INDUSTRIAL HISTORY

A Tour Through most of the trading towns and villages in Scotland, 1778

'This town which holds of Lord Glencairn is 28 measured miles south-west from Glasgow. Coarse carpets, blankets and half thicksets are manufactured here from the wool of the country and shire of Ayr. There is likewise a considerable quantity of woollen stockings made at this place from 14/- to 24/- per dozen. Kilmarnock nightcaps (which are waulked or milled the same way as the blankets) are a good article for the Holland market, as they are worn by all the Dutch seamen. There are 6 frames for making stockings; 240 looms are employed in weaving silk; 66 in the carpet branch; 40 in the linen; 30 for blankets, 30 for serges and shalloons; and 20 for duffels.

Robert Thomson & Co are eminent for making blankets in the English method, and from the wool of the country. They have competed for these two years past, and allege they lost in on account of the English wool being of a better staple, but think their goods were equally well manufactured. The woollen manufacture was introduced at Kilmarnock by Miss Maria Gardiner (half-aunt to the unfortunate Lord Kilmarnock) who, observing the indolence of the people at that place, brought spinners and weavers from Dalkeith about the year 1728. From that time the woollen manufacture has been carried on to a considerable extent in Kilmarnock, owing to the patriotism of this lady, who is still alive. There are about 4,500 examinable persons in the parish.

James Wilson & Son carry on a very extensive trade in the export of manufactures, &c., as do Messrs Parkers, Hunter & Smith. There are 2 tanyards doing well, and a great quantity of shoes are manufactured here, all for export. They send their goods from Irvine to Greenock by water, which are shipped there for the West Indies, Halifax, Quebec and all the ports that are at present open for trade. Servants wages are pretty high here; house rents moderate; coals at hand.

AA, Th 7.2.1828, 3b

"We have more than once referred to the increasing prosperity of the town of Kilmarnock, in as far as regards its principal department of trade; the carpet and bonnet businesses' and it is pleasing to be able again to communicate facts which bear out the assertions formerly made. These branches of manufacture have for some time been in a most flourishing state; great difficulty being sometimes experienced in fulfilling orders for the market. During the whole of the late dullness, when almost every business came in for a large share of the depression, the carpet and bonnet weaving suffered comparatively little, and not a farthing was deducted from the wages that had been previously given for the work. Those employed at the bonnets are for the most part women, and so urgent is the demand for these articles, that a single bonnet is sometimes hardly to be got from the manufacturers, so general is the sweep which they are under the necessity of making to fulfil their orders. The greater part of the supply goes for the use of the army. The manufacture of printed worsted shawls is also exceedingly brisk; a species of manufacture which is almost wholly confined to Kilmarnock. The number of weavers employed in this branch amounts to 400, and the number of printers to about 120. These produce 5000 shawls weekly, which are no sooner finished than they find immediate purchasers. The printers on Monday last, with the exception of 20, struck for an advance. Their earnings vary from 25s to 30s a week, and

they demand an advance of 8½ per cent. They have selected this particular period for their turn out, being well aware of the prosperity of the trade, and judging that their masters, from the pressure of orders, would be necessitated to comply with their wishes. It so happened, however, that at the time of their strike, few orders were on hand, and the greater number of the masters have determined to resist the demand, and some have begun to place weavers in their situations. The probability is that the demand for goods will very soon put the masters to their shift; and they have resolved that when this is the case, unless the printers go in at the old price, they shall supply their places with weavers, great numbers of whom are offering their services. It has been found that with a little practice, they perform the work as neatly and cleanlily as the regular tradesmen. In order to show the fixedness of their determination, the masters are stopping all their weavers just as their webs are out." *Glasgow Chronicle*

AA, Th 7.2.1828, 4c

"Kilmarnock. The bad consequences expected by every man of sense to arise from repealing the laws against combination are still developing themselves; and, without the aid of prophecy we may predict that they will continue to do so until human nature be changed by the exertions and skill of Mr Owen, or the law be restored to its former state. Fine spun theories and exquisite reasonings upon abstract principles suit not our sublunary sphere. Trade here was gradually but slowly emerging from the abyss into which the misfortunes of 1826 had plunged it. It was recovering consistence and steadiness in its various branches, and promised by a speedy return to health and vigour to atone for the privation of the early part of 1827. It would seem, however, that with a revival we are again without end to be annoyed with those disgraceful machinations which have heretofore disturbed the course of trade and added to our criminal calendar. The weaving and printing of shawls had become a considerable business here, and given employment to a great number of people of both sexes and all ages. A number of the *printers* have this week struck for higher, although already earning excellent, wages, and in consequence the weavers, as well as the women and children who assist in the manipulation, must certainly be thrown idle. The manufacturers thus cannot possibly complete their orders, which, to be fulfilled, must go elsewhere, and the trade thus diverted into other channels may never return. The evil will thus recoil upon the foolish heads who caused it, but how much mischief and misery must it first occasion. Threats too, we hear, have been thrown out against such as the masters may employ to fill the places of the recusants, and hints are given of pecuniary assistance from works at a distance. The latter seems not forbidden by our present absurd code, and the former we do not think very likely to occur."

AA, Th 21.2.1828, 3b

"Trade continues very brisk in Kilmarnock. The carpet printers have obtained an advance of 1d on the shilling."

AA, Th 28.2.1828, 3a

"*State of Trade in the West Country*. In Airshire the woollen business is experiencing a fair portion of returning prosperity. In Kilmarnock the carpet trade is particularly brisk – demand is increasing, wholesale prices on the advance, and the wages of one class of workmen, the printers, have [ ] been raised one penny on the shilling. *Scotsman*.

AA, Th 16.4.1829, 4c

State of Trade in Kilmarnock

The dullness of trade in the larger manufacturing districts has, in due proportion, visited this part of the country. In 1826 the number of weavers here, exclusive of carpet weavers, was from 1200 to 1300. At present, from the nearest calculation, the number is from 1000 to 1100,

showing a decrease of a couple of hundreds. This includes harness, and plain shawl, and muslin, and every sort of hand-loom, save the carpet-weaving; and we are probably not far form the truth in averring that considerably beyond one-third of this whole number are just now totally unemployed. Of about 120 printing tables, each occupying one man and a boy, the same proportion is unoccupied, and the subsidiary operators in both departments, which are a great additional number, many of them women and children, must, of necessity, in some measure, share the fate of their principals.

In the carpet trade we have to regret the failure, at this particular period, of two considerable houses, the entire hands connected with which, amounting possibly to 300 or upwards are, of course, thrown idle, at least for a time, although we understand many of these have found temporary employment elsewhere. Eight or nine hundred people of all ages are thus, perhaps, disengaged, and even those in the shawl trade yet employed are not, by any means, on full work.

The immediate cause of at least part of the distress we take to be the unfortunate connection of a proportion of the trade with some of those recent extensive failures in Glasgow, and which have, in their fall, dragged it along with them; and we certainly think that to some of those houses now gone down we are indebted for the continual deterioration and reduction to which the shawl trade, in particular, has been subject since its commencement. Some extensive purchasers, we understand, were in use to furnish the materials, yarns and dye-stuffs, of course, at their own prices, taking back the finished goods, and thus keeping the manufacture very much in their own hands. In other instances the necessities of the manufacturer were taken advantage of, and he was, at almost every sale, driven from higher to lower prices. He, of course, reduced the fabric of his cloth and lessened the number of his colours, and thus gradually lowered the character of the manufacture. Some kinds of goods have, thus, been quite driven from the market as not worth purchasing, while others yet saleable have fallen to one-third of their original price; and a workman who earned a fair wage at the first must, even if work was plenty, have a mere pittance at the latter price.

It is comfortable to think, however, and we believe we are correct in stating that the demand for good shawl manufacture, which is our staple article, has, in no degree, abated. These goods are sent, we understand, to the Continental markets, to the Levant, and to some of the South American states. The stand still of a number, therefore, must allow the market to be sooner drained, and a revival, at no distant date, will be the consequence.

AO, Tu 18.12.1832, 4de

AYRSHIRE CARPETING. We feel much satisfaction in publishing a list of the premiums gained by the enterprising and intelligent woollen manufacturers of this county, at the late Annual Exhibition, in Edinburgh, of Carpets, and other articles of Scottish manufacture. The fabrication of carpets has been rapidly improving for many years past, and has raised the character of Ayrshire for the manufacture of this very useful and ornamental article to the highest pitch; but far from resting satisfied with the degree of excellence to which the spirited manufacturers had attained at former exhibitions, they have, by their perseverance and the exercise of their great skill, this season completely eclipsed all their previous efforts - eminent though they were - and in the various departments of Turkey, Persian and Scotch carpeting have produced articles of most surprising beauty and quality. The judges who were appointed to decide on the merits of the various

articles of woollen, silk and linen manufacture submitted to their inspection, considered the carpets to be deserving of particular notice, and though the Scoto-Turkey ones would not suffer by a comparison with any made on the Continent, either in texture, beauty, harmonious blending of colours, or elegance of pattern; and that the Scoto-Persian ones, produced for the first time, displayed very skilful workmanship. The judges also stated that they had observed a marked improvement in the article of Scotch carpeting, more particularly in the patterns; and added that they had no doubt that the carpet manufacture, in all its branches, would soon become an important object in Scotland, affording the means of a large consumpt of the wool of the country. In corroboration of this opinion, we may state that workmen are at this moment actively employed in fitting up a large new building in Fort Street, to be used as a manufactory of Scotch carpets, and which will be in full operation in the course of a few weeks - between thirty and forty hands being already engaged. This establishment, which will contain seventy looms, is projected by Mr James Templeton, who has successfully carried on business here as a woollen-yarn spinner and merchant for several years past. The building is substantial, and appears well adapted for the purpose for which it is designed; and looms and 'machines' are constructed on the most approved principles by Mr Humphrey Stevenson, Kilmarnock; and as Mr T has had much experience in the manufacturer of yarns, in which line of business, we learn, he has given entire satisfaction - we have no doubt of being speedily called upon to class his name among the successful competitors for the premiums given for the encouragement of Scottish manufactures. A large dye-work has also been fitted up by Mr T at Ayr Mills, Townhead, where the yarns to be used by him will receive their various tints. This is the first attempt to introduce the manufacture of carpets into Ayr, and we hope the effort will be crowned with success, and that it may lead to an extension of the trade, for which the local situation of the town affords so many facilities. The following is a list of the premiums gained by the Ayrshire carpet manufacturers this season:-

Scoto-Turkey Carpets - Gregory, Thomson & Co., Kilmarnock. £75

Scoto-Persian Carpets - Gregory, Thomson & Co., Kilmarnock. 75

Carpeting do. in pieces - J W & T Deans, Stewarton. 60

Rugs of Persian texture - J W & T Deans, Stewarton 20

Scotch 3-ply Carpeting - J W & T Deans, Stewarton, * 15

Scotch 3-ply Carpeting - Muir, Dunlop & Co., Stewarton, * 15

Scotch 3-ply Carpeting - Gregory, Thomson & Co., Kilmarnock, extra 10

Stair carpet (Venetian) - Muir, Dunlop & Co., Stewarton 15

Stair carpet (cow hair) - Gregory, Thomson & Co., Kilmarnock 25

* Equal. Beside the above sums, a premium of £15 was awarded to Mr Robert Christie, Kilmarnock, for patterns of Scoto-Turkey or Persian carpet.

KWP, 21.5.1864, 4d State of Trade, Kilmarnock

Carpets: 'That branch of the trade devoted to Brussels Carpets is, as most of our local readers will know, confined to one house now, but that form produce as much by their power-looms as all the different traders did together under the old hand-loom system, 6 or 7 years ago'. Scotch carpets also busy, prices having risen by 2d or 3d per yard over past year.
Bonnet Making 'in a healthy condition'.
Calico Printing. 'Just at present it is tolerably brisk, compared with a quite recent state of the trade, but it is known that it is not now, not even to the extent of a third, what it was 13 or 14 years ago. Its decline dates from the Russian War, and it was of course chiefly affected by the American difficulties'.
Hand-sewn Muslin Work 'is in a very low condition and can hardly be made profitable to the agents. Women who can get anything else to do will not meddle with it - so small is the remuneration'.

