ANN'S LODGE

AO, Tu 20.8.1833, 1d		Estate of Boydstone for sale; it includes Ann's lodge, with gardens and offices, 'which are well-adapted for sea-bathing quarters'.
OS Name Book	[1850s]	A neat compact residence having offices, ornamental grounds and garden attached. The property of Archibald Alexander, esq.
VR 1953/54		Elizabeth M M Craig
	INCIDENT	
NAS, D1949 - 620 -4		John McIntyre Montgomery, 40, professional musician, found dead 16th December 1948, on the road opposite Ann's Lodge, West Kilbride. Last seen alive at Gartnavel on 15th December. Usual residence, Red House3, Lamlash

ARDNEIL

AO, Tu 18.2.1834, 1b		Lands of Ardneil, c.477A Scots, to let. There is a commodious dwelling house.
ACC Planning, 4235		March 1947. Change of use to guest house, for Babcock & Wilcox Ltd.
VR 1953/54		Babcock and Wilcox Ltd

AUCHENAMES, Portencross [Formerly NORTH COTTAGE]

VR 1899/1900		Prop/Occ: Hugh R G Craufurd.
VR 1900/01 - VR 1938/39		Pop/Occ: William Adams of Auchenames
CO3/12/4/4	BBC 6.10.1904	Alterations, for William Adams; **Fryers and Penman**, Largs.
VR 1939/40		Prop: T.l. William Adams. Tenant: William Adams of Ardneil and Portencross.
VR 1953/54		Prop: Margaret and Winifred Adams
VR 1975/76		Prop: William Adams.

CARLUNG HOUSE

Davis		Present house built 1932, designs of **J Austin Laird**, on site of remains [inference that 1905 scheme not carried out] "No-expense-spared Elizabethan Manorial" in Northumberland stone. Now flatted.
GM, Th 30.9.1784, 318a		D, Carlung House, 20.9.1784, Miss Peggy Montgomerie of Barrodger.
Pont/Dobie		Built c.1845 - †1863, for James A Anderson, Union Bank manager Glasgow.
OS Name Book	[1850s]	A very excellent mansion of modern structure surrounded by plantations and ornamental grounds. The property and residence of James Anderson, esq.
ASH, Sa 11.8.1877, 3c		The estate of Carlung has been acquired this week by James Arthur, Esq., of Barshaw, for £45,000.
ASH, Sa 8.12.1877, 3de		Article on Carlung. Transcript in ASH file. Castle of c.1560 demolished and replaced (on new site) c.1770 by 'plain modern dwelling'. This in turn was replaced in 1847 by J A Anderson with a 'neat residence' on same site as 1770 house. Anderson, who acquired property in 1845, also improved estate, built steadings, laid out garden, &c.
AA 20.11.1902 [KS 22.11.1902]		Destroyed by fire, Monday night.
NMRS		1902 restoration, Leadbetter & Fairley, Edinburgh.
BBC 6.4.1905	BBC 6.4.1905	Additions, house, Sir Matthew Arthur, **James Hay**, Kilmarnock. [?Is this Carlung?]
NMRS		1932 restoration, J A Laird, Glasgow.
VR 1953/54		Margaret B Macfarlane
	LODGE	
Davis		Probably contemporary with 1932 house.
	WALLED GARDEN	
Davis		"The oval walled garden probably dates from the mid C19 or earlier".

CO-OPERATIVE SEASIDE HOMES, SEAMILL

AA, CO 3/10/5/31, YSFE 20.4.1971		Report, dates house to 1895, and wing to 1901.
AA 20.6.1895		The memorial stone of the Co-operative Seaside Homes at Seamill was laid last Saturday.
AA 2.7.1896		Opened last Saturday.
AA 17.7.1902 [KS 19.7.1902]		Scottish Co-operative Convalescent Home. New wing formally opened last Saturday.
CO3/12/4/4	BBC 5.11.1903	Coachman's House, SCCH; **James Davidson,** Glasgow.
ACC Planning 4529		July 1947. Alterations to gardener's house, for Scottish Co-operative Society Convalescent Homes Ltd.

AA, CO 3/10/5/31, GPC 19.7.1971 — ACC are prepared to buy, as a teachers' conference centre, but project isn't favoured by Scottish Office. Valued at £50,000 by DV.

