CAPRINGTON CASTLE

List [P/BL/5/AR: nd] 1 — Battlemented mansion erected c.1820 by Sir William Cuninghame, 4th Bart, who gave it all its present essentail features but embodying a great deal of an earlier fortress of which original drawings exist in the possession of the owner, dated 1797. Principal facade dominated by 4 storey splayed centre tower with machicolations and parapet; sash windows; square headed drip moulds; square corner turrets; porte-cochere; stands on raised terrace with round corner bastions. Internal hall and staircase has groined plaster ceiling and other Gothic decoration. Walls of dining room correspond with the Keep, and original turnpike stair is still extant. Refs: C&DA, v, 243-246; NSA, v, 609-10; Millar; Hannan. A.

Plans at castle — Unexecuted plans of 1780, from St David's Street. [Edinburgh]. 1829 plans by Patrick Wilson. Undated plan of minor alterations, Basil Slade, 27b Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London W.

Macaulay — More directly [John] Paterson's preference for massive, unadorned and regularly castellated forms may perhaps be seen in at least three houses, beginning with Caprington Castle in Ayrshire. Its history remains obscure and what little is known comes from one source. Seemingly the design for remodeeling an older house dates from 1797 although it remained in abeyance until 1820 by which date it was possible to include extensive Gothic decorations internally. Yet the exterior speaks clearly of the era of classical symmetry and proportion in a defiantly massive four-square block buttressed at the corners and with a canted tower in the centre of the main block. The same uncompromising form also occurs at Harviestoun [1804], and Smyllum [c.1814]. Yet there has been little development from Monzie [Perths, paterson, 1795], except that the central tower has been released, and there is nothing more to be said of those anonymous castles caprington, Harvieston and Smyllum. [The 'single source' is Hannan].

AA 7.5.1829 — Conts - additions to Caprington Castle - Patrick Wilson, 40 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh, architect.

Desmond 1984 [1833] — Gardener's Magazine, v9, 1833, p.10.

C1861 - 611 - 1 - 5 — 41 windowed rooms. William C[athcart] S[mith] Cuninghame and family, servants, &c.

KS 14.7.1900 — We understand that it has been arranged to make a large addition to Caprington Castle.

WHERE

ACC Planning, A6132 — June 1953. Bathroom for groom and chauffeur, Caprington Castle; Henry Dawes, for Colonel Cuninghame.

STABLES

List 3 — Classical courtyard range; centre arched opening. B.

WEST LODGE

List 2 — Pair of 1 storey pedimented lodges. Pedimented triple windows; screen railings; 4 square gatepiers. B.

HOUSE

SAC, ACC Planning Committee 13.6.1961 — B6585, house "of pleasing design" near Caprington Castle, approved.

Planning Register B6585 — **James Hay & Steel**, agents.

DALLARS HOUSE

List 8 — Date 1779 on gable skew of garden shed, probable date of house; 3 storeys; 1.3.1 sash windows; centre slight pedimented projection; ornamented pediment urns; hipped slate roof; porch may be a later addition, and has fluted columns; in centre above door is a recessed

niche, above that a round panel; rear elevation has splayed bay carried up full height, balustraded parapet. Later Victorian flanking wings. Dormer windows and other alterations; interior contains a well staircase; some good mantlepieces. Refs: NSA, v, 609-10; Groome, ii, 359. B.

CM, Sa 15.8.1795, 3d. For sale. Auchenskeith and Merkland. 154A. 'A modern mansion house, ansd square of offices with a large pigeon house, a walled garden of 3 acres', &c. Includes Dullars, Braehead and Hole, West Balgray, Clayslap, Commonend, Commonhead, Inchbean, East Hillhouse, West Hillhouse, Whatriggs, West Mossside, East Mossside, Drumshogle. 4 quarries, 3 draw kills, ascertained coal. Farm houses almost all new and sufficient. Holds of Miss Scott. Also Auchenskeith & Stenhouse, Dalry, 158A. Dets, William Brownm writer, Kilmarnock; Alexander Fairlie of Fairlie, or prop at Auchenskeith House.

AA, Th 22.9.1808, 4a Reference to Dugald Campbell of Skerrington at Dallars House.

