1946-50], 673		Muirkirk iron furnaces closed in 1923.

POWHARNEL OPEN CAST MINE

ACC Planning, 4074	November 1946. Open Cast mining, Cumnock-Muirkirk Road, for Ministry of Fuel and Power.
ACC Planning, 4127	January 1947. Access road to Powharnel opencast site, at Skew Bridge, for Sir Lindsay Paterson & Co Ltd.
ACC Planning, B488	September 1956. Electricity supply.

METHODOLOGY

See the article, OPEN CAST COAL PRODUCTION IN THE GLESPIN VALLEY, in the Hamilton Advertiser, 4806, Sa 2.4.1949, 9a, which I've filed here.

TAR WORKS

List 3	Cairn near Springhill. Marks the site of Macadam's tar works. Erected 1931. Ref: Blue Guide, p.175. B.
GM, W 27.12.1786, 409a	'Mason Work. A number of works are intended to be erected, during the ensuing spring and summer, for extracting tar from coals, in different parts of Ayrshire. Any person inclined to contract for building, by measurement, are requested to send their proposals, in writing, [ ] and directed to John Loudon McAdam, Ayr, on or before the 20th of January next. 'N.B. The kilns only are circular; the refrigitories, [ ], &c., being all plain work, no double measure will be allowed. Those who wish for further information respecting the kind of work may inspect the British Tar Company's works at Culross in Perthshire, Cranstoun in Mid Lothian, and at Muirkirk and Entrekin [sic] in Ayrshire. Ayr, December 20th 1786.'
Edin Even Courant 3.4.1788	Tar kilns, "lately erected" on Dundonald Estate.

AA, Th 8.10.1807, 1b — Article extolling the virtues of TARRED PAPER ROOFS; mentions Tar Works at Muirkirk.

Hume — A cemented rubble cairn, erected 1931, constructed out of stones from the ruins of the tar works constructed by Lord Dundonald in 1786 and managed by J L Macadam, the road engineer. The outlines of buildings can be discerned round the cairn.

AANHS 5 — 1785, established by Earl of Dundonald, Admiral Stewart and J L Macadam. [no ref: The British Coal Tar Co was formed 1785 by Archibald 9th Earl of Dundonald 1748-1831, Admiral Keith Stewart of Nether Wellwood and J L Macadam of Sauchrie.]

KS 27.2.1932 — Cairn erected "entirely by voluntary labour under the supervision of Major Dugald Baird, the manager of the works at Muirkirk." [AP 11.12.1931 says 'recently completed' and 'on site of his first tar kiln.']

OS 1:2500 — Cairn is at 69442573.

Hume — 695265. Embankment. The well defined remains of the embankment for the horse tramway which linked the tar kilns with the ironworks. c.1805.

TILEWORKS

Pigot, 1837, 273 — 'There are … extensive tile and lime works, belonging to the Duke of Portland.'

Pigot, 1837, 273 — James Whyte, manager of the Duke of Portland's tile &c works.

TILEWORKS

AA, 18.4.1861, 8a — To let, tileworks on Lord Henry Bentinck's estate. Erected about 5 years ago. There is a steam engine, and bruising pan for preparing the clay.

UTILITIES

DRAINAGE

CO 3/12/1/1, ADC 10.4.1894 — Approve scheme, £1089 3s 1d, of Mr Stewart, of Warren & Stewart, CE, Glasgow.

CO 3/8/1/2, ACC 1893-95, 202, County Council 1.5.1894
Approve £850 expenditure by Ayr DC on Muirkirk Drainage.

CO 3/8/1/3, County Council 1895-98, 25, County Council 1.10.1895
Expenditure of £170 on Muirkirk Water by ADC approved.

CO 3/8/1/3, 233-234 County Council 6.10.1896
Muirkirk Drainage Scheme has been completed

CO 3/8/1/3, 233-234 County Council 6.10.1896
Muirkirk Drainage: £470 (balance) approved.

CO 3/8/1/4, ACC 1898-1902, 347, County Council 2.10.1900
£100 additional.

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