Weekly Scotsman 6.6.1868, reprinted in ASH, Sa 13.6.1868, 3ef, and printed as Bremner, Industries of Scotland, 1869.

Carpet-weaving is the principal and most ancient woollen manufacture of Kilmarnock. The first firm which engaged in it began in 1777, and the value of the manufacture in 1791 amounted to £21,000. After that date, the trade took rapid strides; and between 1820 and 1827 there were a dozen firms engaged in it. The value of the carpets manufactured in 1837 was £150,000. Previous to 1848, the number of firms had dwindled down to five (the present number) and the annual value of produce has since been about £100,000. Steam power was first introduced into the works of Messrs Gregory, Thomson & Co., for the manufacture of Brussels carpets in 1857. This firm stands alone in Kilmarnock in the production of these carpets, and is the most extensive manufacturer of them in Scotland. The other firms confine themselves to the manufacture of Scotch carpets. The average wages of the men range from 15s to 18s per week.
Bonnet-making is the next in importance of the woollen manufactures of Kilmarnock. There are six firms engaged in that trade, and the annual value of production amounts to £55,000. One firm - that of Douglas, Reyburn and C0 - sent out goods last year to the value of £37,000. About one-third of the annual value of goods is paid in wages. By the various firms there are employed 1100 women and girls as knitters, 300 as liners, and 30 men and boys as finishers. In Kilmaurs, two miles off, there are employed besides 100 knitters, 50 liners and 20 finishers and the annual value of production is £1500. In Stewarton, five miles off, there are employed 1800 knitters, 500 liners and 200 finishers, and the annual value of production amounts to £90,000. In the three places, about £48,000 will be annually paid in wages.
The five carpet firms have all spinning-mills of their own (three of them in Kilmarnock and two in neighbouring villages), and spin entirely for their own carpetings. Besides, there are in town two other small mills - one for supplying the carpet works chiefly, and the other principally for the supply of tweed manufacturers. In the latter there are 22 men employed, and five sets of carding machines. In each of the other works there are four sets of carding machines. A more extensive spinning mill is situated at Crookedholm, two miles off. Crookedholm mill employs about sixty men, women and girls, whose wages annually are about £1200. Their labour produces 187,200 lb of worsted

annually, the value of which is about £15,000. The machinery is driven by steam.

Tweeds and blankets are manufactured in Kilmarnock to a small extent only. There is no large factory; only two or three dozen of weavers scattered and unconnected. One or two of the calico-printing firms, on account of the depression of their own trade, have begun in a small way to manufacture blankets and tweeds; but as yet these are in embryo.

Plaids and shawls, tartans, and other woollen goods are manufactured to some extent by one firm, whose principal trade, however, is in fine winceys. At present, thirty-two looms are in operation, and the value of the annual production is between £6,000 and £10,000. There is, besides, an extensive wincey manufactory, which sends out goods annually to the value of not less than £100,000. 500 looms are in operation in the factory, and about £9,000 a year is paid in wages.

ASH, Sa 13.6.1868, 3ef comment: [In reference to the date at which the Scotch carpet trade was begun in Scotland, the Kilmarnock correspondent of the Ayr Observer, who is generally well-informed on all matters of the kind connected with Kilmarnock, says:- The date given by the Scotsman is not quite correct, as the firm to which he refers as begun in 1777, was at least 20 years earlier. We have been shown an invoice of carpets consigned to their agent in Dublin, which invoice is dated 1762, and we may presume that the firm had begun in Green Street before this some years. But carpet weaving was carried on in other portions of the town than Green Street. Burns in his 'Ordination' alludes to this, and Robertson is counselled to go 'To the Netherton And turn a carpet weaver'. It may then be inferred that carpet weaving was carried on in Kilmarnock by others than the enterprising firm, and that the enterprising firm itself was at least 15 years earlier than the Scotsman's date of 1777].

INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS AND TRADES

GENERAL

KS, 4.6.1898, 6 — Report of visits by Glenfield Ramblers to Fleming & Co; Alexander & Co; and Clark & Sons.

UNIDENTIFIED

BI 60/701 August 1948 — Business premises, Kilmarnock. Architect: Valentine.

AYRSHIRE BISCUIT FACTORY

See Card Index — William Findlay & Co. Demolished c.1871.

AYRSHIRE DYE WORKS, Irvine Bank

ASH, Sa 25.4.1868, 8d — W Hannah & Co have opened Ayrshire Dye Works, Irvine Bank, Kilmarnock.

BELFORD MILLS

KH, F 14.9.1883, 2g — "Mr John Fleming having obtained possession of the premises lately occupied by Messrs Laughland Dick & Co., Riverbank, we understand he will shortly begin operations in the manufacture of lace. Looms, with the latest appliances, are being erected".

EG, F 26.2.1915, 342b — James Steele Lang retired from firm 30.9.1914. Other partners, continuing, are James Middleton Bryce and James Richmond, junior.

C&I 1915 — James Steele Lang, lace curtain manufacturer, formerly partner in John Fleming & Co., lace manufacturers, Belford Mills, Kilmarnock. Res: 5

Manse Street, Kilmarnock. Died at Crichton Royal 12.6.1915, leaving c.£11,800.

D 1923-1925 — John Fleming & Co., lace manufacturers.

AP, F 12.4.1935, 8a — Fire, Wednesday last week (3rd April). John Fleming & Co., lace manufacturers. Mostly on 6th (top) floor, used for storage of artificial silk, &c., but also water damage, but ¾ of machinery OK. They employ about 200 people.

D 1933-1936 — John Fleming & Co., lace manufacturers

BENTINCK MILLS

EG, F 3.6.1892, 706b707a — James Little, Son & Co., manufacturers, Bentinck Mills, Kilmarnock, dissolved 2nd May 1892 by retiral of James Little. David Little continues under same firm name.

BISHOPFIELD PRINTWORKS

Hume — 432383. Early C19. A large group of 1,2,3 & 4 storey rubble and yellow brick buildings, the largest of which are a 4 storey 5 bay block, a 3 storey and attic 3 by 5 bay building and a 3 storey and attic 8 bay structure, extended in brick from a 2 storey rubble building. Of the others the most interesting is a 3 storey 4 bay rubble building with louvred ventilators in the top floor. Now occupied by the Townholm Spinning Co.

KWP, 28.8.1858 (reprinted in EAFHS, The Journal, 32, April 2013, 3-6 [HEREWITH] — Merry, McGregor & Co. c.1846 moved here from Menford Lane, making additions and improvements to Bishop's tanworks.

D 1923-1925 — Hugh Wilson & Sons, spinners, &c., Bishopfield Mills.

D 1933-1936 — Hugh Wilson & Sons, spinners, &c., Bishopfield Mills.

BLACKSYKE TOWER

List 1 — Remains of early 19th Century industrial building, built in the manner of a towerhouse. Rectangular plan, rubble built with dressed stone quoins. Vaulted at lowest level, windows irregularly placed, some blocked. Corbelled parapet on south and east elevations, remains of chimney turret at north-east, and of crowstepped gables. Note: possibly disguised as a tower, to be seen from Caprington Castle. There was an early railway track, probably built for industrial purposes. CS.

AP, F 6.3.2015, 67 — Delisted. Still a scheduled monument under Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

BLACKWOOD, R. & J., Worsted spinners

EG 7906, F 27.11.1868, 1484a — In sequestration. Partners were James Blackwood, and late Robert Blackwood.

BLACKWOOD BROTHERS, carpet manufacturers

EG 6666, Tu 13.1.1857, 59a — Robert Blackwood ceased to be a partner, 5th December 1856

BLACKWOOD BROTHERS & CO, River Mill, Menford Lane

Nr — Carpet Manufacturers.

BLACKWOOD BROTHERS Ltd., Townhead Mills, Menford Lane

KS, Sa 5.1.1924, 8f — New company, with capital of £60,000. Woollen yarn spinners. Partners are Henry W Blackwood (67 London Road) and James W Blackwood (81 London Road)

BMK

n.r. — Blackwoods were cotton &c spinners since the 1750s, and the Mortons carpet manufacturers, Blackwood Morton & Sons formed 1908 by

		William Ford Blackwood and Gavin (Guy) Morton. Robert Morton became m.d. in 1930, and in 1938 bought majority holding in Cooke, Sons & Co., Liversedge. During WW2 made, inter alia, shells, motors, propeller parts, and repaired radio interference suppressors. c.1946 bought a factory at Finaghy, Belfast, to make chenille Axminsters. 1948 bought Victoria Spinning Co Ltd., Dundee. 1959, Riverside Mills built. and in 1966 another factory, specifically for tufted carpet production. Robert Morton resigned 1966. Taken over in 1982 by John Logue, and in 1992 acquired by Stoddard Group.
AA, Th 10.8.1809, 4d		Robert Blackwood, wool spinner, died 2nd August 1809.
KS, F 29.3.1974 [1908]		The partnership between Robert Blackwood, of Robert Blackwood & Sons, weavers, and Gavin Morton, textile manufacturer, dates from December 1908.
D 1923-1925		Blackwood, Morton & Sons Ltd, Burnside Street
D 1933-1936		Blackwood, Morton & Sons Ltd, Burnside Works
A 15.2.1935		Plans approved: new factory, Burnside Street, for BMK.
BI 67/782	May 1955	Proposed Spinning Mill in Holmes Road for BMK. **Henry Dawes**, architect.
BI 67/789	December 1955	Tenders accepted. H Dawes & Son.
BI 69/813	December 1957	Tenders accepted. Offices, Burnside Street. BMK. H Dawes & Son.
AA 27.2.1959		Dean of Guild - £450,000 factory - Holmes Road - BMK.
BI, 72/844	July 1960	Photograph of interior of new carpet mill i.c.o.e. for BMK. **Henry Dawes & Sons**, architects. Shopfloor is 800 feet by 200 feet, single storey; 30' by 800' 2 storey office block.
CO 3/9/3/271	SVR 1961-62	Mill, Barbadoes Road, for BMK. 15.6.1961.
Ayrshire Life, 4, November-December 1983, 4-7		
		Business sold in April 1982 to John Logue, a Leicestershire businessman.
Carnegie Photograph		BMK Burnside was demolished in 1985.
	THISTLETEX MILL, Barbadoes Road	
KTC, DoGC 28.12.1971		Warrant 1042, extension, for BMK, at cost of £150,000.
KTC, TPC 28.12.1971		Application 71/269, approved.

BONNETMAKING, GENERAL

AA, Th 4.7.1822, 4c	About 550 bonnets are made weekly in Kilmarnock, compared with about 1000 in Stewarton.
Pigot, 1837, 264	Bonnet and Woollen Cap Manufacturers. John Armour, High Street; James Boyd, Menford Lane; William Boyd, Fulton's Lane; James Gemmell, Kilmaurs Road; John Laughland, 43 High St.; David McLean, Nelson Street; John Raeburb & Son, High Street; John Weir, 31 Boyd Street.
AA, Th 26.12.1839, 4d	A bonnetmaker in Kilmarnock is presently engaged in an order for 12,000 bonnets for navy seamen, a Government contract.
ASH, Sa 25.4.1868, 8b	"... the authorities have at length awakened to the merits of the Glengarry bonnet which therefore will be adopted by all the infantry regiments of the line, instead of being as at present exclusively worn by Highland regiments. Kilmarnock will make its fortune".
D 1923-1925	Only bonnetmaker listed is M & A Currie, 53 High Street

BONNETMAKING: DOUGLAS, REYBURN & Co.

