STAIR PARISH CHURCH [1]

Chalmers, 1825, III, 526		Parish formed out of Ochiltree in 1653 for convenience of Dalrymple of Stair. Church built near mansion house.
FES, III, 69		Disjoined from Ochiltree 9.7.1673; ratified 1690 and 1709.
RD 2/86/1, fol 281		Decreet of erection, recorded in 1702?
CH 2/532/2	18.10.1693	Built by Viscount Stair. [James, 1st Viscount, 1619-1695]
Paterson, 1852, ii, 434		Church was not built until 1706.
CH 2/532/3	13.3.1717	Kirk not sufficiently repaired (i.e. not completed). Lord Stair to attend to it.
CH 2/532/4	31.5.1722	Seats and lofts wanting. No bellhouse. Lord Stair asked to provide these.
1SA, VI, 576	[c.1791]	Lately repaired.
2SA, V, 647	nd	Reroofed and reseated, nd.
HR 556/2	2.2.1864	Demolished in 1864.

STAIR PARISH CHURCH [2]

List [P/BL/5/AR: June 1963] 1		Dated 1864; Gothic, 4 pointed windows, buttresses, bellcote; classical vestry. Ref: 3SA, 713-714. C.
McVie		Replaced the first church, built 1706, after Stair was disjoined from Ochiltree in 1653.
3SA, 1951, 714		Gothic; 350 sittings.
CH 2/532/15	4.2.1863	Church to be rebuilt on new site near the old church.
HR 556/2	2.2.1864	Plan of new church and vestry. Architect and inspector of works: Alexander, builder. Contractors: Sym, Ayr, mason; Milligan, joiner and plasterer; Highet, slater and plumber. estimated cost: £869 17s.
AA, Th 12.5.1864		Foundation stone laid last Friday. It is to be an elegant Gothic church on the site of the old. the architect is William Alexander, Ayr, of William Alexander & Sons.
AA, Th 1.12.1864		Formally opened last Saturday. Gothic door, lancets either side. Circular window with stained glass over pulpit.
KS, Sa 3.12.1864; ASH, Sa 3.12.1864, 3f		Opened 27.11.1864. [Barber, 2000, 12 erroneously gives date as Sabbath, 27.12.1864]
HR 556/2	11.1.1865	Sittings allocated.
ACC Planning Application C73		1963, 1964. Small extension to vestry.
	INTERIOR	
HR 556/2	16.7.1882	Seating altered, 1882. Precentor's Desk and seat removed from church.
AA, Th 25.11.1886		Memorial tablet to William Miller erected 20.11.1886. Designed and erected by William Fraser, Dean Path, Edinburgh, monumental mason. It is of black fossil marble, and placed within a border of white Sicilian marble, namely a base supporting upon pilasters a cornice; the latter is surmounted by a Gothic shaped ground of black marble bearing a crest and motto.
HR 556/2	23.5.1892	1892. Platform extended.
HR 556/3	25.1.1904	1904, Organ introduced and pulpit altered. Sounding board removed from pulpit, and pulpit moved forward 4'6" from the wall to make room for the new organ.
AA, Th 30.7.1904		Organ has been erected over last few weeks. Ingram & Co., Edinburgh and London.
AA, Th 5.5.1910		Memorial FONT dedicated last Sunday. Gift of Miss M M Mair in memory of her aunt, Mrs Margaret Connar. Designed by Bennet Furnishing Co., Glasgow.
AA, CO 3/10/5/30, GPC 12.12.1969		War Memorials from school to be transferred to Stair Parish Church
	STAINED GLASS	

HR 556/3	11.7.1923	Stained glass window to Rev W M Ker and spouse, 1923. Gift of their son.
AA, Th 11.10.1923		Ker window is a rose window, with eight saints: Marnock, Donan, Kieran, Ninian, Kessog, Maura, Wynnin and Inan.
AP, F 12.10.1923		Ker window unveiled last Sunday. He was minister 1862-1881. Design and execution: Stephen Adam Stained Glass Studio, Glasgow.
	BELL	
Clouston		c.1854-1875 Wilson bell.
	KIRKYARD	
CH 2/532/3	13.3.1717	No dykes around the kirkyard. Lord Stair to attend to this.
CH 2/532/4	31.5.1722	Lord Stair asked to complete dykes.
HR 556/2	11.7.1871	Dyke to be rebuilt and repaired. Contractor: William Pitt, mason.
CH 2/532/18	7.12.1887	Kirkyard extended.
HR 556/2	14.4.1885	Site for extension of kirkyard given by Lord Stair. Estimated cost of work: £76 5s. Completed by 16.5.1888 (ibid).
	WW1 SCROLL	
April 1955, F 29.11.2013, 29		Found in a draw at the hone stone works, Stair, now conserved and now mounted at Stair church.