CROSBIE TOWERS

List 9 — Now SYHA. A 17th Century country house on site of earlier keep; t-plan, consisting of a crowstepped gabled oblong with projecting staircase tower having a small watch-room at the top; 3 storeys and attic; door is in the west side of the tower. Restored in late 19th century and originally contained some good mantelpieces and panelling. C&DA, iv, 117-119. B.

nr — Dates of 1676 and 1896 inserted in List.

Tranter — This is a small fortalice of probably the early 17th Century, somewhat altered in the second half of the same century, and with a larger modern mansion added. It stands on high ground amongst foothills over 1 mile nw [sic] of West Kilbride and is still occupied. The plan is the typical L-shape, consisting of a main block, of two storeys, an attic and a garret in height, with a stair wing projecting at the south west end rising a storey higher. The building is very plain, and there are no gunloops or turrets. Any decoration is concentrated above the doorway in the re-entrant angle. This has ornamental jambs, and above is a panel space, with a small window immediately above. These are dated 1676 and 1896. Higher still, the dormer window here has an unusual carved stone pediment. Elsewhere many windows have been much enlarged. The interior has been modernised.

Crosbie was for long a possession of the family of Craufurd of Auchenames, chief of that name. There was a much earlier tower on the site, which Pont describes, and which was largely taken down and rebuilt after the topographer's visit at the beginning of the 17th Century. The Craufurds rendered good service to Scotland as early as the Battle of Largs, and Alexander 3 rewarded them richly. Only shortly later, however, the tide of history turned, and with the country kingless, patriot Wallace is thought to have hidden here, with his uncle Reginald Craufurd. The family long remained prominent in Ayrshire and Renfrewshire.

NMRS — Restoration: MacGibbon and Ross.

Reg Mag Sig, IV, no.202 — Charter granted by Queen Mary to John Fullartoun of lands of Corsbie. Dated 2.5.1548.

Reg Mag Sig, VI, no.1488 — Charter granted by James VI to William Wallace, minister of Failfurde, of lands of Auldtoune de Corsbie with manor, &c., thereon. Dated 21.10.1603.

2SA, [9/1837], 254 — Long ruinous, and restored by present proprietor John Crawfurd of Auchenames. [cf C&DA [1892] says never ruinous and repaired and reoccupied in last 2 or 3 years.]

OS Name Book [1850s] — C17, long ruinous, repaired in 1834.

WKAS 1978, 25 — Late C19 addition was for Dr James Graham.

TT, F 25.8.1899, 4a — James Graham of Crosbie, writer, Glasgow, died 22nd August 1899, at Elderslie, Largs.

WKAS 1978, 25 — Proprietor from 1935 to 1941 was the Duke of Hamilton.

WKAS 1978, 25 — Proprietor from 1941 to 1959 was the Scottish Youth Hostel Association.

ACC, WDC 12.3.1951 — Military use during WW2.

EG, F 24.3.1961, 185b186a — Leslie Stephen Divine retires from Wishart & Co., leaving William Wishart.

VR 1964/65 — Prop: Wishart & Co. **Under Reconstruction**.

CROSBIE RIDGE

ACC Planning, A6537 — October 1953. Convert Crosbie Laundry to 2-apt house, for James Lomax.

CROSSHILL HOUSE

ASH, Sa 27.5.1865, 1c — To let, for summer, Crosshill House, 3½ miles from Ardrossan on coast road. 13A.

CUBRIESHAW

ASH. Sa 3.6.1865, 5f — Sold by T.l. Thomas Williamson to James Boyd of Orchard for £2500. "Since Mr Boyd succeeded to the estate of Orchard, he has greatly improved and ornamented the place; and now, since he has become the possessor of Cubrieshaw, we may look for the removal of the squalor, and ruinous habitations, which for so long have been permitted to exist there as a noisome public nuisance".

CO3/12/4/4 BBC 7.5.1903 — Additions, Ho, Cubrieshaw Hall, J & A W Money, Glasgow.

GLENFOOT

OS Name Book [1850s] This was formerly a country or summer residence but owing to some unaccountable accident it was destroyed by fire. The south end alone remained untouched. The property of [J S Millar].