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e	[Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; Jamieson, dyer; JOHN REYBURN & SON, BONNET MAKER; Crooks, tanner; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

EG 7837, Tu 31.3.1868, 371b — Douglas, Reyburn & Co granted time variation under Factory Acts (7-7 or 8-8, instead of 6-6)

Weekly Scotsman 6.6.1868, reprinted in ASH, Sa 13.6.1868, 3ef, and printed as Bremner, Industries of Scotland, 1869.

One firm - that of Douglas, Reyburn & Co., sent out goods last year to the value of £37,000. About one-third of the annual value of goods is paid in wages.

KH, F 8.6.1883, 2f — Bailie Alexander Douglas died Saturday last [2.6.1883, aged 56]. A native of Penninghame, Wigtownshire, he came to Kilmarnock about 22 years ago as a partner in Douglas Reyburn & Co., bonnet-makers, "but lately he established the Victoria Spinning Mills on the banks of the Irvine, which have proved highly successful". Also a member of A & W Douglas, woollen manufacturers.

D 1923-1925 — Douglas, Reyburn & Co., spinners, &c., Lawson Street

D 1933-1936 — Douglas, Reyburn & Co., spinners, &c., Mill Street

BONNYTON FIRE CLAY WORKS

KS, 21.8.1886 — [Article copied from Mercantile Age, 2.8.1886]. Long and chiefly technical piece on Gilmour & Co. [Photocopy herewith]

ACC Planning, A382 — November 1948. Alterations, Bonnyton Works, for Southhook Potteries Ltd. [Why landward]

BRAESIDE MILLS

AA, Th 14.2.1828, 1c — Advert of Benjamin Smith. "His woolcarding and spinning mill in Braeside of Kilmarnock is now rebuilt, and ... part of his new machinery, which is of the most improved construction, has been set to work." Wool of mixed colour will, as formerly, be carded only on the Tuesday.

=?

AA, Th 1.1.1874, 1b — Braeside Mills. To let.

BRITANNIA WORKS, West Langlands Street/Forge Street

London Gazette, Tu 9.6.1891, 3076b — Dick, Kerr & Co, of 101 Leadenhall Street, London, and of Kilmarnock, dissolved, by mutual consent, 31.12.1890. John Kerr - Frederick Manuelle, partners.

BRITISH UNITED SHOE MACHINERY CO LTD

BI 70/817 April 1958 — Tenders accepted - offices, British United Shoe Machinery Co Ltd. - **J Hay & Steel**.

CALEDONIA WORKS, West Langlands Street

List 106A — Locomotive works, essentially 8 ranges of buildings constructed mainly 2nd half C19 - early C20, and occupying compact site with streets on three sides. Ranges mostly rubble-built with ashlar dressings, roofs slated or with corrugated sheeting, elevations mainly with single openings with multi-paned glazing. Elevation to West Langlands Street has office to left, c.1906, and red brick with ashlar dressings, 1st floor with pilaster strips, eaves set high above (? attic storey contained within); bipartites, corbelled angle turret beside main gateway. Remainder of street frontage, with uniform roofline, 2 storeys, with 10-bay range rebuilt after 1876 fire, 6-bay range beyond built 1851 and with deep gable on return elevation to North Hamilton Street; 2 attic storeys; attic double dormer was Andrew Barclay's observatory. North Hamilton Street elevation mostly a mid C19 19-bay range (2 storey elevation lighting high single storey interior), with 6-bay return

elevation to Park Street; linked to 1851 range by late C19 infill with 4 unusually tall windows. 3 further single storey ranges front Park Street. Refs: Hume, and also Russell Wear, The Locomotive Builders of Kilmarnock, 1977.

Hume — Built from 1847 by Andrew Barclay. the oldest part of this complex is probably the 2 storey and 2 attics, 16 by 4 bay rubble block in West Langlands Street, while the other 2 storey (now 1 storey internally) 18 by 6 bay rubble block which houses the light machine shop cannot be much later. The three bays of erecting and heavy machinery shops and the 2 storey and attic, 2 by 5 bay red brick office date from c.1900, as does the single storey steel-framed boiler shop. A curious feature of the oldest block is a double dormer window in the upper attic at one end, which is reputed to have been used as an observatory by Andrew Barclay, who was an amateur instrument-maker of repute. Also included in the complex is the former Titchfield foundry, a long single storey rubble building, lit at 2 levels, with rubble and corrugated iron additions.

KWP, 13.2.1864, 3e — Extension in course of erection. Entirely in North Hamilton Street, 160' by 50', 2 storeys. To be fitting shop for locomotives.

KS 16.7.1870 — [See also]

KS, 11.3.1876 — Big fire at Caledonia Works (Barclay's) on 7.3.1876. Much of older buildings badly damaged.

D 1923-1925 — A Barclay, Sons & Co Ltd., engineers

D 1933-1936 — A Barclay, Sons & Co Ltd., locomotive engineers, Caledonia Works, West Langlands Street.

PRODUCTS

E, 15.6.1906, 616c — Contract. Pumping Plant (details given), for Hurriladih Coal Co., India.

E, 27.7.1906, 92ab — Obituary of John Fyfe, Kemnay Quarries, refers to development of Scottish Steam Derrick, by Andrew Barclay.

E, 12.10.1906, 408c — Contracts. "Messrs Vickers Sons & Maxim, Barrow in Furness, have ordered a 14" locomotive from Andrew Barclay Sons & Co Ltd, Caledonia Works, Kilmarnock."

IMAGE DETAILS

Barclay1572 — From Poynton Catalogue, Sale no.12, 5.10.2019, lot 170. No,1572. 1917, 0-6-0 Fireless Loco, for Lancaster Power Station

Barclay2268 — From Poynton Catalogue, Sale no.12, 5.10.2019, lot 472. From 1949 0-4-0 Fireless Loco, for Glaxo, Plumpton Ironworks, Ulverston

PEOPLE

Andrew Barclay — B Dalry 1814, son of a millwright. Moved to Kilmarnock c.1817, father employed in carpet factory. Trained as plumber. 1839, short-lived partnership with Thomas McCulloch, making mill machines. June 1847 acquired site in West Langlands Street. 1851, Foundry. Stationary engines, winding engines. First locomotive, 1859. Died, 6 Oct 1900. Production ceased 2003; now Wabtec Rail Scotland.

CALICO PRINTERS

McKay, 5th ed., 1909, 252 — Calico printing introduced at Greenholm c.1770 by John MacFee, brother-in-law to Sir James Shaw.

nr — Robert Brown, sole partner in Peter Brown & Son, calico printers, Kilmarnock, died 7.8.1898. Widow: Mary Robb or Brown, Millburn House; children: Peter, Lillias, Daniel, all Millburn House, Dr William Moore Brown, Caterham Valley, Surrey, and Dr Robert Brown, Kenley, Surrey.

CAPRINGTON COLLIERY

AA, Th 5.3.1840, 4a — John Nelson, Oakbank Foundry, Glasgow, who has just fitted out the machinery at the new Iron Works at Galston has also lately erected a 3-valve condensing engine at Caprington.

AA, Th 4.3.1847 — Contractors wanted for a ¾ mile branch railway from Caprington Colliery.

-- — The Newcomen-type pumping engine from Caprington Colliery has been reconstructed within the new Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh. [See illustration on cover of Industrial Archaeology News, 113, Summer 2000].

CARPET MAKING

Names in card Index

Matthew Brown, Hugh Wilson, George Sawers, Andrew and John Roxburgh.

Alexander Morton, carpet machine maker, died 1876

See also the series of articles of reminiscences in the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald 1870 (from 21.5.1870, also 2.7.1870, 1.10.1870, 18.2.1871).

Glasgow Courant, 31.1.1757 — Ref to David Hunter & Co., Kilmarnock, and a prize carpet.

EG 706, F 4.4.1800, 96b — Simon Pellance & Co (Simon Pellance, Francis Murray), carpet manufacturers, Glasgow was dissolved 15 Feb 1799. Pellance continues on own account.

ASH 8.2.1871 — 1800 manufacturers: Gregory & Thomson; William Brown; John Wyllie; Robert Thomson; A & J Roxburgh; William Taylor; Ben lambert; James McLean

AA, Th 17.8.1809, 1d — Trustees of Robert Blackwood, woolspinner (died 2nd August 1809) include John Stevenson, carpet manufacturer.

AA, Th 22.3.1821, 4c — We are happy to learn that the Carpet Weaving in Kilmarnock is at present very brisk. The largest Company of Carpet manufacturers in that town have lately erected a mill for twisting their worsted, by which nine women are enabled to twist as much as could be done by 150 hand-spinners. Though the twisting is by this means done something cheaper, the Company value it less on that account than for the great improvement it makes in the yarn, and consequently in the carpets. The Kilmarnock Carpets are obtaining a superiority over those of English manufacture; and greater quantities of them are now sent to England than formerly. Some time since the weavers were restricted to about half work; but they have now as much as they can possibly do, and are hardly able to meet the growing demand.

AA 8.11.1821 — N/D&C of Andrew and John Roxburgh, carpet manufacturers.

AA, Th 4.7.1822, 4c — About 260 looms presently, making superfine, fine and common carpets. Weaving is paid by the square yard, and an ordinary good hand can achieve about 6 yards of superfine a day, or 9 yards of fine, or 19 of common, therefore about 2216 yards of carpeting are being finished daily in Kilmarnock. "A handsome shop has been erected for the manufactory of Brussels rugs. The artists have also commenced upon Venetian carpets, with every prospect of success."

EG 3188, F 26.12.1823, 528b — In sequestration. Andrew & John Roxburgh, carpet manufacturers, Kilmarnock.

ASH 7.5.1870 [1828-1829] — Tables for 1828-1829

AA 14.4.1831, 3a — Ref to Kilmarnock carpet weavers going to New York to start factory.

AO, Tu 25.12.1832, 2e — MANUFACTURE OF CARPETS. There is no manufacture, the fabric of which has been so much improved of late in Scotland as that of carpets. Kilmarnock was long celebrated for the supply of this article; but until within these few years the product was of the coarsest description, and fit only for very secondary purposes. Our principal shops were all supplied from London, the great manufacturers in the provincial towns

of England being 'thirled' as it were to the London market. There was scarcely such a thing as a new pattern to be had in Edinburgh; and it has so happened, that when a person had fitted up the drawing-rooms of a new house, he would find the brokers' shops in London stuffed with the cast carpets of the warerooms, and his own much admired pattern among the rest. The business now is upon a very different footing, and we have no difficulty in saying that the shop of Mr Whytock is as well qualified to satisfy the most critical taste as any in the metropolis. To the Trustees' Board, Scotland we believe is very much indebted for this improvement; and their great anxiety has been not only to guide the taste of the manufacturers, but to produce a demand for the raw material; for their carpets are not only grown, but are carded, spun, dyed and manufactured at home. In the manufacture of carpets another great step was made last year, under the patronage of the trustees, when the Scoto-Turkey species first made its appearance. We believe the feeling which struck ourselves, very generally pervaded every one who saw them - one of surprise and admiration, whether we considered the colours, the patterns, or the fabric; and it was with much satisfaction we found the same article, in the last exhibition, in a very improved state; and now, instead of being supplied with the cast-off stock of the London warehouses, we have the pleasure to find that the ingenious manufacturers of these newly-introduced carpets are engaged to supply our southern neighbours with all they can spare from home consumption. But this is not all; a foreign article very highly prized which has hitherto baffled the exertions of British artists has this year also made its appearance, wholly composed of Scottish wool: we mean an imitation of Persian carpets, which, in our estimation, was very superior to the original, being softer and smoother in the texture, and the colours far more brilliant. - *Caledonian Mercury*.

