SORN PARISH CHURCH

List 1 [echoing Hay, 55]		1658; much reconstructed 1826. Retains the forestairs to the lofts, but nearly all of its features date from the extensive renovation. Ref: Hay, 55, 235, 240, 250. B.
AANHS, 5, 267		1656.
Chalmers, 1825, II, 520		Parish detached from Mauchline, 1656. It was called Dalgain Parish, by usage it has become known as Sorn Parish. OSA lists it as Sorn but says its correct name is Dalgain.
FES, III, 67		Parish disjoined 1656. New parish of Dalgain erected in 1692.
Steven, 1898		Built of the abundant sandstone of the district, greyish pink in colour. Built 1658: galleries 1788: reseated and roof raised 1826.
Chalmers, 1825, III		Built after 1692, when minister was ordained.
FES, III, 67		Built in 1658
Hay, 1957, 55		Built in 1658. One of the few churches of Cromwellian period built in Scotland. Retains forestairs to its three lofts but most features date from renovation in 1826.
3SA, 1951, 690		Jougs still hang from wall. [Hay, 240: Jougs still to be seen].
1SA, VI, 525		Built in 1656. Stone in church gives date of erection as 1656.
nr		1702, church divided - loft to be built.
Paterson, 1852, II, 421		Kirk Session records of 30.10.1702. Earl of Loudoun's aisle was 'determined' and Dalgain given 3 pews south of pulpit, and so on. resolved to erect lofts in the church.
nr		1726, loft built.
1SA, VI, 546	[1797]	Interior repaired 10 years ago. Reseated and three galleries inserted.
AA, Th 12.2.1807, 1a		Contractor wanted to rebuild offices and repair church and manse. Details: Adam Smith, parish schoolmaster.
CH 2/177/1	10.4.1823	Briggs seat was erected in 1814.
CH 2/177/1	10.4.1823	New window to be made in aisle provided it does not injure church. Seating altered. Craigengillan seat to be put up at rear of Briggs's seat, which is now to be reduced in height by 2 feet.
NSA, V, 144		Thoroughly repaired c.1825-1826 - see Hay. 50 additional seats. Total sittings now 611.
CH 2/177/1	18.8.1825	Walls of church raised. New roof put on and floor height raised and floor renewed. Walls to have three coats of plaster and windows to be Gothic-arched. Pulpit, if not too old, and Precentor's desk to be raised, repaired and painted. 2 additional rows of seats made in Gilmilnscroft and Dalgain lofts. Seated for 611. Beam over Sorn loft removed, 1826. [ibid, 28.7.1826].
CH 2/177/1	22.9.1825	Minister's door to be placed in centre between 2 large windows and the pulpit moved forward to leave passage, 2' 6" wide, at rear leading off to right; front door of pulpit to be beneath Sorn Loft. Contractor: **James Nimmo**, mason, paid 2 guineas for plans and specifications. He also designed the stair railings; **William Kay**, wright, Ochiltree. Superintendent of work: **James Paton**, architect, Ayr. To be completed by June 1826. Work began early March 1826. estimated cost £421. Completed 27.10.1826.
AA, 29.9.1825		Contractors wanted to heighten walls, renew roof and floor the area.
CH 2/177/2	26.2.1855	Memorial plaque to Harcourt Stewart, died 1854.
CH 2/177/2	15.8.1883	Church refloored and reseated. Auchmannoch door converted into a window. Contractor: **Alexander McCulloch**, wright, Sorn. Estimated cost £215. Final cost £314. Accounts settled 25.10.1884. Galleries reseated. Pulpit altered by congregation.
AA, Th 22.12.1892		Commemoration of 200 years as a parish church. Church built 1656, parish erected 1692. Handsome new silver communion service, 4 cups, 2 patons, designed from the 1617-1619 period of Scottish church plate