HALL

AA, Th 11.6.1953, 1b		A new parish hall has been made in a barn on the manse property.

MANSE, 441229

CH 2/532/3	13.3.1717	Lord Stair was instructed to attend to the construction of a manse in 1717. Similar instructions were made in 1718, 1720, 1722, 1738, 1741 and 1805.
NSA, V, 647		Built in 1807.
Barber, 2000, 12		Built in 1807, extended on early C20, and sold in 1979.
CH 2/532/9	13.6.1805	To be built to the same size as the Manse at Dailly. [Dailly Manse, qv, is 1802-1805, James Rutherford, Ayr]. Estimated cost: £755. Contractor: John Key.
AA, Th 11.7.1805		Contractors wanted for Manse at Stair.
CH 2/532/9	14.12.1807	Completed.
	22.9.1808	1808, harled.
CH 2/532/10	30.12.1818	Dormers added 1818-1819. 2 dormers to be put in garret, 4' by 2'6", with pavilion roof. est cost: £64 18s 6d. Completed by 21.7.1819.
HR 556/2	14.11.1862	Porch added, 1862. Repairs and porch built onto front door. Estimated cost: £250.
	14.2.1871	Structural renovation and repairs, 1871. East gable rebuilt and manse renovated throughout. Conts: James Andrew, mason; Hugh Rowan, joiner. estimated cost: £697 6s. Completed by 25.4.1871.
	5.2.1878	Addition, 1878. 2 room addition to be built, and manse repaired; offices repaired, henhouse made in byre loft. Architect: Mr Alexander of William Alexander & Sons. Estimated cost of additions, £383, of repairs, £117.
HR 556/3	21.5.1900	Repair and renovation, 1900. Manse and offices repaired and manse renovated with internal alterations. Final cost: £167 7s 3d. Allan Stevenson, Ayr, architect.
	5.3.1906	Addition, 1906-07. 2 room addition to be built at manse; internal renovation. Allan Stevenson, Ayr, architect. Conts: Hyslop & Son, Mauchline, masons; James McCreath, Ayr, joiner. Estimated cost £1029 16s 1d. Completed by 1.3.1907. Final cost, £1830 4s 9d.

STAIR FREE CHURCH [SCHAW CHURCH], 44662051

List 10		UF Church, now farm store, built 1843. T-shape, wooden bellcote, rustic timber porch. Ref: 3SA, 716. C.

Barber, 2000, 18		Foundation stone laid 3.10.1843
Moore		1844.
Ewing		Opened in 1844.
Barber, 2000, 18		Opened 24.3.1844
CH 3/775/2, narrative		New church opened 24.3.1844. Site chosen was at Shaw. Outline of the plan of the church was taken from the Free Church at Newton on Ayr. Mason work was executed by James Duncan. Joiner, Mr McNab, Old Toll. Foundation stone laid 3.10.1843.
CH 3/775/2	28.8.1844	Hewn stone on exterior to be painted.
	1.4.1846	Interior whitewashed.
	8.8.1849	3 gates at church and manse, 1849. Cont: McIntyre, Ochiltree and Coalhall, joiner.
	18.6.1851	1851. Dry stone boundary wall around church, and along bank of burn to be completed. Walks gravelled.
	9.2.1853	Church whitewashed inside and outside.
	11.7.1859	Additions and alterations, 1859. Session House to be added at rear of church. Interior to be lathed and plastered. Cont: Smith, plasterer, Ayr.
	3.10.1859	Session House ro be of brick. Contractors: Morton, Ochiltree, mason; Hugh Green, Drumley, joiner.
	21.6.1860	Reopened.
	12.6.1863	Walls to be whitewashed and hewn stone painted.
Ch 3/775/3	25.9.1882	Porch and new gates, 1882-1883. New entrance gate of iron. Outer walls to be stripped of roughcasting and covered with Portland cement. Porch to be erected at entrance 'to relieve the plainness of the front gable'.
	16.7.1883	Cost of these alterations, £147.
	1.10.1883	Belfry has been built. Bell obtained from Free Church at West Kilbride. Weighs 32 lbs, and is 2' wide.
Barber, 2000, 18		A bell purchased from the Free Church at West Kilbride was erected in January 1884.
AA, Th 25.8.1910		Reopened last Sunday after extensive repairs.
AP, F 15.2.1946		Reopened last Sunday after repairs and decoration.
	INTERIOR	
CH 3/775/2	8.5.1844	Pews in front aisle altered, 1844.
	24.3.1862	Pulpit to be improved. Communion Seats to be altered so that all face the pulpit. bench to be constructed after the manner of that in the Free Church at Tarbolton. Walls to be painted umber colour and woodwork painted in oak. Contractors: Nicol, Kilmarnock, painter; McIntyre, Coalhall, joiner.
CH 2/775/3	25.9.1882	Pulpit enlarged and given new mountings as shown on plan. North door of church to be made a double door for warmth.
	25.3.1883	Contractor: Willock, Ayr, painter.
ACC Planning, 4272		March 1947. Alterations, to create kitchen, for Kirk Session.
	STABLE	
CH 3/775/2	3.8.1846	Estimates sought for stone building to accommodate horses of country congregation.
	30.9.1846	Foundations to be dug.
Ch 3/775/3	11.10.1883	Interior causeyed, 1883.
	HALL	
Ewing, II, 59		Iron hall built in 1897.
CH 3/775/3	19.4.1897	Contractors: Charles and Archibald McIntyre, builders. Cost: £49.
AA, Th 17.6.1897		Opened last Friday.

