GENERAL

1SA [1791-92] VI, 468 Formerly called the Muirkirk of Kyle.

477 Garanhill. A clachan with range of houses. increased in numbers since founding of works. New houses and new streets, "some of them of a very neat structure, have been built in the works themselves, and others are daily appearing that will, in a short time, greatly exceed in number and elegance those of the old village ... the only one the parish could boast."

NLS, Acc 4796/47/1, Sir William Forbes to Lady Forbes, 7 June 1795 (per John Gifford, BoST)

"Long before I saw the place itself, it was distinctly to be markt from the immense volume of smoke rising in the air - from the iron forges. Muirkirk, till within these eight years, that it was purchased by Admiral Stewart, was a perfect wilderness; merely a kirktoun, that is to say the minister's manse, the alehouse & a few miserable huts. It is now a considerable village, & the iron works, tho' not equal to Carron, of not inconsiderable extent; for they have 3 blast furnaces, two forges for malleable iron, & about 400 workmen employed. Admiral Stewart has erected a spacious inn, & brought a man from paisley to keep it …"

Thomas Carlyle, Reminiscences, ed. C E Norton, London, Dent Everyman's Library ed., 1932, p.226

[April 1820] "I felt sad, but affectionate and good, in my clean, utterly quiet little Inn at Muirkirk; which, and my feelings in it, I still well remember. An innocent little Glasgow Youth (young bagman on his *first* journey, I supposed!) had talked awhile with me in the otherwise solitary little sitting room; at parting, he shook hands, and with something of sorrow in his tone, said "Good night, I shall not see you again." – a unique experience of mine in inns.

I was off next morning by four o'clock; Muirkirk, except possibly its pillar of furnace smoke, all sleeping round me: concerning which, I remembered, in the silence, something I had heard, from my Father, in regard to this famed Iron village (famed long before, but still rural, natural, not all in a roaring whirl, as I imagine it now); this is my Father's picture of an incident he had got to know, and never could forget. On the platform of one of the furnaces, a solitary man ('stoker', if they call him so) was industriously minding his business, now throwing-in new fuel and ore, now poking the white-hot molten mass that was already in; a poor old maniac woman silently joined him and looked, whom also he was used to, and did not mind; but, after a little, his back being towards the furnace-mouth, he heard a strange thump or cracking puff; and turning suddenly the poor old maniac woman was not there; and, on advancing to the furnace-edge, he saw the figure of her, red-hot, semi-transparent, floating as ashes on the fearful element for some moments!"

Census, 1821, 497 'Ironworks have been abandoned in the parish of Muirkirk.'

Census, 1841 Population increase attributed 'principally to the re-opening of iron-works.'

2SA [July 1837] 147 Disjoined c.1626.

Groome, 1884 V, 82 Disjoined from Mauchline in 1631. moorland - sheep farming - coal mining on sides of river Ayr. ironstone mining. Limestone worked with the iron and coal. Village of Garan became Muirkirk. Now one of the great iron centres of Scotland.

Pops: 1801, 2560; 1831, 2816; 1861, 3270; 1871, 3253; 1881, 5123.

. Village 1861, 2281; 1871, 2376; 1881, 3470.

3SA, 1946-50 672 Founded as chapel-of-ease erected in 1565.

AA, Th 28.1.1841, 4e "*Where the Greenock winds his moorland course/ And haunted Garpel draws his feeble source*." [Source of this quotation?]

CO3/8/2/1, 91-92, Standing Joint Cttee 17.4.1891
Opinion of Chief Constable that Muirkirk is likely to be constituted a police burgh 'in course of time'.

ACC, PHC 2.9.1937 Proposed conversion of street lighting to electricity.

ARCHAEOLOGY

URN
KS, Sa 16.2.1924, 8f Urn found by Muirkirk-Cumnock road.