Pigot, 1837, 264 — William Brown & Sons, Grange Street; Cuthbertson, Sawers, Taylor and Co., Bank Street; Gregory Thomsons & Co., Green Street; John Raeburn junior, High Street; Hugh Wilson, Grange Street; William Wyllie, Welbeck Street.

AA 20.3.1851 — 4/5ths of British carpets are made in Glasgow or Kilmarnock. Kilmarnock has 480 carpet looms, weaving 782,380 yards p.a.

KWP 22.3.1862 — Obituary of Thomas Morton

ASH 30.4.1870 — Tables for 1870

AA, Th 4.8.1881, 6cd — State of carpet trade, Kilmarnock: decline in number of looms, and in number of weavers.

D 1923-1925 — Only carpet manufacturer listed is Blackwood, Morton & Sons Ltd. [-do- in 1933-1936 D]

CARPET FACTORY

EG 3111, Tu 1.4.1823, 346c — Robert Thomson, senior, carpet manufacturer, ceased to be a partner in Robert Thomson & Sons, carpet manufacturers, 16 Nov 1821.

AA, Th 5.5.1831, 4e — Sale, Kilmarnock, W 11.5.1831, of the effects of the sequestrated estate of Robert Thomson, junior, late carpet manufacturer. They include 36 carpet looms, with a total upset price of £60. Also his tackright to properties in Waterside, Kilmarnock, occupied by him as a dye-house.

CARPET FACTORY

[ASH, Sa 25.6.1870, 8a — has 1834 reference to Wylie, carpet manufacturer, Newton]

AA, Th 16.5.1839, 1g — For sale, property of T.l. William Wyllie, carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock:

2 sets of excellent spinning machinery, consisting of 1 double and 2 single carding engines, 4 billies, 3 single breaking engines, and teaser, &c - al in the best working order;
[a steam engine];
The carpet factory, which consists of a range of buildings most substantially built, and admirably fitted for carrying on the carpet business; to which are attached a good dwelling-house and gardens, together with the whole carpet-looms and engines, &c, within said premises consisting of 42 in number; and the whole dyeing utensils connected with the business.

CARPET FACTORY

KWP, 16.4.1863 — Blackwood Brothers' carpet factory in Menford Lane burnt down.

ASH, Sa 20.4.1867, 8c — Mill of Blackwood Brothers, carpet manufacturer, totally destroyed by fire on Thursday - upstream from Crooks' tan works.

=?

BI 31/364 July 1920 — Plans passed: alter and erect buildings, Menford Lane, for Blackwood Brothers. Gabriel Andrew, architect.

BI 65/764 November 1953 — Proposed new offices for Blackwood Brothers, Menford Lane. **James Hay & Steel**.

CARPET FACTORY

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, WILSON, CARPET MANUFACTURER; Jamieson, dyer; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; Crooks, tanner; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

Sas Abr 2492 of 1887 — Disp of property at Menford from old firm of Hugh Wilson & Sons (Hugh Wilson senior - James Wilson] to new firm of same name [said James Wilson - James Blackford Wilson]

KS, Sa 11.4.1896, 5ef — Obituary of Hugh Wilson (c.1820-1896). He was a son of Hugh Wilson who set up as a carpet manufacturer in 1829 (Wilson, Thomson & Co - now known as Hugh Wilson & Sons).

AA, Th 23.6.1853, 5e — Married, Kilmarnock, 22 June 1853: Mary, youngest daughter of Hugh Wilson - James Blackwood, Commercial Bank.

CARPET FACTORY, Grange Street

ASH, Sa 4.6.1870, 8c [c.1830] — 'Brown and McLaren's Work about 40 Years Ago'. Copy in ASH file.

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; Jamieson, dyer; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; Crooks, tanner; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; BROWN MCLAREN & CO., CARPET MANUFACTURERS.'

ASH 18.4.1874 — Begun c.1848. William Brown died 1854. Continued by George McLaren and William Brown, grandson of original WB. Sequestrated in 1874.

ASH, Sa 1.8.1874, 1a — For sale, "those large premises situated in Grange Street .. lately occupied as a carpet work by Brown, McLaren & Co", with houses, &c., and being 90P in area.

Cf also

AA, Th 1.9.1853, 5e — John Brown "late carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock" died 1.5.1853 at Melbourne.

CARPET FACTORY [Cuthbertson, Sawers & Taylor]

ASH, 9.5.1874 — George Sawers was a partner, c.1821 to 1839. He was then in Glasgow as firstly an agent, and then, from 1866, as a drysalter. He was sequestrated in 1874.

ASH, Sa 25.6.1870, 8a — Attempted in 1834 to introduce Gobelin or embroidered carpet, but too costly to produce.

[Cuthbertson & Taylor]

EG, F 8.1.1869, 47b — William Taylor retires from Cuthbertson & Taylor, carpet manufacturers, Kilmarnock. Firm continues (same name) under Thomas Cuthbertson and Thomas Cuthbertson junior.

CARPET FACTORY [Gregory Thomsons & Co]

See also AO, Tu 18.12.1832, 4de, above, in introduction.

Sasine Abridgements 2574-2580, of 1853 — Partners in 1818 appear to be William Gregory (in Alexandria, DC, USA, by 1853), Robert Wodrow, James Thomson and William Thomson.

Sasine Abridgements 2574-2580, of 1853 — Partners in 1825 appear to be William Gregory, Robert Wodrow (in Mauchline), William Thomson and Robert (or Robert James) Thomson

ASH, Sa 21.5.1870, 8b — In 1830s was the work of the town. See ref.

AO, Tu 26.2.1833, 4e — Fire, last Saturday, in one of the workshops of Gregory, Thomsons & Co.

Sasine Abridgements 2574-2580, of 1853 — Partners in 1837 appear to be William Thomson, Robert James Thomson, William Gregory and John Thomson.

Sasine Abridgements 2574-2580, of 1853 — Partners in 1841, 1843 and 1846 appear to be William Gregory, John Thomson, John Armour Thomson (carpet manufacturer, later farmer, Grange), and Robert Railton.

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; Jamieson, dyer; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; Crooks, tanner; GREGORY, THOMSON & CO., CARPET MANUFACTURERS; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

EG 7721, Tu 19.2.1867, 208b — Gregory, Thomsons & Co are in sequestration, and dividend has been postponed. Sole partner is Robert Railton.

EG 7736, F 12.4.1867, 432b — P/Discharge.

EG 7740, F 26.4.1867, 484ab — Offer of composition, to be discussed, George Hotel, 10.5.1867.

Weekly Scotsman 6.6.1868, reprinted in ASH, Sa 13.6.1868, 3ef, and printed as Bremner, Industries of Scotland, 1869. — Steam power was first introduced into the works of Messrs Gregory, Thomson & Co., for the manufacture of Brussels carpets in 1857. This firm stands alone in Kilmarnock in the production of these carpets, and is the most extensive manufacturer of them in Scotland.

KS, Sa 8.7.1871, 2g — Police Commissioners, Thursday. Letter from William Railton, CE. Gregory Thomson & Co want to take down an old thatched house in Clerk's Lane. They seek the town's comments on their proposals to straighten the road at this point.

Sasine Minute 1004 of 13.6.1881 — 1875 Partners: Robert Railton, carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock - William Railton, architect, Kilmarnock - Thomas Cuthbertson senior, carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock - Thomas Cuthbertson junior, carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock - Thomas Biggart, worsted spinner, Dalry - John Gow, worsted spinner, Dalry - Philip Parkman Turner, merchant, London - James Triggs, merchant, London. 1875. 330.148.

CARPETS - U.S.A.

KS, Sa 22.12.1866, 3a (quoting Yonkers Gazette Sa 1.12.1866)

James W. MITCHELL, 1799 - 1866. Born Kilmarnock 20 Dec 1799, son of David Mitchell. Went to USA, 1820, and started first ingrain carpet factory in USA, at New York. c.1834 moved to West Farms near Yonkers, and married a Miss Newman. 1836-1845, carpets, New Haven Ct; 1845-1852, Yonkers, premises on Main Street - retired 1852. Died 29 Nov 1866, Yonkers.

CLARK'S — See SAXONE

DAVIE, Robert, & Son: MILL

AA, Th 25.12.1952, 1e — The mill of Robert Davie & Son was destroyed by fire on Tuesday.

DEAN QUARRY

AA, Th 9.3.1809, 1b — Dean Castle Freestone Quarry. To let.

ASH, Sa 24.2.1872, 5de — [Obituary of Matthew Craig, junior, d 18.2.1872, aged 44.] His father, also Matthew Craig had the Dean Quarry. He died in 1847, but a few years previously he had turned his attention to making of fire clay bricks. Craig senior wasn't successful, but his sons, J & M Craig, managed to make it a success, and went on to acquire Hillhead Works (in 1861) and Perceton Fire Clay Works, Dreghorn, in 1862.

ASH, Sa 20.4.1872, 8b — "Two weeks ago this quarry ceased to be worked".

C&I 1910 — Jeanie Craig, of Highfield, Kilmarnock, sister of Hugh Morton Craig, fireclay manufacturer, died 20th July 1909 at Inverkeithing.

DEFIANCE PRINT WORKS

EG, 19.1.1894, 98a — Petition for sequestration of William Campbell & Co., Defiance Print Works. Partners: James Campbell, calico printer, 67 St Andrews St; Alexander Campbell, 11 Nursery Street. Petitioner, James Barr, engineer.

DYEHOUSE

AA, Th 19.5.1831, 1c — To let, dyehouse on Kilmarnock Water, formerly occupied by Robert Thomson, junior. Details: William Wyllie, carpet manufacturer.

Cf

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock Flood of 14th July 1852]. 'Messrs Cuthbertson & Taylor's, Dyeworks, situated near this point, are a total wreck, scarcely less than £2000 will cover their loss.'

And also

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; JAMIESON, DYER; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; Crooks, tanner; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

DREGHORN & AITKEN, nurserymen and seedsmen, Kilmarnock

EG 8016, F 17.12.1869, 1627ab — Sequestrated. The partners are Matthew Todd, n&sm, Kilmarnock, and Alexander Aitken, n&sm, Stranraer. Agent, James Robertson, solicitor, Kilmarnock.

DYKES

EG, F 1.4.1892, 478ab — Business of late John Dykes, nurseryman, Kilmarnock, sold 27.3.1891 by his Trustees, &c (P Sturrock - James C Dykes - Annie Dykes -

Arthur Sturrock] to his son James Campbell Dykes, who will trade as John Dykes.

ELMSLIE MILLS

C&I 1908 — James Wyllie, of Emslie Mills, died Baillieston, 14 Feb 1908. Also lived at Elmslie House, Troon, and was County Councillor for Dundonald.

T & J FERGUSON, cotton and wool cloth manufacturers

EAFHS J53, 2023 – AP&J, W 22.8.1923 — Fire Monday night. The two-storey dress and warping departments building completely gutted, and all machinery and stock destroyed.

FOUNDRIES

Pigot, 1837, 265 — Iron founders: Finnie & Guthrie, Kilmarnock Foundry, Townholm; Rogers & Blair, Low Glencairn.

GARGIESTON TILE WORKS

Hume — Late C19 to Early C20. An L-plan range of pantiled single-storey drying sheds, with louvred sides, and a single multi-vented kiln. Now disused.

AA, th 3.8.1882 — Lease of Gargieston Tileworks has been taken by Messrs Taylor, Smillie & Co.

EG, Tu 1.6.1915, 763a — T & R Smillie, tile manufacturers, dissolved 28.5.1915. Robert Smillie retired: Thomas Smillie continues under own name.

VR 1940/1941 — Thomas and Abram Smillie, tile manufacturers.