FREE CHURCH MANSE, 446209

Barber, 2000, 18		1849.

CH 3/775/2	27.2.1847	1847. Stone to be led by farmers of the congregation. Plans approved, and 2 designs to be estimated for. Architect: **John Baird**, Glasgow. Contractors: McGeachan, Ayr, builder; McIntyre, Ochiltree and Coalhall, joiner.
	3.5.1847	Small plan adopted.
	11.8.1847	Slater: Highet, Ayr.
	18.10.1847	Plasterer: Robert Smith, Ayr.
	12.6.1863	External walls to whitewashed and hewn stone to be painted.
	10.5.1875	Front of Manse covered with Portland Cement in imitation of hewn stone.
CH 3/775/3	21.5.1883	New iron gates similar to those just erected at the church to be put up at Manse. Exterior whitewashed. Front and West gables to be oil painted; hewn stone to be oil painted.

PARISH SCHOOL, 438219

CH 2/532/4	31.5.1722	Lord Stair asked to provide a school and master's dwelling. [Asked again in 1725 and 1726].
AA, Th 4.1.1810		Contractors wanted for School and Master's House, Stair.
AA, Th 14.3.1811		Contractors wanted for School and Master's House, Stair.
HR 556/1	24.3.1832	Alterations and repairs to school and dwelling-house, 1832-1834. Walls of schoolroom raised from 7'6" to 9' above floor level. House walls raised to 14'9" and divided into 2 apartments. Roof slated with Easdale slates. Contractor: Matthew Dick, Drumley. Estimated cost: £124.
	19.6.1834	School to be whitewashed, and new forms to be made.
HR 556/2	5.8.1858	Porch added, 1858. Brick porch 6' square with door and window built onto front door of school.
Barber, 2000, 13		Opened in 1863.
HR 556/2	5.8.1865	Enlarged and repaired 1865-66. To be enlarged and repaired following withholding of Government grant because of dilapidated state. Plan and specification approved 22.5.1866 (ibid). Architect: Mr Alexander, builder. Contractor: D & J Milligan. Estimated cost: £224.
CO 3/12/1/4	BBC 7.5.1907	Alterations to dwellinghouse, Stair School, for SSB. Allan Stevenson.
AA, Th 23.6.1910		Tenders: addition to school for SSB. Allan Stevenson.
AP, F 14.1.1949, 3bc		ACC Education Cttee, 11.1.1949. Discussed, with regard to likely demolition of the row house occupied by janitor and his wife (the cleaner): A Stewart, CoCo, Ochiltree, noted that the school is 'a centre for social functions besides being a school'.
AA, CO 3/10/5/27, B&SC 21.11.1967		
		Not to close meantime. The present role is 27.
AA, Th 14.11.1968, 1e		Catherine Brown, head since 1959, going to Castlehill P.S., as head.
AA, CO 3/10/5/29, BSC 21.1.1969		To close: has a role of 19.
Barber, 2000, 13		Closed in 1969.
AA, CO 3/10/5/30, YSFE 18.12.1969		
		Transferred to Youth Service.

WAR MEMORIAL

AA, Th 6.5.1920		War Memorial tablet unveiled last Saturday. Supplied by Archibald Hamilton, Glasgow.
ACC, GPSC 23.9.1948, 1230		WW2 Memorial - brass tablet - 4 names - approved.
AA, CO 3/10/5/30, GPC 12.12.1969		
		War Memorials from school to be transferred to Stair Parish Church.

PLAYING FIELD

ACC, GPSC 25.6.1953, 11		Agree to lease part of old public playing field (acquired, with rows, by John M Thom) for £8 p.a., and to form the access.

HEADMASTER

AA, Th 14.1.1886, 4f — Charlotte Hood, Dormieston, appointed mistress of Stair Public School. Trained as a p.t at Smith's Institution, and then at Church of Scotland Training College, Glasgow.

1895-1930 — Thomas E. Scott

SWRI

KS Sa 9.2.1924, 3e — Meeting held Wed 25th Jan 1924 agreed to form a WRI.

KS, Sa 1.3.1924, 3f — First meeting on Wed 20th Feb 1924.

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