Sas Minute 10033 of 1880 1880 Disp of Glenfoot by T.l. John Stevenson Miller, turkey red dyer, Glasgow - to his relict, Jean Broom or Miller.

TD 142/57 [1881] Plan of wall to be built between Ann's Lodge and Glenfoot feu.

Danskin's Cube Book 1872-1901 1899, additions and alterations, for Hugh Beckett, Esq. Measured costs: house, £2140 1s 0½d; Stable, £1192 19s 5d.

VR 1953/54 Glenfoot Hotel. Prop: ICI Ltd

LODGE

ACC, PHSC 3.5.1932 RW. Improvements to Lodge, Glenfoot, for Hugh Beckett's Trust.

HUNTERSTON CASTLE

List 17 A 15th Century of early 16th Century keep with a 17th Century house attached to it. Originally a morass stretched round the castle with a protecting moat and rampart; keep is of small dimensions and contained four storeys of which the undermost is vaulted; main entrance on 1st floor from which a wheelstair in the thickness of the wall led to the top where the parapet walk is protected by a battlement projected on small corbels round three sides only. The 17th Century house addition has a staircase turret projecting in the middle of the south side. The building is in good preservation and was the home of the Hunter family until the Georgian mansion was built. There were ranges of offices attached to the castle which no longer exist, the site being now occupied by a modern homestead, but the small courtyard on the south side seems, however, to be old. What remains is a picturesque range, with courtyards to north and south. Ref: C&DA, iii, 194-196 [Photocopy herewith]. A

Miller, Castles .... 1885 Ancient home of the Hunters, later founders of Hunterian Museum [This is, surely, wrong]. In 1826 the **Hunterston Brooch** was found at the foot of Hawking Crag.

Lamb, Parish Annals, 1896, 116 Hunting tower, part of royal forests, with rampart, fosse and drawbridge. Hunters of H were hereditary keepers from reign of James II. In 1515 came under protection of Earls of Eglinton.

M S Shaw, ed., Some Family Papers of the Hunters of Hunterston, Edinburgh, 1925
Writs, Charters, &c. Copy in NAL: photocopy in Ayrshire Articles at West Kilbride.

Reg Mag Sig, VII, no.571 Ch of Confirmation of Prince Henry Duke of Rothesay granted by James VI to Robert Huntar of Huntarstoun, with lands and manor place of Huntarstoun thereon. Dated 27.9.1611.

Burke, Landed Gentry, 1979 ed, III, "Hunter of Hunterston", pp 473-474
Restoration of Hunterston Castle, to designs by Sir Robert Lorimer, 1913-15: for Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston..

nr Date of 1847 suggested for modern offices.

Tranter [Draft herewith]

Scots Magazine, ns 96/3, December 1971, 214-222
P A Macnab, Home of the Hunters. [copy herewith]

HUNTERSTON HOUSE

List 14 Circa 1800. Georgian mansion, somewhat recast and extended towards end of 19th Century and later. Pink harling, white stone dressings, 3 storeys, high pitched slate roof containing modern dormers. Principal facade to north has pedimented porch with fluted Doric columns; bay treatment of windows on either side. NSA, V, 256. B.

Burke, Landed Gentry, 1979 ed, III, "Hunter of Hunterston", pp 473-474
Hunterston House built in Georgian style, 1799, by Eleonara Hunter and her spouse Robert Caldwell Hunter. Extensions made in 1835 by Robert Hunter, in 1883-84 by Jane, Mrs Hunter Weston, and, internally, c1913-15 by Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston

2SA. [9/1837], 256 Built about 30 years ago, and stands a little nearer the sea than the old castle.

OS name Book [1850s] — A superior dwelling house with ornamental grounds &c attached occupied by Robert Hunter who is also proprietor.

Miller, Castles ...., 1885 — "Plain building of 4 storeys" erected about 80 years ago. Now being altered and enlarged.

D Walker, CRM Newsletter 62 — 1883, "rather unsatisfactory" reconstruction of Hunterston for L/Col Hunter-Weston by John Honeyman.

Hussey — Extension by **Sir Robert Lorimer**, 1913-1915.