GIRDLEMAKING

KS, 20.3.1886 — [Culross had had for a long time a monopoly of girdle-making in Scotland - this was renewed as late as 1599 by James VI.
Valleyfield, Fife, was created a burgh in 1663 and its smiths at once took up the profitable business of girdlemaking. From that time on, the Culross makers had to fight for their privilege, with little success in the long run, and in 1725 the monopoly was declared illegal. In 1723 a Culross girdlemaker, John Watson, left Culross and settled in Kilmarnock, where he began girdlemaking, and it was the ensuing court case, Girdlemakers of Culross v Watson, which led to the declaration of the illegality of the Culross monopoly]

GLACIER METAL

BI 62/728 November 1950 — Single storey extension, Glacier Metal Co. **Henry Budgen & Co**., Cardiff, architects.

BI 62/729 December 1950 — Factory, Scottish Industrial Estates Ltd, Abbotsford Road. **Wylie, Shanks & Wylie**, Glasgow.

BI 70/823 October 1958 — Tenders accepted - extension, Kirkstyle, Glacier Metal Co. **Wylie, Shanks & Underwood**, Glasgow, architects.

KTC, DoGC 29.8.1960 — 4167. Factory, Abbotsford Road, as below. [TPC 31.8.1960, 60/178, Block % and link between blocks 3 and 4.]

GH, Tu 30.8.1960, 7f — Plans approved by DoG yesterday include a Factory, Abbotsford Road, for Industrial Estates Management Corporation, on behalf of Glacier Metal Co.

CO 3/9/3/271 SVR 1961-62 Factory, Kirkstyle, for Glacier Metal Co., as tenants of IEMC. 28.2.1962.

KS, F 4.1.1974, 12c Was formally opened in February 1973.

NMRS 1965, **Dick Peddie & McKay**.

GSWR WORKS See KILMARNOCK - TRANSPORT

GLENCAIRN MILL

Hume 428366. Early C19. A 3 storey and attic, 2 by 6 bay building, incorporating a kiln, with louvred roof ridge ventilator at one end. Now gutted and used as an Electricity Board store.

GLENFIELD AND KENNEDY

COMPANY HISTORY: GLENFIELD

nr Set up in 1865 (?) by members of the Kennedy Co as a foundry to supply the body casings they required for their meters.

COMPANY HISTORY: KENNEDY'S

Sasine Abr/t 533 of 1.7.1865 Thomas Kennedy was originally a gunmaker.

n.r. Thomas Kennedy b 1797, Oban. Watchmaker, moved to Kilmarnock 1824. 1852, patent granted for water meter

Sasine Abr/t 3639 of 1855 Partners in Kennedy's Patent Water Meter Co: Thomas Kennedy late gunmaker, Alexander John Bruce banker, William Taylor carpet manufacturer, Robert Blackwood, James Blackwood.

nr Partners in 1861: TK, AJB, WT

COMPANY HISTORY: GLENFIELD & KENNEDY

n.r One source gives date of amalgamation as late 1899.

KS, 9.1.1897, 1a Died in Brussels, 31 Dec 1896, Felix WAEFELAER, Company Director.

EG 12579, Tu 8.7.1913, 723 Ref, under National Insurance Act, 1911, to the employment/benefit position of the company, and any 'chemist' or 'timekeeper' employed.

Kilmarnock Town Council, 13.7.1960

Ref to recent death of Hugh Cowan-Douglas, chairman.

n.r. Plug pulled, July 1977.

BUILDINGS

KWP, 15.10.1864, 1d For sale, 4.11.1864. Glenfield Printwork, south of East Shaw Street. Recently tenanted by Balvaird, McLean & Co., shawl printers. Buildings are extensive and commodious and 'of comparatively recent erection'.

Hume Founded on this site in 1871 by the Kennedy Patent Water Meter Co Ltd. A large complex of engineering shops, mainly modern, with a C19 office block, 2 storey by 22 bay.

KS, 20.11.1869 Kennedy's Patent Water Meter Co are about to build new workshops - one storey - in East Shaw Street, replacing existing works in Townholm. **Robert Blackwood**, architect.

KS 21.5.1887 Approved at Dean of Guild: offices on east side of Low Glencairn Street for Glenfield Co. Ltd.

KS, 5.5.1888; AA, Th 10.5.1888; ASH, F 11.5.1888, 8d

New offices of the Glenfield Works, Low Glencairn Street, opened last Thursday. Erected from the designs of Mr **G Andrew**, architect. In the new buildings just opened there is a large hall, for lunchtime meals - some ambiguity as to whether this is the same or a different block.

AA, Th 19.7.1894 Glenfield Company purpose erecting a new fitting shop facing East Shaw Street and alongside the present engineering shops. 150' by 40', 67 feet high. Mason work: ex-Bailie Muir.

KS, 13.1.1900 Report of plans for extension into the 12 acre field on the east side of the Irvine.

KH, 19.8.1904 — Dining Room, Glenfield, Titchfield Street/ Kennedy Street. James A Morris, architect.

AA, Th 22.7.1909 — Offices of Glenfield & Kenendy in Low Glencairn Street are to be extended at an estimated cost of £3,000. Plans prepared by Mr James A Morris FRIBA Ayr were passed at the Dean of Guild Court on Monday.

KS, 16.7.1910 — New offices were opened on Thursday. **James A Morris**, architect; **John Inglis**, builder. Copy of article, with illustration, herewith.

AA, 13.6.1929 — Large extension to Glenfield & Kennedy formally opened last Friday. [KH 26.12.1929 gives date of opening as 7.6.1929]

Glenfield Gazette, xxvii, 3, June 1947 — "Wartime Activities" has some excellent illustrations. At least two copies in Dick: A93602 and E84666

KTC, DoGC 26.10.1959 — 4086, Metallurgy Laboratory.

Glenfield Gazette, xxxii, 3, Dec 1961 — Illustrates new Hydraulics Laboratory, now in use. According to GG,xxxii,1, December 1958 it is on site of recently acquired and demolished Holm Foundry.

AA, Th 4.7.1968, 28e — Crane Ltd. To spend £1,000,000 on automated machinery centre at Glenfield and Kennedy. T M Evans, chairman; David Burns, m.d.

nr — Bulk of G&K buildings demolished in November 1982.

SUBSIDIARIES

BRITISH PITOMETER CO LTD

E, 18.1.1946, 74c — Change of London address (see below)

HYDRAUTOMAT (1931) LTD

E, 18.1.1946, 74c — Change of London address (see below)

LONDON OFFICE

E, 18.1.1946, 74c — Now,with subsidiaries, British Pitometer and Hydrautomat, at 105 Park Street, London W1 (MAYfair 0142)

PROJECTS

1944 - 1946 — Sturrock Dock, Cape Town. Valves, &c. E, 15.2.1946.

GLENFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

SDA Property Marketing Today, 2, Aug/Sept 1986 [not kept] — Brand new high specification units suited to any developing business. Units available from 968 sq ft to c. 9000 sq ft.

GRANGE FOUNDRY

KH, F 12.2.1892, 3a — The first blast came off yesterday at the new Grange Foundry of Thomas McCulloch & Co Ltd. 2 main buildings: the foundry, and the drssing and pattern shops. Siding on Kilmarnock and Troon branch railway.

GREENHOLM PRINTFIELD

KH, F 3.7.1846, 1f — For sale, as presently leased by William Macadam & Co. On north side of Riccarton Bridge, and on both sides of Glencairn Street. Frontage of 300' on east, and 160' on west. Area: 7A 1R 8P.

MACADAM & CO AND WILLIAM HALL & CO., commission merchants and calico printers, Glasgow and Kilmarnock

EG 5511, Tu 17.2.1846, 57c — In sequestration. Partners are William Macadam, William Macadam junior. T&Cs, all Glasgow.

EG 5555, Tu 14.7.1846, 292b — First Dividend will be paid, 31st August 1846.

EG 5590, F 13.11.1846, 545c — William Macadam senior, petition for cessio Bonorum.

HILLHEAD

COLLIERY

KWP, 14.8.1858 — Article. John Gilmour & Co., formerly Ford & Grieve. About 100 tons a day, 30,000 tons per annum.

FIRECLAY WORKS

KWP 22.6.1861 — Sold by John Gilmour & Co to J. & M. Craig.

ASH, Sa 24.2.1872, 5de — Acquired by J & M Craig in 1861. [See DEAN QUARRY]

HOLM FOUNDRY CO

EG, F 19.3.1869, 347a — ref to James Blackwood, manufacturer, as a partner in Holm Foundry Co., Kilmarnock.

HOSIERY WORKS, Green Street

KS, Sa 31.5.1924, 5e — Andrew Richardson, hosiery manufacturer, has emigrated to Australia, to farm. The business in Green Street goes on as usual.

HOWARD MILLS — See, presently, LACE FACTORY - Tannock Street

ICE CREAM FACTORY

BI 60/701 August 1948 — Ice Cream Factory, Kilmarnock. Gillespie Kidd & Coia, Glasgow, architects.

IRVINE BANK DYE WORKS

EG 7895, Tu 20.10.1868, 1286b — William Hannah & Co., dyers, was dissolved, by mutual consent, on 13.10.1868. The partners were William Hannah, who continued on own account, and John Craig Brown.

IRVINEBANK SPINNING MILL

KWP, 21.5.1864, 1c — To sell, 8.6.1864, with an upset of £2,000, IRVINE BANK PRINTWORKS, and grounds, as presently occupied by Messrs Humphrey & Co., with the plant, consisting of steam-engine, 40hp, callender, washing machines, preparing machine, hydro-extractor, dash wheels, printing tables, colour making utensils, &c. - well adapted for a brewery, paper-work, weaving factory, &c., having well-lighted 3 storey buildings, 200' long or thereby, also ranges of 1 and 2 storey houses.

EG 7884, F 11.9.1868, 1132a — John Merry & Co., calico printers, Irvine Bank Print Works. Sequestrated. Partners are John Merry senior and John Merry junior.

Glasgow POD, 1889-1890 — Hannah & Gibson, tweed manufacturers.

KS, Sa 19.4.1924, 5e — Irvine Bank Mills, New Mill Road (Alexander Brothers Ltd), totally destroyed by fire yesterday. Damage estimated at £50,000. Began in yarn drying store - office and books saved. Has only recently become a limited company; at which time much new plant, now lost, was installed.

Fire threat to neighbours: H H Wallace, American Steam Laundry; Fraser, Frasers & Co., hosiery manufacturers

nr — 1869, Hugh Alexander & Sons of Waterside

=?

D 1923-1925 — Fraser, Frasers & Co., spinners, &c., Irvine Bank.

JAMES LITTLE STREET

NEST UNITS

SRC, EIDC 27.6.1984 — Contract let to John Moulds (Kilmarnock) Ltd, at £401,102.

KILMARNOCK FORGE, Townholm

GI, K&L, High Kirk 107 — Andrew Robertson, Kilmarnock Forge. B 12.12.1801. D 21.1.1868.

KWP, 25.12.1858 — A 'Harvey's Patent Steam Hammer' has now been erected and inaugurated last Wednesday.

KWP 31.5.1862 — Ref to Matthew Reid & Co, spade manufacturers, Townhead. Partners include Andrew Robertson.

KWP, 20.8.1864, 4c — Yesterday the anvil for a new 5-ton steam hammer for Mr Robertson, Kilmarnock Forge, was moved thence from the Caledonian Foundry. It weighs 20 tons and is the largest casting yet made in Kilmarnock.

KWP, 15.10.1864, 4b — Extension, with new Harvey's Steam Hammer, which was inaugurated Friday 14th October 1864.

C&I 1883 — Died 20.5.1883, Andrew Robertson, iron forger and spade manufacturer.

KH, F 1.1.1892, 2a — "Presently erecting one of the most massive steam-hammers in Scotland": the need to be able to make bigger castings has been caused by the increasing power and weight of steam-ship engines.

KILMARNOCK FOUNDRY

AA, Th 1.1.1807, 4c — To be sold 23.1.1807 in John Bryan's. Details from Archibald Finnie, junior, manager at the works.