VILLAGE

BRIDGE STREET
CO3/12/1/4 BBC 6.6.1905 Alterations to house, -- McMichael; John Wood.
BURNBRAE
2-6, 2-4 MADELINE PLACE
BURNS AVENUE
CARRUTHERS PARK
CATCHEYBURN, 699270
ACC Planning, 1253 November 1938, alterations to houses, Catcheyburn, for Bairds & Dalmellington.
COLTHART DRIVE 3-37 6-58
6-12 SVR 1950-51, ACC
58 SVR 1950-51, ACC
EDINBURGH ROAD, no postcode
Going eastwards, north side
WOODSIDE, 703277
DUNLOSSIT, 704278
Going eastwards, south side
MANSEFIELD HOUSE, ex Manse, see Churches
WEE TORHILL, 706278
6-17 TORHILL, 709279
FURNACE ROAD 1-63 14-22
-
TT, F 11.9.1896, 1a For sale, house, shop, restaurant, &c., in Furnace Road, on 999Y lease from Martinmas 1850, p.p. by John Prentice, baker.
-
CO3/12/1/2 SCBP 7.8.1900 Alterations to house, J MacDonald.
1-3, BLACK BULL

14, IRONDALE COTTAGE
42, GAS WORK COTTAGE
FURNACE ROAD, OFF
ROYAL GEORGE
ACC Planning, 2575 August 1943. Alterations, Royal George, for Bairds & Dalmellington Ltd. [In VRs as house to 1955/56, and in VR 1956/57, as Steading. Property of B&D, then of NCB. Associated in 1950s VRs with Springhill]
--
SRC, B&P 1.2.1983, 148-149 CDVDC propose Day Centres for the Elderly in Dalrymple (Seath Drive) and Muirkirk (Furnace Road).

GARPEL AVENUE
GARRONHILL
CO3/12/1/2 BBC 5.2.1901 Alterations to house, William Blackwood
CO3/12/1/4 BBC 6.9.1904 Alterations to house, -- Morran; Robert Wilson, Muirkirk
5-13, GARRONHILL HOUSE
19, HEDGEGROVE
GLASGOW ROAD 3-73 4-44
3-5 (ho7), EMPIRE BAR
13-33
ACC Planning, A645 February 1949. Alterations, 13-33 GS, for Ayr County Council
49, VIEWMOUNT
51, FAIRMOUNT
55B, VICTORY PARK COTTAGE
57, BELLEVIEW
63 Probably the lands disponed by David Ross, labourer, Muirkirk, to James Dickson, tailor and clothier, Muirkirk, per Sas Min 88 of 1895, 19.1.1895, 783.85. 21F 9E, bot E by Cambuslang/Muirkirk Road. House is dated 1895.
73, HEATHFIELD COTTAGE

EVENS. Renumbered c.1954
6, OLD HALL (a house)
14-16 (ex 48), HOPE VILLA
18-20 (ex 50), ROSE COTTAGE
42, PARK COTTAGE

Unsorted
CO3/12/1/3 BBC 6.10.1903 House, James Callan; John Reid, Catrine
BBC 2.2.1904 2 houses, James Callan; Robert Wilson, Muirkirk
HARESHAW CRESCENT
HARWOOD AVENUE
HAWKSHAW TERRACE
HENDERSON DRIVE 1-143 2-126
30 SVR 1950-51, ACC
KAMESHILL [Not in Postcode Directory]
CO3/12/1/4 BBC 1.5.1906 House, for William Baird & Co; Robert S Ingram
KIRK GREEN
LAPRAIK AVENUE
16-22 SVR 1950-51, ACC
LOVEDALE CRESCENT
MAIN STREET 7-151 2-124
--
CO3/12/1/3 BBC 5.4.1904 4 houses, Misses Young; James Young, Kilmarnock.
CO3/12/1/4 BBC 7.3.1905 House, John Hendry; William Blackwood
BBC 7.11.1905 Rebuild house, William Alston; John Wood
BBC 5.6.1906 Rebuild house, --- McMichael; John Wood
BBC 2.4.1907 Alterations to house; John Wood for himself
BBC 6.8.1907 Houses for James Dunbar; James Davidson
CO3/12/1/5 BBC 6.9.1910 Rebuild houses, James Brown; W Blackwood, Muirkirk.
CO3/12/1/13 BBC 30.6.1925 6A dw-ho, Robert Young.