C1861 - 611 - 3 - 3 18 windowed rooms. Occupied by staff

Glenalmond Register Iain R G Richards, (b 6/1959) son of R T Richards, Dallars House, attended Glenalmond 1972-77.

AP, F 13.5.2011 (& ePlanning) 11/0125/LB. Proposed conservatory and internal alterations. **R W Alexander**.

BRIDGEND COTTAGE

ACC Planning B4307, September 1959 Proposed change of use to scout hut, for 21st Ayrshire Boy Scouts

STABLES

List 9 Standing in front of house on main axis and detached; two crowstepped tanges, limewashed, flanking cobbled yard. Possibly 17th Century. B.

WALLED GARDEN

List 10 Brick walled enclosure; rusticated stone piers topped by large ball finials; prentice garden shed has date 1779 on gable skew, also same date picked out in brickwork over entrance. B.

HAINING PLACE

CM, 26.9.1781, 4c Sale of Haining Ross. On Lot 11, Haining Place, &c., 'is a good new-built mansion house.'

SHAWHILL

List 16 Circa 1820. Ashlar; 2 storeys; 1.3.1 facade divided by flat pilasters; low parapet, raised in centre with row of 5 chimneys; tall narrow sash windows on ground floor, square windows above. Doric columned porch. To rear, an earlier house, creamwashed stonework; projecting office wing with bowed end. Walled garden at side; square summer house, Gothic features, wide spreading eaves. Refs: NSA, V, 609-10; Groome, vi, 335. B.

Wilson, M, "The Ayrshire Hermit", 1875:

c1770s Shaw Farm was property of William Halbert. He suffered financially during American War of Independence, and sold the estate to John Carse. Carse built the house on the elevated esplanade, to the south of the old farmstead, and named it Shawhill. Sold by Carse to John Carlyle, and at his death in 1822, it was sold to Col. Clark, brother of the late Miss Clark of Elmbank, and by him Shawhill was greatly enlarged and improved.

C1851 611-5-112 James Clark, u, 70, Lt/Col, E.I.Co., b. Galston. 3 servants.

nr L/Col James Clark, Hon EICo., died at Shawhill, 14.1.1854.

C1861 611-6-214 17 rooms, and being run as an Industrial Orphan Institution. Occupied by Nicol B Cameron, w4x, b. Loudoun, superintendent, his family,

| | |
|---|---|
| | servants, 11 male apprentices and 4 orphans, 3f and 1m, all members of same family. |
| KWP 4.7.1863, 1d | Being sold: appears to belong to sequestrated John Howie, partner in J & J Howie. The house is "beautifully situated on elevated ground" - has dining room, drawing room, parlour and 7 bedrooms. |
| ASH, Sa 31.10.1863, 1f | For sale. Dining room, drawing room, parlour and 7 bedrooms. |
| C1817 611-6-184 | John Stewart, clothier (Kilmarnock), m62, b Kilmarnock, spo,Janet, 64, Paisley, 2 servants. 14 rooms. |
| VR 1892/93 | John Kay of Pettock (Coylton) - empty |

TREESBANK [1]