AA, Th 16.3.1809, 1c — KILMARNOCK FOUNDERY AND PLATING FORGE, FOR SALE.

There will be sold by public roup, within the Sun Inn, Kilmarnock, on Friday the 7th of April next, betwixt the hours of one and two o'clock afternoon,

The Whole HOUSES, MACHINERY and other Property, belonging to the KILMARNOCK FOUNDERY COMPANY, consisting principally of the following Articles, viz - One House for the Foundery and Forge, stone, covered with tile, containing in the south end an Air Furnace, with a Stack 40 feet or thereby; a Cupola, with a double blowing Cylinder, Water Regulator, &c., moved by a water Wheel of 16 feet diameter, by 2 feet 6 inches in the rim. In the north end, a Plating or Tile Hammer, Harnish, Anvils and Block, moved by the same Water Wheel; a pair of large Bellows and Grindstone, moved by a smaller Wheel, of 9 feet diameter, by 18 inches in the rim. A Dressing Shop, on the east side of the same, containing bellows, Anvil, Vice, &c.

These Buildings, with three Roods of Land, or thereby, are held by lease from the Marquis of Titchfield, for 30 years, from Whitsunday 1802, at £10 of rent, and an obligation to take the works on valuation at the end of the lease.

ALSO,

A Range of DWELLING HOUSES, consisting of four low Rooms and Garrets, with a Stable and Cart House adjoining, all finished: two of the Rooms for the accommodation of the Manager, and the remainder occupied by the workmen.

These last are held in feu from the Town of Kilmarnock, with about six falls of Ground, at 5s yearly.

From which general enumeration of the property of said Company are excepted, the outstanding Debts due them, and sundry articles, contained in a list to be signed by the manager, and which will be exposed to Public Roup, on the premises, the day succeeding said Roup.

As this property will positively be sold, the upset price is fixed as low as £300. And for the accommodation of a purchaser, a liberal credit will be given, as expressed in the Article of Roup. The purchaser's entry to commence at Whitsunday next.

The property will be shown by Mr Finnie, Kilmarnock, and from whom, or Mr Alexander Jamie, writer in Kilmarnock, any farther information may be learned.

Kilmarnock, 13th March 1809.

n.r. Kilmarnock Foundery Co dissolved at Whit 1809 (William Stewart, merchant, Ayr; John Guthrie, Kilmarnock; Archibald Finnie, Kilmarnock)

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e [Kilmarnock flood, 14th July 1852]. '… the Foundry was the first building which it caught, a portion of which was destroyed' It isn't specifically stated but there is a strong presumption that the boiler that was carried down to near St Marnock's Bridge came from the foundry.

KWP 20.7.1861 George Miller, late manager, K/k Foundry, has taken over, on own account, engineering works at Irvine Quay.

LACE FACTORIES see also BELFORD MILL

LACE FACTORY, Lawson Street

Hume 431372. Founded c.1880 by W E & F Dobson. A 4 storey, 7 by 4 bay corner block with a bowed end, and a 3 storey 9 bay building. The 4 storey section has a tall ground floor for the lace looms. Both buildings are yellow brick, with segmental arched windows.

LACE FACTORY, Tannock Street

AA, Th 5.9.1907 Den of Guild, last Monday: Lace Factory, Tannock Street, approved for Alexander Smith & Co Ltd.

=?

D 1923-1925 and 1933-1936 Alexander Smith, Brown & Co., madras and tapestry, &c., manufacturers, Howard Mills, Tannock Street.

LANG, Thomas, nursery and seedsman

EG, 12.11.1852, 957a In sequestration.

LESLIE & CO

BI 74/868 July 1962 Tenders accepted - concrete framed STORE, for Leslie & Co., 206 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. **Shingler & Risdon**, London WC1, architects.

LOANHEAD MILL

Hume 431372. Late C19. A group of 2 and 3 storey yellow brick buildings, of which the most interesting is a 3-storey, 4 bay block, with a centre gabled feature.

D 1923-1925 and D 1933-1936 John Lawson & Sons Ltd., woollen and cotton manufacturers, Loanhead Mill.

LONGPARK POTTERY

BOTTLE KILNS

Hume Late C19-Early C20. Two bottle kilns, with square brick base reinforced by rolled steel joists, a cylindrical section reinforced by steel bands, a tapering section and a cap with alternate courses of red and white bricks.

LORENY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

KTC, TPC 30.6.1971 Chief Planning Officer has prepared a layout plan of the land to the north of the Glacier Metal Social Club.

KTC 5.5.1972 Changes to development plan. 12.34 acres rezoned from senior school to industrial. [See ref for details]

MITCHELLS & STRUTHERS LTD

KTC, DOG 26.3.1973 Plan 1209, 73/35, depot, Loreny, for Mitchells & Struthers Ltd.

KTC, DoGC 25.2.1974 Plan 1344, 74/24, depot, Loreny, for Mitchells & Struthers Ltd.

SECURICOR

KTC, DOG 24.9.1973 — Plan 1165, depot, No. 7 Loreny, for Securicor.

TOM PALMER

KTC, DOG 29.10.1973 — Plan 1300, depot, &c., No.12, Loreny, for Tom Palmer & Co.

SECURICOR

KTC, TPC 24.11.1971 — Application 71/248, warehouse, &c., Plot 7, for Securicor Ltd.

LOVAT WORKS, New Mill Road

AP, F 21.1.1949, 11e — For sale, by Trumek Ltd (191-193 London Road, Kingston upon Thames).

MACADAM — See GREENHOLM PRINTWORK

MUSLIN PRINTER

Pigot, 1837, 267 — Jane Bowie, muslin printer and baby linen manufacturer.

NETHERTON IRONWORKS

E, 6.12.1946, 527c — Catalogue received. Barr, Thomson & Co., Netherton Ironworks. Illustrated booklet describing mild steel pressed and fabricated bends and elbows.

NETHERTONHOLM MILLS, 1-3 High Glencairn Street

KS 8.5.1886 — Formal opening of addition (warehouse and showrooms) to Nethertonholm Mills for Baillie Carnie. Frontages to West Netherton Street and High Glencairn Street. Architect: **Bell**?, and nb that 'Mr **Ingram'** was present and sang.

KS, Sa 22.3.1924, 5fg — Jubilee of the Netherton Mills (John Carnie & Sons). Photocopy herewith.

OFFICES (2-4, on other side of road)

KS, Sa 22.3.1924, 5fg — **Valentine**, architect.

NEW MILL

Hume — 438372. Early C19. A 3 storey and attic, 7 bay rubble building, with a large kiln, forming an L with the main range. Now gutted and used as a store.

NEW MILL ROAD, Premises

KH, F 25.3.1892, 2c — To sell or let, premises in New Mill Road, recently occupied by J & J Blair as electrical engineering and chemical works. Frontages of 110' to New Mill Road, and 101' to the Irvine.

NURSERY MILL, West Netherton [FERGUSONS' STEAM LOOM FACTORY]

KWP 12.6.1858 — Article on Fergusons' power-loom factory, West Netherton. Opened 1855. Details.

KWP 29.12.1860 — Extension to power loom factory, West Netherton, for Ferguson & Co.

KWP, 17.12.1864, 4c — New chimney stalk finished this week at Ferguson's Power-loom factory, West Netherton. 134' high, using 40,000 bricks supplied by Messrs J & M Craig. Built by **John Loudoun**.

ASH, Sa 27.2.1869, 8b — Contracts have been let for big extension to Fergusons' steam loom factory, East Netherton. **Matthew Muir**, builder; **Holm Foundry Co**., cast iron work.

AA 4.3.1869 — Large extension is proposed. Matthew Muir, mason.

KS 6.3.1869 — T & J Ferguson's Nursery Mill, West Netherton, is to be greatly extended, with 700 additional looms. Mason work: Matthew Muir. Iron work: Blackwood, Holm Foundry. Joiner: Scott, Dundonald Road. Glazing: R C Robertson. Slating: Campbell.

KS, Sa 12.11.1870, 2h — Ref in Sheriff Court case to extension, 1869-70, to the Nursery Mills of T & J Ferguson, power loom manufacturers.

AA, Th 13.1.1876, 5a — Accident here. See ref.

KS, Sa 10.7.1880 — Single storey weaving sheds of Messrs T & J Ferguson. Built in **1854**, with large addition in **1869**. Plans of Thomas Ferguson, junior.

KS, 7.1.1888 — James Ferguson, founder of Nursery Mills, died 1.1.1888, in 73rd year. Born at Catrine. Began Nursery Mills in 1854 with his brother Thomas, with 80 looms. Doubled by extension of 1869. Thomas died in 1879. James Ferguson is also partner in Derwent Ironworks, Workington.

D 1923-1925 and D 1933-1936 — T & J Ferguson, woollen and cotton manufacturers, Nursery Mills

OLD FOUNDRY

Kilmarnock Cuttings, p.2, also p.74 — On site of Andrew's Mill.

ORR, James, machine maker and engineer, Kilmarnock

EG, F 19.2.1869, 222b, 223a — In sequestration.

OSSINGTON FACTORY

EG, Tu 22.3.1892, 438b — Gebbie, Mitchell & Co., lace manufacturers, dissolved 10th March 1892 by retiral of Thomas Mitchell.

EG, Tu 22.3.1892, 438b — Remaining partners - Archibald Barr, John Goudie, John Howie and John Gebbie - continue as John Gebbie & Co.

PEACE AND PLENTY COAL WORK

AA, Th 9.5.1839, 1e — Contractors wanted for pedestal and stalks, Peace and Plenty Coal Work.

PORTLAND FORGE, Forge Road

Sas Abr 2498, 1867 — 1867 Feu Disp to Portland Forge Co (William Ramsay, junior, bldr - Thomas Barbour, clerk - Duncan Gilmour, engineer) of 2R 21P 22Y on North side of Forge Street.

EG, Tu 10.5.1892, 621b — Ref to John Manson Ramsay, 2nd son of WR, builder, as a partner in Portland Forge Co.

PORTLAND PRINT WORKS

AA, Th 19.5.1864, 1d — Plant, &c., for sale, by virtue of a sheriff's warrant. PHOTOCOPY herewith.

PRESERVE FACTORY

KS 7.2.1891 — New preserve factory being built in Low Glencairn Street (adjoining Burns Inn), on back land - for Messrs Smith & Munro. 150' by 115', one storey. **Gabriel Andrew**, architect. [See also 35-53 Low Glencairn Street in Streets files]

PRINTFIELD, GREENHOLM — See GREENHOLM PRINTFIELD

PRINTWORKS — See also DEFIANCE PRINT WORKS

PRINTWORKS

(EG) — Dissolved, 18.5.1860. John Templeton & Co., plaid and shawl printers, Burnside, Kilmarnock. Partners were John Templeton, David Templeton, Robert Templeton and James Paton. No continuation of business.

PRINTWORKS (WORSTED SHAWL PRINTING)

McKay, 5th ed., 1909, 252 — Introduced at Greenholm c.1824.
Kilmarnock Cuttings, p.11 — List of shawl manufacturers

PRINTWORK
AA, Th 21.1.1828, 1d — The partnership of Thomas Niell & Co, shawl printers (Thomas Niell, George Young) was dissolved, by mutual consent, 12th February 1828.

PRINTWORK
AA, Th 12.5.1831, 4d — Died, Barrhead, 28.4.1831, W Fawlds, a partner in Anderson, McGregor & Co., worsted shawl printers, Kilmarnock.

PRINTWORK
AO, Tu 5.2.1833, 1b — For sale, by virtue of a warrant, the property of William Houston & Co., manufacturers, Kilmarnock. Business of dyeing and printing cloth.

PRINTWORK
EG 5515, F 27.2.1846, 76b — George Ross, calico printer, Kilmarnock. In sequestration. John Howie, wool merchant, Kilmarnock, Trustee. Dividend postponed.