1-5, IRONDALE HOUSE
11-13, CAIRN HOUSE
27-29, CENTRAL BAR
35-37, MASONIC HALL (also own shops 39-43)

CO3/12/1/4 BBC 6.8.1907 Masonic Hall & Dw-house, Lodge St Thomas; **James Kerr**, Lanark, architect.
49, ex POLICE STATION (public building)
83, JANETTA
107, DOUGLAS ARMS
119-121, MUIRKIRK PICTURE HOUSE
W.M.C., 133-141 Main Street
CO3/8/7/5 Building Warrant BA1485. 12.4.1968. Plan C4783. Architect, Daniel S Blair, Glasgow.
SVR 1968-1969 25th June 1968
CO 3/8/7/5 Building Warrant BA2557. 8.5.1970. Extension. Plan C7229. Architect, Blair & McWiggan, Glasgow.

2, KNOWE VIEW
8, KINETTLES
14, DUNDAS COTTAGE
16-18, DUNDAS HALL, REGAL CINEMA
ACC Planning, 1049 1938. Conversion, for Glebe Cinema Co Ltd. ACC, TPC 13.9.1938, **Lennox & MacMath**, architects.
20-26, CO-OPERATIVE
VR 1892/93 Rebuilding
CO 3/12/1/1, 439, ADC 20.4.1897 Reported that Co-op are ready to proceed with their new buildings.
CO 3/10/4/2, 29.9.1899 John Halliday, grocer. His business described as being 'of no great value since the Co-operative Store was started.'
44, CLYDESDALE BANK
72, (10-22) VICTORIA BUILDINGS
88, SORNLEA
122, KATESHALL COTTAGE
126, AYR VIEW
128, GLENBURN
138, BLYTHLAND
140, HELENSLEA
8h166, ALBERT COTTAGE
170, MASONS ARMS
CO 3/10/4/2, 29.9.1899 "a poor-paying public house dignified by the name of an hotel."

MANSE ROAD
MEANLOUR DRIVE
MIDDLEFIELD DRIVE
MILLERS ROAD
PAGAN WALK 23-63 2-92
23A-23B, CO-OPERATIVE STORE
ACC Planning, A7163 April 1954. Shops, Pagan Walk; Kenneth F Masson, for Muirkirk Co-operative Society Ltd.
AP 17.6.1955 Formally opened 14.6.1955
23C
ACC Planning, A7233 May 1954. Shop, Muirkirk, for David Muir.
PARK AVENUE
SHAWKNOWE AVENUE
SMALLBURN [Not in Postcode Directory]
CO3/12/1/4 BBC 7.5.1907 Houses, S, John Wood
SMALLBURN DRIVE
SMALLBURN ROAD
39 Correct postal address of Muirkirk Angling Club
107, HILLCREST

102, SMALLBURN COTTAGE
STEVEN CRESCENT
STITT PLACE
STONEYHILL AVENUE
STYLE, THE
WARDLAW AVENUE
WELLWOOD AVENUE
WELLWOOD STREET 1-79 2-120

CO3/12/1/2	BBC 4.12.1900	House, J Logie; John Wood.
	BBC 3.9.1901	House, James Blackwood; John Reid, Catrine
	BBC 1.7.1902	House, William Blackwood.
CO3/12/1/3	BBC 3.2.1903	House, William Walker; John Wood
	BBC 7.7.1903	House, Robert Bradford; Robert Wilson, Muirkirk
CO3/12/1/5	BBC 2.11.1909	Houses, Messrs Law & Wyllie; J Montgomerie Pearson.
ACC Planning, A5813		March 1953. Bungalow, WS, for Thomas Rowe.