CO3/12/4/5 BBC 3.4.1913 — Additions, HH, for Colonel Hunter-Weston; Sir Robert Lorimer.

ACC Planning, 3478 — April 1946. Alterations, HH, for Lady Hunter Weston.

ACC Planning, 3554 — May 1946. Alterations, Hunterston Esttae, for Lady Hunter Weston.

VR 1953/54 — Prop: reps of Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston. Occ: Grace, Lady Hunter-Weston

HUNTERSTON - NORTH PILLARS

List 18 — Square rusticated stone piers with dentilled entablatures; urn finials decorated with shell ornament; low curved screen walls and smaller terminal piers. circa 1800. B.

HUNTERSTON - SOUTH PILLARS

List 19 — Square rusticated stone piers, with modillioned cornice, pyramid caps; low curved screen walls and smaller terminal piers. Possibly early 19th Century. B.

HUNTERSTON - WALLED GARDEN

List 16 — Possibly 18th Century, partly recast rebuilding.

HUNTERSTON - WELL

List 15 — Round stone wellhead, wrought iron standards, wheel and chain. Has inscription inside. C.

SM, ns, v.97, no.1, April 1972, letters to the editor — The Well at Hunterston is a copy of that at Chateau de Bucy, seen by Colonel Hunter-Weston during his service at the Battle of Aisne, 1914.

KIRKLANDS HOUSE

OS name Book [1850s] — A substantial dwelling house at present occupied by the Rev John Boyd, UP minister.

KIRKTONHALL

List 3 — Tall 3 storey house backing onto main street; harled; grey painted stone dressings; battlemented parapet has date 1807; another datestone near street level has initials RS and MW 1660. Principal facade towards garden to rear; centre projecting 2 storey porch has Gothic Palladian window on 1st floor and lower stage supported on corner columns; lintel has inscription "Rebuilt by Frank Ritchie 1791"; long 3 window facade, ridge roof with large Victorian dormers, plain gables; lower addition to left has bay window. Dr Robert Simson, translator of Euclid, was a native of West Kilbride, his family having lived at Kirktonhall for some generations. Ref: NSA, v, 255. B

GM, Th 16.6.1785, 185c — Kirktonhall is for sale. It is out of tack, the proprietor 'having been under age, and abroad.'

J.A.S. Kilwinning 1/7 ?6.1971? — 1660. Rebuilt 1791. Kitchen and chapel added in 1868.

OS Name Book [1850s] — EPISCOPAL CHAPEL is on second floor of Kirktonhall.

Scottish Guardian, 2.12.1872 — Refers to a private episcopal chapel at Kirkton, [sic], West Kilbride, reopened after considerable repairs on 24.11.1872. East window has stained glass, The Lord's Supper.

WKAS 1978, 32 — Local council offices since 1924.

SUNDIAL

List 4 — Obelisk type, dated 1717. Said to have been designed by Dr Robert Simson. A.

2SA [9/1837] 252 — "Curious ... said to have been designed by mathematician Dr Robert Simson, 1687-1768. Situated in a garden inscribed with the initials of his parents: John Simson of Kirktonhall and Agnes Simson of Renfrew. Dated 1717.

LAW CASTLE

List 6 — Simple oblong plan, similar in character to Little Cumbrae, Fairlie, and Skelmorlie castles, all situated in this area. Stands on a hill overlooking the

village and is supposed to have been built about 1468 for the accommodation of the Princess Mary, sister of James 3, on her marriage with Thomas, Master of Boyd, afterwards Earl of Arran. Ref: C&DA, iii, 173-183. A [This supposition is also in C&DA, who quote it from Dobie's edition of Pont]

Paul, Scots Peerage, III, 157 — Robert, 5th Lord Boyd was a supporter of Mary, and after her defeat at Langside in 1568, he was he forced to deliver "the castell, tou, and fortalice of Kilmarnock, and also the tour and fortalice of Law".