PRINTWORK, GLENFIELD
KWP 15.10.1864 — For sale. Recently tenanted by Bavaird, McLean & Co., shawl printers.

PRINTWORK, MENFORD
Seq, 1860 — Merry, McGregor & Co.
Sas Abr 1255, 1862 — Disponed by James Blackwood, junior, carpet manufacturer, Kilmarnock, and by John Aitken, draper Kilmarnock [JA with consent of James Brown of Bellsbrae, formerly a partner in Brown, Merry, McGregor & Co., calico printers, Kilmarnock, and presently the Trustee &c on the seq. est of Merry, McGregor & Co., calico printers] - to Samuel Hegginbotham, calico printer, Glasgow.
[Merry: John Merry, junior; McGregor: Peter McGregor]
Sas Abr 5645 & 5646, 1883. — Appear to show that this p.o.g was disponed in 1862 by Hegginbotham to James Blackwood, junior and Robert Blackwood, junior, carpet manufacturers, and that in 1883 a bigger area of ground, including this, was sold by JB and RB to James Blackwood alone.

PRINTWORK (YOUNGS')
KWP, 26.11.1859 — [Printworks, East Shaw Street, south or river side]. Originally possessed by Neil & Yorston, presently possessed by John Wallace, calico printer. For sale.
ASH, Sa 11.7.1868, 8b — Understood that J & P Coats, thread manufacturers, Paisley, have leased buildings on river Irvine, "long occupied by the Messrs Young as a printwork", for a thread manufactory.

REFUSE DESTRUCTOR
AP, F 11.9.1931 — Refuse destructor at Riverbank formally opened last Saturday.

RICCARTON FOUNDRY
AA, Th 2.2.1871, 8c — Messrs Hillhouse & Murray have opened Riccarton Foundry, for the production of iron castings.

RICHARDLAND BREWERY
Hume — Early C19. A group of 1 and 2 storey buildings round a courtyard, with a truncated pyramidal-roofed kiln. Now a skinworks.

RITCHIE'S PAPER PRODUCTS

History

Ex inf Neil Dickson — The early history of the business is explored in J A H Dempster, Aspects of Brethren publishing enterprise in late nineteenth century Scotland, in Publishing History 20, 1986, pp 61-101.

Buildings

CO 3/9/3/295 SVR 1965-66 — Factory, Hurlford Road, for Ritchies Paper Products Ltd. 15.8.1965.

Dick Folder 127 — 1965.

RIVERBANK ENGINE WORKS

ASH, Sa 24.8.1872, 8c — First locomotive built here sent away last Friday: Barclays & Co.

RIVERBANK PRINTWORKS

Hume — 434373. Early C19. A 2 storey and attic, 2 by 8 bay coursed rubble building, with iron framed window.

ST MARNOCK'S MILL, Waterside Street

AA, Th 26.11.1840, 1b — St Marnock Flour Corn and Barley Mills. To let. "The mills are newly erected."

AA, Th 21.1.1864, 5a — Destroyed by fire, 19 January 1864. Tenant: Gavin Scoular.

AA, Th 3.3.1864, 1f — For sale, the millstones that have been saved.

SAXONE SHOE CO., Mill Street

B 17.6.1955 — Building, Mill Street, proposed for Saxone Shoe Co: **James Hay & Steel**.

SAXONE SHOE CO, 87-89 Titchfield Street

n.r. — Clark & Co established 1820, shoe manufacturers. British retail outlets from 1887. F & G Abbott Ltd established 1902, a shoe retailer, mainly dealing with Clark's, and using Saxone as a brand-name for American-style men's shoes. Merged 1908 to form Saxone Shie Co Ltd (George Clark, George Sutherland Abbott joint mds. Clark died 1937, Abbott 1940. 1956 merged with Lilley & Skinner to form Saxone Lilley & Skinner - acquired in 1962 by British Shoe Corporation. Stores closed or sold 1996. Brand Saxone now owned by Barratts of Bradford.

KS 29.4.1876 — Has report of visit to Clark's shoe factory.

Dick Folder 123 — Big Fire at Clark's, Titchfield Street, March 1904.

1904 BUILDING

Hume — 427372. ca.1908 and later. A group of 2, 3 and 4 storey buildings, the block facing the street being 4-storeyed, 5 bay. The river frontage consists of 3 storey, 4 bay; 2 storey and attic 17 bay; 3 storey 15 bay; 3 storey, 10 bay; and 4 storey 14 bay buildings, all yellow brick, with a water tower.

B 20.2.1931 — Proposed additions and extensions, 89 Titchfield Street, for Saxone Shoe Co. **James S Hay & Steel**, Kilmarnock, architects.

KTC, DoGC 25.1.1960 — 4109, extension, Douglas Street, for Saxone Shoe Co Ltd.

KTC, TPC 27.1.1960 — 60/13, demolition of condemned cottages 5-9 Douglas Street and erection of extension to existing tabulating buildings.

AP, F 25.3.1977, 29 — Photograph of demolition.

COMPANY HISTORY

Dick Institute Display, 2011 — George Clark, born c.1757 Hamilton. Soldier, shoemaker, settled in Kilmarnock, 1789. Sons Thomas and James associated with him in the business. In 1840, through contact with Walkers, who had a boat loaded with whisky going there, a consignment of shoes was sent to Brazil. By 1900 they had 40 shops in Brazil, and a factory was opened

in Sao Paolo. This had an effect on trade at the Kilmarnock factory, which was compounded by a fire there in the 1900s, and in 1908 the Clarks joined with F & G Abbott Ltd., of Northampton, who were employed by Manfields, but who agreed to move north, to form The Saxone Shoe Company. The Kilmarnock factory output became their men's range.

SHAWL AND PLAID MANUFACTURERS

Pigot, 1837, 266 — Anderson, McGregor & Co., Menford Lane; John Andrew, Wellington Street; Bicket & Young, 104 King Street; James Bicket, Wellington Street; Dick & Kerr, Ladeside; William Geddes, Welbeck; James Laughland sen., 6 West Shaw Street; James Logan, Titchfield Street; Thomas Neil, East Shaw Street; Robert Templeton, Burnside printfield; Wardrop & Hall, Low Glencairn; Young, Glassford & Co., East Shaw Street.

Card Index — James SAMSON, died 18.10.1851.

SMITH BROTHERS (KILMARNOCK) LTD

Glenalmond Register — Allan John MUIR, MD 1960-84, was at Glenalmond 1939-43. His son, Kenneth Ronald, b 6/1960, G 1973-78 was (1985) sales executive with the firm.

SPINNERS (WOOL)

Pigot, 1837, p.267 — Robert & James Blackwood, Menford Lane; James Brown, Braeside; William Wyllie, Welbeck Street.

SPINNING MILL

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the MESSRS J & J BLACKWOOD, SPINNERS, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; Jamieson, dyer; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; Crooks, tanner; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

SPINNING MILL, (Townholm/Menford?)

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'The spinning mills of Messrs Laighland, Gilchrist, Roxburgh & Co next received the raging elements and the appearance they presented after the subsidence of their assailant was lamentable in the extreme. Large machines had fairly been lifted up, and turned topsy-turvy.'

SPINNING MILL, Lawson Street

GH, Tu 29.4.1958, 9b — Spinning Mill, Lawson Street, costing £10,000, for Blackwood, Morton & Sons Ltd., approved yesterday by Dean of Guild Court.

SPINNING MILL, Menford Lane

TT, F 24.3.1899, 8b — Hugh Wilson & Sons. Destroyed by fire on Wednesday.

TANNERY

GCt, 9.10.1758, 3a — To sell. The Tanwork of Kilmarnock. Description.

TANNERY

AA, 30.8.1804, 1d — To sell. High Tanwork of Kilmarnock, 'with the dwelling housesm currying shop, bark mill, sheds and the whole utensils. P.p. by Matthew Wyllie, Andrew Crooks and others.

TANNERY, Fore Street

KWP, 1.10.1864, 1c — Property of late Robert Cumming, being rouped (along with his house in Titchfield Street, &c), 21.10.1865. Has 60 - 70 pits, machinery, &c - also houses.

TANNERY, Menford

AA, Th 14.8.1806, 1e — For sale. House, &c., on north side of Menford ... also houses 'with the tan, steep and pour holes', lately belonging to late Hugh Thomson, skinner.

=?

AA, Th 15.7.1852, 4e — [Kilmarnock flood of 14th July 1852] 'To these might be added the loss sustained at their respective works, &c., on the water course by the Messrs J & J Blackwood, spinners, Wilson, carpet manufacturer; Jamieson, dyer; John Reyburn & Son, bonnet maker; CROOKS, TANNER; Gregory, Thomson & Co., carpet manufacturers; Brown McLaren & Co., carpet manufacturers.'

=?

EG 10259, F 29.5.1891, 573a — William Muir & sons, tanners, &c., Kilmarnock. John Limont Muir retires; Robert Muir and George Muir continue.

TITCHFIELD FOUNDRY,

Hume [Caledonia Works] — Also included in the complex is the former Titchfield foundry, a long single storey rubble building, lit at 2 levels, with rubble and corrugated iron additions.

EG 5591, Tu 17.11.1846, 557a — "McDowall, McCulloch & Urr" and "Titchfield Foundry Co.", engineers, boiler makers and founders, dissolved 26.10.1846. John McDowall, Thomas McCulloch, William Urr.

KWP, Sa 19.2.1859, 8b — Article: "Mr Barclay's Works: The Titchfield Foundry". Acquired by Barclay to augment/replace foundry in Caledonian Works. Description.

TOWNHOLM

BI 31/364 July 1920 — Plans passed. Alter and erect buildings, Townholm, for Alex A Marwick. Mr Ford, architect.

TOWNHEAD MILLS

See also BLACKWOOD BROTHERS

Hume — 432383. Late C19. A group of buildings of various dates, including a 4-storey 5 by 8 bay red and white brick building, with 3 semi-circular windows in the top floor, and a similar 6 bay block facing the river.

ASH, Sa 1.2.1862, 3d — PRINTWORK, TOWNHEAD, occupied by Samuel Higginbotham, printer, and sold for £246 to James Blackwood, junior, carpet manufacturer.

AA, Th 13.10.1898, 8d — Advert for Gemmill & Dunsmore, Townholm Mills, buying wool, and advertising as manufacturers of woollen goods, tweeds, serges, blankets, &c. Established in 1844 (but not here?)

TOWNHOLM MACHINE WORKS

Hume — 433387. Founded c.1844 by George Caldwell, but most famous from c.1877 in the hands of Grant, Ritchie & Co., engineers. A large single storey, 26 bay, yellow brick engineering shop now harled and used as a warehouse. This was lit at 2 levels by round headed windows. To the north are the cutdown remains of a much older 2-storey rubble block.

ASH, Sa 13.1.1872, 1b — Sale, F2.2., of "Machine Works [Townholm] lately occupied by Kennedy's Patent Water Meter Co Ltd". Works and dwelling houses valued at £820, but upset set at £550.

ASH, Sa 10.2.1872, 8b — Sold for £550 to Alexander Robertson, for the Forge Co.
BI 62/725 August 1950 — Reconstruction, Townholm Woollen Mills; **Kelvin Construction Co**., Glasgow.