| | |
|---|---|
| Notes from List, see Treesbank 2 | Built c.1672 and added to by subsequent generations of the Campbell family. |
| Millar | Considerably enlarged in 1838. |
| 1842 | Son born at Treesbanks, to Patrick Boyle. |
| ASH, Sa 4.7.1857, 2c | 1840s? Pierre l'Angelier (cf Madeline Smith) worked for Huggins & Co., nurserymen, Glasgow. Huggins was American, and is well known in Kilmarnock. For several seasons he leased Treesbanks House as a rural retreat for his family, and could be seen driving between the house and the station in his 'smart little ebony cabriolet'. |
| n.r. | 1840s? Col Archibald Hume, of Auchindolly, Dalbeattie, who died, aged 89, 28.2.1833, was born, 1843, at Treesbanks. His father had been a successful merchant in Montreal and retired to Ayrshoire. |
| Sept 1852 | Game lic. Thomas Anderson, Esq. |
| BNA 1853 | Annabella, dau of l. Thomas Brown of Waterhaughs, and relict of Rev Robert Anderson, died at Treesbanks, 10.4.1853, in 86th year. |
| 1855 | Ref to Thomas Anderson, Treesbanks. |
| 1857 | GJC in Germany. The mansion and all around it seems gloomy and plain. |
| January 1859 | To let. |
| C1861 - 611 - 1 - 45 | 31 windowed rooms. Occupied by George J Campbell and family. |
| 1862 | GJC going abroad. |
| Fl 1862, 1866 | James Anstruther, Esq. He married, at Fairlie, 11.10.1866, Annabella Agnes, d1 of Thomas Anderson, advocate, Glendrisaig, Ballantrae, but died, Moffat, 19.5.1867, aged 62. In 1872 the daughters of Anstruther by his 1st wife (Marion, who had a large fortune) went to court over settlement on his 2nd wife. The daughters are Mrs Cuninghame of Caprington, Mrs Mercer, Miss Lucy Anstruther. The 2nd Mrs Anstruther died, c.1885 (will June 1885) at Cassillis. |
| 1871 | William Hugh Campbell residing here in 1871 |
| 1878 | To let. Usual public rooms, 8b; walled garden, vinery, stabling for 7. |
| Feb 1881, Jan 1885 | To let. 4p, billiard, 8b. |
| Fl 1894 | Mr Allan: takes lease of Bellfield Stables. |
| May 1895 | To let. 4p, bill, 7b. 2 vineries, greenhouses, lodge. |
| Mary S Findlay, My Life, 6-7 | G D Findlay (later of Carnell) and family took 10-year lease from Mrs Campbell in 1901. They inherited Carnell in 1904. |
| January 1911 | Estate for sale. C.1000A. 'fine old mansion in beautiful grounds.' |
| 1912-1914 | Refs to Cecil Arthur, Treesbank |
| Oct 1919 | Estate for sale. |
| 1920 | Ref to Mrs Cooper |
| Oct 1925 | To sell or let |
| June 1926 | Furniture sale, instructions of Lt-Col W C Cooper. Din, Morn, Lib, Draw. |

**TREESBANK** [2]

List [Kilmarnock Burgh] 2 — 1926, built for Gavin Morton. Roughly U-plan, mannered random rubble with ashlar dressings. English vernacular. 2 storeys and attic. Each elevation asymmetrical. Entrance front with central door and deeply projecting porch continuing across elevation to right. Projecting gabled bay at extreme right, recessed gabled bay at left. Casement windows varying from 1 to 5 lights, with mullions (some transomed). Window above door in shallow gabled projection with cartouche panel in gable. Garden front with boldly projecting polygonal, 2-storey bay with deep eaves and semi-conical roof at right; projecting gabled wing at left. Door at left of central block, recessed under shallow segmental arch; projecting single storey bay in right central bay. Dormers with swept roofs. Slated overall. Note: Replaces the original Tressbank mansion, built c.1672 and added to by subsequent generations of the Campbell family. Gavin Morton was a joint owner of Blackwood & Morton, the carpet manufacturers. B.

CO3/12/3/43 NBC 20.8.1926 — Reconstruction of Treesbank, for Gavin Morton.

BNA, May 1929 — Gavin Morton, Treesbank House, made JP.

DOVECOTE

List 12 — dated 1771 in raised brickwork above door; eight-sided brick base, corbelled band, round upper stage, corbelled eave band and pigeon entrances, bell-cast slate roof. Interior now used as store, pigeon holes still in upper stage. Refs: NSA, v, 609; Groome, vi, 449. A.

[List [Kilmarnock Burgh] 4 — Dated in brick 1771. Octagonal dovecot. Brick colourwashed. 2 stages divided by set-off and brick nogging. Flight openings below brick nogging of upper stage. Slate bell-cast roof. B.

LODGE

ACC Planning, A8159 — January 1955. Bathroom, Treesbank Lodge (Craigie Road); Henry Dawes, for Marion Morton.

Bldg Warrant BA 3279 — May 1971. Demolition of Lodge, Treesbank, for Gavin Morton. Henry Dawes & Sons.

STABLES

List [Kilmarnock Burgh] 3 — c.1770 stable block. Stugged, squared rubble with red sandstone dressing. Rusticated, round-arched entrance with raised pediment above, enclosing blind oculus, squared apex block. North elevation with randomly placed windows, possibly partly residential. Square taller battlemented tower at north-east.

AA 31.5.1860: KWP 9.6.1860 — Conts: stables &c at Treesbank - [James] Ingram, Kilmarnock.

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