1, EU MANSE
5, REMORE
7, NESSVILLE COTTAGE
9, HILLSIDE
11, BALLATER LODGE
13, NORWOOD
15, ARDBEG
17-39, ACC, originally 1 - 12
75, NETHERWOOD

2, ARDENLEIGH
4, CLUTHA
6, ROSEMOUNT
8, ELMDENE
10, CAIRNVIEW
12, GLENIFFER
14, BONA VISTA
18, FAIRVIEW
42, ABERFOYLE
52, ST NICHOLAS
54, WOODLANDS
56, HELENA, and from c.1950, BALDERRAN
92, SPRINGFIELD
94, INGLEWOOD

WELLWOOD TOLL [Not in Postcode Directory]

CO3/12/1/4	BBC 2.4.1907	Houses, WT, for J G A Baird; J Johnstone.
CO3/12/1/5	BBC 4.5.1909	Additions, J G A Baird; James Johnstone.

MUIRKIRK

AA, Th 16.5.1839, 1a [1836]		To sell, house, property of trustees on estate of William Pearson, on 999Y lease from W1836. 22½F.
AA, Th 30.1.1851, 1d [1825]		Tack of 1R 6F, on 999Y lease from Whitsunday 1825, for sale. Presently possessed by Samuel Taylor, merchant.
BI 8/89	August 1897	Tenement for Muirkirk Co-operative Society. Architect: John Armour, junior, Irvine. [see also BN, lxxiii, 280: 2 storeys] [See also Danskin's Cube Book, 1872-1901, August 1897, estimated cost of new premises, Muirkirk, for Muirkirk Co-operative Society Ltd, £858 7s 3d.]
CO3/12/1/2	BBC 6.8.1901	Alterations to house, George Jack; John Wood, Muirkirk
CO3/12/1/3	BBC 2.6.1903	Houses, Muirkirk Co-operative Society; J & J Armour
CO3/12/1/4	BBC 6.9.1904	Houses, William Baird & Co Ltd; J & R S Ingram

	BBC 7.11.1905	Alterations to house, Masons Arms, for George Smith; John Wood
CO3/12/1/5	BBC 5.7.1910	House; J T Porter, clerk of works,
CO3/12/1/7	BBC 6.7.1915	Building, Muirkirk Co-operative Society; Ingram and Brown.
CO3/12/1/12	BBC 20.5.1924	3A cottage, Muirkirk Parish Council [NB also AA 16.8.1894: New School Board and Parochial offices opened on Friday]

CINEMAS

[The history of Muirkirk cinemas seems slightly confusing. I think there have been name movements, &c.]

PAVILION

MA, Th 1.1.1931, 3c	Advert
MA, Th 18.6.1931, 3c	"'Harry' would like to take this opportunity of thanking the people of Muirkirk for the very kind way in which they have shown their sympathy and rallied round him under the very unlooked-for blow which happened to him in the 'small hours' of Wednesday morning, when his premises took fire in such a mysterious and unexplained manner. In conjunction with this, he wishes to associate the name of the installing engineer, Mr Carter, and his assistants, who, with such marvellous skill, made it possible for him to carry on last night. A new screen will now be in operation this evening, and everything possible is being done to ensure an entertainment of first-class order." Titles not to hand.
April 1931	Ardeer film
MA, Th 25.6.1931, 3c	Advert. "Peerless for Perfect Talkies."

PICTURE HOUSE

AA, Th 6.12.1928, 9d	'The Picture House was opened under new management on Monday night.'
MA, Th 5.6.1930, 3c	"It is patent that a few irresponsible persons attend the Picture House for the purpose of making themselves a nuisance with disparaging remarks, making noises, &c. As to enjoy the talkies there must be absolute silence on the part of the audience, we respectfully request these to consider the feelings of the other patrons, and to desist in such ways, otherwise they will be dealt with."
MA, Th 1.1.1931, 3d	Advert
MA, Th 29.1.1931, 3c	Advert: last one found