		and executed by Messrs Mackay & Chisholm, silversmiths, Edinburgh. 2 new stained glass windows have been presented - one by Mrs Somervell in memory of her late husband Graham Somervell, and her son Louis, killed at Tel-el-Kebir; the other by officers of the 78th Seaforth Highlanders in memory of Trevor Farquhar, who died in the Black Mountain expedition of 1888.
TT, F 10.12.1897, 5c		Letter. "I notice that the cardinal points of the spire on the newly-erected belfry of Catrine Church are set differently from those on the spire of the belfry of the Cotton Mill. As this is a little bewildering I shall esteem the favour if any of your Catrine readers can tell me if either is correctly set and, if so, which?"
CH 2/177/2	25.6.1910	Organ to be placed at south wall in position now occupied by pulpit. New pulpit to be erected at east end of platform. Platform enlarged. Seating altered. Organ gifted by T W McIntyre of Sorn. Architect: **H E Clifford**.
AA, Th 7.7.1910		Presbytery have approved of plans of new organ and pulpit. The old pulpit has been an eyesore since alterations in 1884.
AA, Th 15.12.1910		Organ, pulpit and communion table dedicated last Sunday. Pulpit and communion table are of Austrian fumed oak, design of **H E Clifford**. Organ, **Muir, Wood & Co**., Glasgow.
CH 2/532/21	25.2.1920	War Memorial design approved. Tablet.
CH 2/177/2	9.9.1922	Platform enlarged.
	STAINED GLASS	
CH 2/177/2	13.2.1889	Memorial window to Graham and Louis Somerville inserted in window to west of pulpit. Gift of Mrs Somervell of Sorn Castle.
AA, Th 22.12.1892		2 new stained glass windows have been presented - one by Mrs Somervell in memory of her late husband Graham Somervell, and her son Louis, killed at Tel-el-Kebir; the other by officers of the 78th Seaforth Highlanders in memory of Trevor Farquhar, who died in the Black Mountain expedition of 1888.
	BELL	
List 1		**Caird & Co**., Greenock, bell, 1826.
CH 2/177/1	18.10.1826	Bell gifted by Miss Somervell of Hamilton Farm and Sorn Castle.
	MORTSAFE	
Hay, 1957, 235		The mortsafe here had a detachable lid in two halves which were padlocked together.
	COVENANTING RELICS	
KS, Sa 29.3.1924, 3f		Noted that DRUM and HALBERD were used during the Sorn Races of 1924.
	CHURCHYARD	
List 1		Some interesting headstones.
Steven, 1898		There is a beautiful unique monument to the Rankens of Glenlogan, erected quite recently. It was designed in Australia and executed in Ayr.
CHURCH HALL [formerly DALGAIN MILL]		
	MILL	
AA, Th 22.1.1874, 5f		David McNay, miller, Dalgain Mill, died 14th January 1874, aged 75.
	HALL	
List 6		Slightly splayed on plan, restored, possibly C18. B. With 1-2 Ladeside Cottages forms 'picturesque group flanking northern approach to bridge'.
Hume		A 1-storey and attic rubble building, now gutted and used as a village hall.
AA, Th 29.12.1927		Dedicated last Wednesday as Church Hall. Converted from old mill. **William Niven**, factor, Sorn estate, architect.
KS, Sa 31.12.1927, 7e		New halls dedicated 21.12.1927.

MANSE, 3 Main Street

Steven	Built during time of Rev William Steel, 1736-1751. Slated 1 storey wing at west end added, 1752-1789. Equivalent east wing added after 1789. Rebuilt shortly after 2SA - study retained - oriel windows added by Dr Rankine, minister 1840s to 1880s.
AA, Th 12.2.1807, 1a	Contractor wanted to rebuild offices and repair church and manse. Details: Adam Smith, parish schoolmaster.
AA, Th 16.8.1810	Contractors, alterations, Sorn Manse.

CEMETERY

ACC Planning, A2945	November 1950. New cemetery, Sorn, for Ayr County Council.
ACC, Health Cttee 7.12.1950	Contractor to be J & W Brown & Sons Ltd, Muirkirk, £3433 18s 1d.
ACC Planning, A5172	October 1952. extension, also lavatories and toolshed, for Ayr County Council.
ACC, HhC 5.2.1953, 72	J & W Brown & Sons Ltd., Muirkirk, £3342 8s 5d.

POLICE STATION

County Constabulary, Annual Report, 1970	Closed 1st October 1970.

QUOITING GROUND

KS, Sa 10.5.1924, 3e	Formally opened last Saturday (3rd May 1924).

SORN SCHOOL, 14-16 Main Street

List 10	Pleasant symmetrical composition; 1 storey; centre low flat gabled projection has Palladian window and roof topped by wooden clock cupola; ashlar masonry of pink stone, occasional white stone headers; rustic porch to left, 2 gabled dormers above. B.
AA, Th 29.3.1849	Contractors - Sorn school and house.
KJ, 21.3.1850, 4c	'In course of completion, a commodious and elegant parochial schoolhouse, with a comfortable residence adjoining for the teacher ... the schoolhouse has the ornament of a steeple, and a clock with 3 dials, each ... 20" in diameter. Rather an usual [sic] thing with public clocks, these dials are covered with glass which ... must be reckoned an improvement'. Clock is by Breckenridge & Son, Kilmarnock.
AA, Th 3.9.1874	Contractors - school at Sorn - Sorn SB - William Railton, Kilmarnock. [Confirmed by CO 3/10/2/213 to be extension, 1873-1875, William Railton].
East Ayrshire list 2010	1900.
AA, Th 2.11.1911	Proposed additions and alterations, Mr Ingram, Kilmarnock. [Confirmed by CO 3/10/2/216 - addition, 1911-1913, Ingram & Brown]
CO 3/12/3/38 NBC 12.7.1912	Extension, Sorn Public School, for Sorn SB.
AP, 4.2.2011	To be refurbished and clock tower reinstated with spire as originally. Internal layout to be altered to be three (ex four) classrooms. PHOTOCOPY herewith.

SORN VILLAGE HALL, 16A Main Street

ACC, E (GP) SC 18.10.1951, 14	Scottish Home Department propose to erect one of their experimental village halls in Sorn. Local view is that the standard hall (with seats for 200) is no better than existing accommodation in village school. Committee agree to support local moves for a wider hall, capable of future extension if required.
ACC Planning, A5374	December 1952. Village Hall, adjacent to 16 Main St., for Sorn Village Hall Committee.

AA, Th 26.8.1954, 15a; AP, F 27.8.1954
Formally opened last Friday. **R G Lindsay**, County Architect, architect.

AA, CO 3/18/2/28 B7778 Rear extension. Stevenson & Ferguson, January 1962.

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