Tranter — Situated on high ground overlooking West Kilbride, Law Castle is a prominent feature, and though now in a roofless condition the walls remain complete. It appears to date from the second half of the 15th Century. The plan is oblong, and there are 4 storeys beneath the parapet, the garret storey above having fallen in. The walls are very thick and the windows have been provided with iron yetts. The parapet, carried on continuous corbelling of three members, has open rounds at the angles. The entrance is at ground level to the south, by the round headed doorway guarded by two wide-splayed gunloops. Above is an empty panel space. The vaulted basement is subdivided, and from the eastern cellar a service stair rises to the hall above. The main turnpike ascends in the south east angle, adjoining the doorway. The hall on the first floor has a small section screened off to the east, provided with wide arched fireplace to form a kitchen - a common arrangement in early keeps, as at Comlongon and Elphinstone EL. The second floor contains two apartments, each with garderobe and drain. Elsewhere the building is well provided with mural chambers, and is a good example of a medium sized 15th Century tower in a fair state of preservation. It is believed to have been built about 1468 for Princess Mary, sister of James 3, on her marriage to Thomas, Master of Boyd, afterwards Earl of Arran, at the height of the Boyds' rise to power.

Reg Mag Sig, III, no.1459 — Charter granted by James V to James Hammyltoun of Finnart of lands of Law in Kilbride. Dated 8.2.1536. No mention of castle.

Reg Mag Sig, IV, no.292 — Charter of Confirmation of Robert master of Boyd, granted by Queen Mary, to Mariote Colquhoune his wife of lands of Law in Kilbride. Dated 11.2.1549. No mention of tower.

2SA, 1845 254 — Sold, c.1759 to Alexander Fairy, who named it Springside and improved it.

ORCHARD
See also CUBRIESHAW

OVERTON

Demolished. Site is that of Overton Court, Yerton Brae, in the village (q.v.)

EG 10255, F 15.5.1891, 526b; EG 10257, F 22.5.1891, 547b

Sequestrated. James Goodwin of Overton.

PORTENCROSS CASTLE

List 7 — Fine example of a 14th Century Scottish stronghold and a conspicuous object to all voyagers on the Clyde. Unusual L-plan, the wing being placed at the end of the oblong keep and not at the side as is usual; entrance doorway on ground floor and another on 1st floor, both in the re-entering angle but on different faces; whole of ground floor is vaulted, as well as the hall on 1st floor; a peculiarity is that such a small building as this should have two kitchens; arrangement of stairs allowed servants entering by the lower door to reach upper floors and battlementd without going through the hall and disturbing its occupants; hall is lighted by two large windows with stone seats; rooms in tower were evidently bedrooms and are provided with fireplaces and garderobes. Portencross was conferred in 1306 on Sir Robert Boyd of Kilmarnock with whom and his descendents, the Boyds of Portencross, it remained until 1737. Ref: CD&A, iii, 151-156 [Photocopy herewith]. A.

Tranter — [Draft herewith]

ARP Lorimer and Associates, Draft Feasibility Study, April 2003

Partial copy in parishes file.

Nr — A contender in BBC TV's 2004 series of Restoration. Other Scottish entries were the heat winner (Knockando Woollen Mill, Knockando), and Hall of Clestrain, Orkney.