TOWNHOLM ROPEWORKS
KS, 24.7.1880

In our notice of the Townholm industries last week we omitted to mention the ropespinning works of Messrs D & D Ritchie. The existence of such an industry there had escaped our attention, and most of our readers will now hear of it for the first time. Nevertheless, it appears that ropespinning in the Townholm has been almost co-existent with foundry and forging work, as we have it from an old residenter that he turned there some sixty years ago. However, half-a-century back it was removed to Langlands Brae, where the walk, knownas Thomson's, was occupied till 1873. The railway company then requiring the ground, the work was removed back to its old place by the Messrs Ritchie. Like other industries, changes have come over the *modus operandi* of ropespinning. Except in heavy ropes the spinning is rarely done from the tow but from flax yarn, which is got chiefly from Leeds. The walk is about 180 yards long, and there are in all five wheels, three for twine and two for rope. The twine made varies from the very finest, used chiefly in the manufacture of Nottingham lace, to harness twine used in carpet machines - the last named being the staple work of the firm. The thickest rope made is what is called five-inch. The main alterations on the twine spinning have arisen from improvements on the wheel. In olden time each wheel had only one hand and spun only one thread. Afterwards, two whorls were used, and then four. Ultimately, by the exertions of Mr Ritchie, senior, a single band of ten fathoms or sixty feet is ingeniously made to move sixteen whorls to each of whcih a thread is attached. The yarn comes in the form of the yarn of a weavers' web, and the threads are taken from this and attached to the end and twined. In ordinary harness twine the cord is six-ply: tnat is, two threads are twined together, and three of these make a cord; the tripling being down [sic: done] by a very simple process. After it is twined it is steeped in water, passed through a twisted cord, then dried, sized, and finally passed through a similar cord of horse hair. This gives it a skin and a hardness and makes it ready for the market. Some idea of the value of the improvement made on the mode of spinning by Mr Ritchie may be gathered from the fact that, in consequence of this increased quantity that can be produced, harness-twine which used to be sold at 3s 6d per lb, is now sold at 2s 6d. The twine is sent by the Messrs Ritchie to all parts of Scotland and England. Besides the twine and ropespinning the company are 'hecklers', and the only ones in this part of the country.

TOWNHOLM SPINNING Co Ltd
KWP 28.3.1863 For sale, woolmill, &c., Townholm.
KTC, DoGC 29.8.1960 — 4166. Addition.

VICTORIA SPINNING MILLS, Riverbank
KH, F 8.6.1883, 2f — Bailie Alexander Douglas died Saturday last [2.6.1883, aged 56]. A native of Penninghame, Wigtownshire, he came to Kilmarnock about 22 years ago as a partner in Douglas Reyburn & Co., bonnet-makers, "but lately he established the Victoria Spinning Mills on the banks of the Irvine, which have proved highly successful". Also a member of A & W Douglas, woollen manufacturers.
D 1933-1936 — Blackwood Morton & Sons Ltd, spinners, Victoria Mills

VULCAN FOUNDRY

Hume	424383. Mid C19. A tall single storey rubble building, 16 bays long, with a large arched doorway. At one end is a 2 storey 3 bay office block. Now a wool store.
Wear, 328	In June 1847 Thomas McCulloch acquired land from Portland, and built the Vulcan Works on north side of West Langlands Street, and transferred his business from Portland Street.
Wear, 329	Extension, further north (see map Wear, 328) in 1864.
Wear, 329	McCulloch died 27 March 1866, and business continued by sons as Thomas McCulloch & Sons
AA, Th 1.1.1874, 5e	Refers to an accident at T McCulloch & Sons Engine Works, Kilmarnock, "where extensive alterations are at present in progress.
Wear, 339	May 1889 became McCulloch Sons & Kennedy Ltd (and T McCulloch junior now concentrated mainly on Grange Foundry), with as leading figure Rankin Kennedy, an electrical engineer.
Wear, 339	Business closed in May 1894. Property sold to Boyd & Forrest, who built houses on the site of the extension.
Wear, 340	Various subsequent uses. Part was used for several years by the Border Wool Co as a storage depot but these buildings have been demolished and the ground is now (1977) derelict.

See also (Card inex), John Currie

WALKERS

COMPANY HISTORY

nr	John Walker's wife was Elizabeth Purvis. Children: Alexander, Margaret, Robert, Elizabeth, John.
KS, Sa 15.10.1870, 1c	John Walker & Sons about to move to shop at corner of Croft Street and Portland Street, lately occupied as part of the Black Bull - 'large and specifically fitted-up premises'.
KH, F 20.1.1911, 5e	John Walker & Sons became a limited company on 12.11.1886. [Transfer of assets from partners in old company to the limited company is recorded as a Sasine Abridgement in 1886.]
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	1886, limited company. George Paterson Walker and John Walker, sons of Alexander Walker, joined board.
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	1889, Alexander Walker died, and his 3rd son, also Alexander Walker joined board.
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	1890, James Stevenson joined board. Stevenson & Alexander Walker ygr responsible for development of business. Stevenson made a Bt in 1917.
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	1925, new company
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	present management. Chairman, R S Cumming; M.D., Harry M Braid; Sales Director, Scotland, James Braid; Production Director, George Thomson. The Braids are sons of the golfer James Braid.

"JOHNNIE WALKER"

AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	1908: introduced. Design by Tom Brown.

HILL STREET

AP, 5.5.1939	Duty free warehouse, Hill Street, for Walkers, passed Dean of Guild Court on Monday. First phase of centralising production on new site in Hill Street.
nr	First buildings in Hill Street begun in 1939 and completed in 1940.
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	Modernisation and extension began in 1938, and a large and 2 small buildings were completed during the war, when site was used as Scottish Command Food Depot No.1
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7	Work began again in 1951.

nr		Bottling Hall, &c., formally opened in September 1956. It has barrel-vaulted roof. [Dick Folder 125A/B says built 1939/1951-56]
BI 69/813	December 1957	Tenders accepted - Warehouses, Strandhead, J Walker & Sons Ltd. Architects: Distillers Co Ltd Engineering Division.
KTC, DoGC 24.10.1960		4193. Office (£62920), HS, for John Walker & Sons Ltd. Approved, DoGC 28.11.1960, and approved by TPC (60/224) 26.10.1960.
AP, F 3.8.1962, 6-7		New Bottling Hall will be completed in next couple of months
AP, F 26.2.1968, 2		Princess Alexandra will formally open, Friday 10th May 1968, the new blending plant at Barleith (qv), and also the new bottling hall and plant at Hill Street.
SF, June 1968		Princess Alexandra visited Kilmarnock last month, May 1968, to open a new extension at John Walker & Sons Ltd's whisky plant.
Building Warrant 745, 11.8.1969		Offices at 17-19 Hill Street for John Walker & Sons Ltd. [Is this EA offices?]
KTC, DoGC 23.8.1971		Warrant 1008, alterations and change of use from Recreation Hall to offices, Hill Street.
nr		Post-war illustration herewith.
n.r.		Final bottling run was 23rd March 2012.

PEOPLE

Fl Feb 1908 (EG ref)	Joseph McFARLANE, secretary, John Walker & Son Ltd.
Journal of Scottish Society for Art History, 21, 2016-17 (Phillip Kelleway, The Zinkeisen Sisters and Celebrity Culture, pp27-34), p.29	Doris Clare Zinkeisen (1897 Clynder - 1991). Artist, seems to have lived latterly at White House, Badingham, Suffolk. In 1927 married Edward Grahame Johnstone, a director Walkers.

WATSON, HUNTER & WATSON, engineers, Kilmarnock

EG, Tu 24.8.1869, 1057a	Dissolved, by mutual consent, 11th August 1869. John Watson senior - John Hunter - John Watson junior.

WELBECK PRINTWORKS, Welbeck Street

Sas Abr 933 of 1861	Welbeck Print Works, 1R 26F 25E on W side of Welbeck Street, and also 20F 12E. Disponed 1861 by Humphrey, McIntyre & Co., shawl and plaid printers [George Humphrey, James McIntyre, James Little, James Kerr and William Campbell, surviving partners] - to James McIntyre & Co., shawl and plaid printers [the said James McIntyre, James Kerr and William Campbell, partners] 430.3
Sas Abr 3368 of 1867	Disponed by Humphrey McIntyre & Co, shawl printers [James McIntyre, James Kerr, William Campbell, George Humphrey & James Little] - to McLean, Campbell & Kerr, shawl printers [Peter McLean - William Campbell - James Kerr]
EG 7804, F 6.12.1867, 1451b	James McIntyre & Co dissolved, m.c., 2.12.1867. Partners were James McIntyre, William Campbell, James Kerr, Peter McLean.
Sas Abr 6276 of 1884	Disponed by William Campbell & Co, cloth printers [Peter McLean: William Campbell] - to William Campbell & Co, cloth printers [partners now James Wilson and Alexander Campbell]. 1/9.4.1884. 411.194.

WHISKY BONDS

List 100	Strand Street	c.1879 with later alterations. Bonded warehouse. Yellow brick with ashlar dressings and simple classical details. Long Strand Street range 1-6-1-6-1-8-1-8-1-8-1-8-1-6-1 bays and 3 curved corner bays. Croft Street elevation 1-6-1-6-1 and 3 curved corner bays, 3 storeys; 3 storeys and attic to single bays and to 6 northern bays in Strand Street, the angle bays and Croft Street; tower at gusset. Rusticated, arcaded,

ground floor with continuous cornice above [modern shop front to 22 south bays]. Single pavilion bays with giant, channelled pilasters. 1 stilted segmentally headed window in first floor, flat-headed in 2nd floor, triple pilastered and arcaded in attic bays, either pedimented or with bell-cast roofs. Remaining bays pilastraded with stilted segmentally headed windows in 1st floor, flat headed in second flanked by paired pilasters. Main modillion cirnice, blocking course. Pilastered attic to Croft Street and north part of Strand Street. Angle bays divided by giant pilasters, all windows with flat heads, balustraded above cornice. Tower with giant channelled pilasters and pilaster strips forming panels. No windows. escutcheon with coat of arms. Tal bell-cast roof. All window openings are barred and 2/3-bricked, except in 2nd floor at extreme south. All roofs slated. Built for Messrs John Walker. CS.

Hume — Late C19. Three large bonded stores. One is a 3 storey 14 by 4 bay terracotta brickfaced block, with red sandstone dressings. The others, in French Renaissance style, are a 3-storey building, with rusticated grey sandstone ground floor, with round-headed openings, and white brick upper floors, with arcades on the first floor and pairs of pilasters on the 2nd floor; and a similar, particularly fine, 4 storey block, with a rounded end and frontages to 2 streets.

ASH, Sa 23.8.1873, 5a — Walkers have just opened a new Bond in Croft Street “adjoining the Commercial Inn”.

KS, 8.2.1879; AA 13.2.1879; SS 15.2.1879 [Copy of KS in Dick Folder 125A]

Bonded Warehouse, Strand Street. 62’ frontage to Strand Street for John Walker & Son; architect: **Gabriel Andrew**, East George Street, Kilmarnock.

AA, 5.9.1889 — Walkers are in process of clearing away the other side of Strand Street to make way for further stores, &c.

KTC, DOG 28.8.1972 — Plan 1127. Alterations to whisky bond, Strand Street, for Andrew Hay & Co Ltd., £20,000.

KTC, DOG 26.12.1972 — Plan 1185. Alterations and change of use, part whisky bond, for A Goldberg & Sons Ltd., £40,000.

EAC Planning 10/0368/LB — amendement to plan 09/0637/LB: conversion to offices for East Ayrshire Council. **i10 Design**, 2/4, 135 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. Conbtact: Andrew Fisher.

AP, F 1.4.2011 — Notice that Planning & Economic Development offices will re-open, here (ex Croft Street and Lugar), 11th April 2011.

WITCHKNOWE CREAMERY

B 9.12.1932 — Proposed creamery for SCWS.

AP, 22.12.1933 — Witchknowe Creamery, Riccarton, formally opened last Saturday. SCWS.

WOOLLEN MILL, Braeside Street

AA, Th 31.10.1839, 3d — Reference to Woollen Mill of Brown & Lauder, Braeside Street.

YOUNG, GLASSFORD & CO., Calico printers

EG 5345, F 19.7.1844, 245c — Dissolved, 13th July 1844, Young, Glassford & Co., calico printers, Glasgow, Kilmarnock, London and Manchester.

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