REGAL

ACC Planning, 1049		July 1938, Conversion of Dundas Hall to Cinema, for The Glebe Cinema Co.
B, 18.11.1938	995	Architects: Lennox & McMath.
SA 1/3, 10.1938		Contracts placed. Architects: Lennox & McMath, Glasgow.
MA, 1.12.1938, 3		Formally opens tomorrow with Rosalie. Glebe Cinema Co (James Muir). Rev Dr Lindsay, Lesmahagow, said: "In the Regal the people of Muirkirk would find, as they in Lesmahagow did with the Glebe, a sort of social parlour for the village where they could take their friends to spend a pleasant evening." Formally opened by Rev W. Greig Alexander, minister of the church which formerly owned the building. McMath, architect. Scott, Company Secretary.
AP 17.2.1939		REGAL CINEMA. Gutted by fire last Friday. Opened December last on site of Dundas Hall, and previously site of a church.
B., 14.4.1939	731	To be built, 1939, to replace cinema destroyed by fire.
GO 9.10.1953		St Bernadette, Motherwell, f.o. last Sunday. It is built round the steel frame of a picture house, brought from Muirkirk, and the gift of Herbert Green, cinema owner.

MUIRKIRK COTTAGES

NMRS	1791 specification, Michael Bogle & Scott, Glasgow.
NAS, GD 46/17/1; GD 46/17/3	Design and estimates for double cottage, Muirkirk, for the Hon Keith Stewart of Glasserton, 1788. Alexander Stevens, Ayr.
NAS, GD 46/17/1	"An Estimate of a Double Cottage agreeable to a Plan made out by Alexr Stevens Proposed to be Built at Muirkirk" by the Hon Keith Stewart. 17 April 1788. Cost, £79 6s.
NAS, GD 46/17/1	"An estimate of One Cottage which includes the One half of the Plan 20 by 10 within walls with a Shed for the Back part", signed by Alexander Stevens, Ayr, 26 October 1788. Cost, £43 4s 9½d.
NAS, GD 46/17/3	Elevation and plans of a double cottage, the front of 4 bays, with the doors in the two centre bays, endorsed "Mr Stevens's Plan for a Double Cottage." Nd.
NAS, GD 46/17/1	"Plan of a double Cottage from W Wilkinson London May 20th 1788" [Plan, elevation and comments]

MUIRKIRK INN [or IRONDALE INN]

NMRS	1789 specification, Michael Bogle & Scott, Glasgow
NAS, GD 46/17/1	Contractor (and apparently, architects) Michael Bogle & Scott, architects, Glasgow. Tender to builds is dated 17 July 1789, and it was accepted 18 September 1789. Tender price - to build an inn for Keith Stewart of Glasserton, £1,149.
GA 9.5.1791	To let, Irondale Inn, "that elegant new house of 18 fire-rooms ... situated at the intersection of the great road from Glasgow to London with the great road from Ayr to Edinburgh."
GA, F 8.7.1791, 440c	To let, with c.40A of land. 'Elegant new house of 18 fire-rooms.'
1SA, [1791-92] VI, 477	"The great new inn" at intersection of Ayr/Edinburgh and Glasgow/Dumfries roads.
NLS, Acc 4796/47/1, Sir William Forbes to Lady Forbes, 7 June 1795 (per John Gifford, BoST)	"… Admiral Stewart has erected a spacious inn, & brought a man from Paisley to keep it …"
AA 12.11.1812	To sell, Inn, 2 storey, slated, on 999Y lease from M1796. [and cf Sas 579, of 18.7.1865, 999Y lease from W1796 of ground on south side of Edinburgh Road, of J A Stewart of Glasserton]

ROWS

ACC, Housing Committee 6.2.1945, and Public Health Cttee 1.3.1945	Snow ingress at rows of Bairds & Dalmellington (esp. Kames No.1, Railway Terrace no.2, Midhouse Row, and Linkieburn Square), due to inadequate felting below the slates. Happened in 1942 and 1945. See refs. [ACC Minutes 1945]
ACC, PHC 5.4.1945	Kames No.1 and Railway Terrace No.2 - work will proceed as soon as possible. Midhouse Row and Linkieburn Square are not worth repairing, and will be condemned in due course.
ACC Planning, A8011	November 1954. Electricity supply, 194 houses, Kames.