ASH, Sa 10.3.1877, 4e		Stated, in an article on great storms in Ayrshire, that it was unroofed in the storm of 13 November 1739.
OS Name Book	[1850s]	"... and a temporary roof covers the top to protect it from the incursions of the weather". There is also a reference, under "Portencross" to an "old piece of ordnance recovered from a ship which belonged to the Spanish Armada that foundered near to the walls of the castle".
	CANNON	
Pigot, 1837, 282	[c.1752]	'… it is worthy of remark that, off the sea line of the parish, one of the largest vessels composing the Spanish Armada remains sunk in ten fathoms water; an attempt was made, about eighty-five years since, to examine the internal condition of this ship, and the operation succeeded so far that a piece of ordnance was raised from her hulk.'
OS Name Book	[1850s]	reference, under "Portencross" to an "old piece of ordnance recovered from a ship which belonged to the Spanish Armada that foundered near to the walls of the castle".
SEAMILL HYDRO		
KS 15.2.1890, 2i		Seamill Sanatorium. Presently being extensively added to - plans of **Thomas Smellie**. Sketch in a shop window in Kilmarnock.
EG, Tu 8.3.1892, 367b		Seamill Sanatorium Ltd. Final winding-up meeting.
CO3/12/4/22	BBC 11.1.1923	Addition, **T P Marwick**, Glasgow. [& cf TPM's obit in RIASQ, Autumn 1927] [TT, F 10.12.1897, 4a records marriage in Edinburgh of Thomas Duncan Newbigging, Seamill, to Maggie, daughter of **T P Marwick**]
ACC Planning, B666		November 1956. Staff dining room, for Seamill Hydropathic Co.Ltd.
Pl.App. C261		Internal alterations, 1963, James Hay & Steel.
CO3/8/7/5	Bldg Wrt BA647	Alterations, Hay Steel MacFarlane & Partners, Kilmarnock. Planning application, --, 1.3.1966.
	Bldg Wrt BA743	Extension, Hay Steel MacFarlane & Partners, Kilmarnock. Planning application, C3044, 12.8.1966.
SOUTHANNAN		
List 20		Ruin of what was once an extensive structure, having had a high enclosing wall, with a courtyard and an arched entrance porch to the west, defended with shot holes; there has been a considerable range of dwelling house accommodation, 2 storeys in height along the north side and smaller buildings on the east. The lands of Southannan were granted to Lord Semple in 1504 but the castle probably dates from the end of the 16th Century, some of the existing remains appearing to be still more modern. The chapel that was attached to it has entirely disappeared. Ref: EccArch, iii, 607-609. B.
Allan		The 1st lord Sempill built a chapel at Southannan ... dedicated ... to St Innan ... in 1509. Southannan Mansion was rebuilt by the 7th Lord Sempill in 1596. At the close of the 18th Century this old mansion was dismantled.
Cockburn		9 September 1842. On our way home [from Fairlie to Ardrossan] we went up the high ground on the left side of the road in order to try if we could find out a waterfall, of which the minister gives a grand description in his statistical account of the parish (old edition), but which the parishioners, or such of them as we fell in with, knew so little about, that none of them could say exactly where it was. After a long and wettish scramble we at last discovered the fall of Southannan. A poor affair. For the guidance of future travellers, I may mention that it lies about a mile and a half on this side of Fairlie, and about half a mile up the hill on the left.
OS Name Book	[1850s]	The ruins of this villa house or castle are still pretty perfect, namely several of the basement or vaulted compartments still entire; the whole might be viewed as the remains of one of the baronial castles or strongholds.
SOUTHANNAN HOUSE		
GH, F 9.6.1854, 2d		To let, dd+4. "stable and coach house, with use of fishing boat, if required."
OS Name Book	[1850s]	Underbank. A neat dwellinghouse with ornamental grounds occupied by George Muir, property of Earl of Eglinton. "The occupier states that the name of the house is Southannan House, that is the west end of it which is let by persons in the summer season for bathing".
VR 1953/54		Nursery School. Glasgow Corporation Education department.

ACC Planning, A8703 — June 1955. Porch, Southannan; John B Wingate, Glasgow, for Christopher Hall.

SRC, B&P 29.11.1977, 1300 — Transferred from Education to Social Work, and to be let to Quarrier's Homes for five years.

SOUTHANNAN - COTTAGES

CO3/12/4/4 BBC 3.9.1903 — Cottage, Southannan; **Allan Stevenson**.

BBC 3.9.1903 — Cottage, Southannan; **Allan Stevenson**.

SOUTHANNAN - LODGE

CO3/12/4/3 BBC 1.5.1902 — Gatelodge, Southannan; Allan Stevenson.

SOUTH COTTAGE — See PORTENCROSS file

SPRINGSIDE HOUSE

AANHS, 5 — c1759-1777.

UNDERBANK

See SOUTHANNAN HOUSE

UNDERHILL

Davis, 396 — The middle section of this house is said to have been built in 1880 for a Mr Honeyman(?) who had made money in the colonies. The flanking wings are evidently of different dates, judging by its crowstepped gables and general form, that on the right of the entrance front was probably built in the early 18th century. The house is now divided into three residences

ACC Planning, A2258 — April 1950. Alterations. Robert Rogerson & Co Ltd., Glasgow, for Hartley Whyte.

RUINED ARCH

Davis, 396 — A small, ruined arch stands close by.

© Rob Close 2026