TOWNHEAD GARAGE

ACC Planning, A5311	November 1952. New garage, Townhead Garage, for T. Rowe & Sons. Amended plans approved November 1954.

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING

Early?	1-12 Wellwood Street, renumbered 1954 as 17-39 Wellwood Street.
B, 13.5.1938 969	Estate at Garronhill to be built, 1938. Charles Grant, Ayr, architect.

ACC Planning, 3667	May 1946. Temporary houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC, HC 3.9.1946, 1197	56 permanent houses, Smallburn. 44 B1, 12 C1. J & W Brown & Sons Ltd., Muirkirk, £22643 18s 10d; Thomas Findlay & Sons, Mauchline, £19269 19s 2d. £65901 5s 4d.
ACC, HC 5.11.1946	28 Houses, Smallburn. 18 B5 10 C1.
ACC, HC 3.12.1946	28. J & W Brown & Son Ltd., Muirkirk, £13187 2s 10d; Thomas Findlay & Sons, Mauchline, £9996 17s 5d; £35436 14s 7d.
ACC Planning, 4059	November 1946. 84 permanent houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A882	April 1949. 20 Blackburn houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A1468	September 1949. 26 houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A2322	May 1950. 40 houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council
ACC, HC 11.1.1950	Ref to 1 Pagan Walk as a Temporary 3A.
ACC Planning, A3690	June 1951. 40 Lindsay houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A3871	July 1951. 38 Lawrence houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A4256	December 1951. 4 Lawrence houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
3SA, 1951 673	Since 1929 ACC have built 109 houses, and since 1945 have built 41 temporary houses and 24 permanent houses. 61 traditional houses and 30 Blackburns are either being built or about to be built.
ACC Planning, A5652	February 1953. 16 Lawrence houses; 40 Weir Timber houses; 6 2-apt traditional houses, all Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A6094	June 1953. 22 houses, Muirkirk, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A7981	November 1954. 20 Weir Timber houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A7986	November 1954. 98 Weir Brick houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, A8868	July 1955. 96 houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council
ACC Planning, B1280	May 1957. 46 Weir Brick houses, Muirkirk, for Ayr County Council. Blocks 1-3, Wellwood; Blocks 1-5 Kirkgreen.
ACC Planning, B1281	May 1957. 20 houses (16 traditional, 4 Weir Brick), Glasgow Road, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, B1403	June 1957. 10 Weir Brick houses, Garronhill, for Ayr County Council.
ACC Planning, B1684	September 1957. 8 houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council
ACC Planning, B1685	September 1957. 56 houses, Smallburn, for Ayr County Council.

TRAVELLERS AND SHOWMEN
Found serendipitously in Censuses

MENAGERIE

C1861 607-2-197	In a Travelling Caravan Containing Wild Animals (Village, North Side) William Turnbull, showman, m38, St Ninians. Also wife, 4 sons, 1 daughter, and brother (David, u, 36).

[C1881 has a William Turnbull, 35, showman, at Callendar Riggs, Falkirk]

ENTERTAINERS

C1881	607-4-33	Household of George McWhirter, 38, miner, Grasshill Row, Glenbuck includes Gustave and Emily Roselle, professional entertainers, b. England 34, and 27, with two children (Emily 6?, George 4)
	607-4-33	Household of John Taylor, miner, Grasshill Row, includes Harry and Florence Biddle, professors of music, b England, aged 21 and 18.
Familysearch		Looks like Gustave was born c.1848, Pontypool, and Emily, nd, Manchester. They are in C1891 in England, and he's at Wednesbury in 1901.

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