

MILNGAVIE'S INDUSTRIAL PAST

Set out on the pages that follow are a series of key dates and facts relating to the various industries, 'manufacturing concerns' and infrastructure in Milngavie from the late eighteenth century through to the early part of the twentieth century.

Craigton Bleaching and Works

Fuel and Power in Milngavie

The Aerated Water Company in Milngavie

The Allander Paper Mill and The Ellangowan Paper Mill

The Burnbrae Bleach, Dye and Printworks

The Clober Bleachfield and Works

The Crossburn Calico Printfield

The Forth & Clyde Canal and Maryhill Locks

The Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway

The Milngavie Cotton Spinning Mill

The Milngavie Printworks and The Allander Printworks

The Milngavie Reservoirs

The Tambowie Distillery in Milngavie

The West of Scotland Laundry and The Allander Bleaching Company

CRAIGTON BLEACHING & BLEACH WORKS

The bleach fields of Craigton, in the parish of New Kilpatrick and very close to Milngavie village, were worked, for much of the mid and late 19th century and the first part of the 20th century, by the Blackwood family.

Originally bleaching at Craigallian, in the Strathblane parish, they moved to Craigton, Milngavie in the 1840's.

Craigton had been a bleachfield in the management of David Dunlop and his family. The Dunlops had, originally, been cotton spinners in what became Broomward Street, Glasgow and added bleaching yarns, as against finished cloth, as that became so very profitable. However, when David Dunlop died on 4th May 1842 at Craigton, Mr William Blackwood (who had at one time been in a partnership with him) felt that a move to the larger premises would enable his family firm to expand. His son, John Blackwood, having been taken into the business when he reached the age of majority, took over the firm when William, himself, died in 1846 and the firm was known as William Blackwood & Son through the rest of the nineteenth century.

Family members of both sexes were closely involved in the management of both the bleaching and the property business; and, in terms of 'Managing Director' the line ran through John (above) who died in 1851, John junior, who died in 1881, Gavin Marshall Blackwood who moved into Bothwell, Lanarkshire between 1881-91 (he died in 1923), and his uncle William Blackwood who died in 1902. We can see William, presumably concerned about his health, at the Kyles of Bute Hydropathic Institute & Hotel, Port Bannatyne in 1901.

1781 (Ref: "The Parish of Strathblane & its Inhabitants From Early Times" Smith, JG)

A William Blackwood (born Glasgow and with some time bleaching at Dawsholm in the parish of New Kilpatrick) began bleaching at Craigallian, using the water from the Allander river, in the parish of Strathblane.

1790/1792 (Ref: Farm Horse Tax Rolls)

Alexander Hunter, Bleacher of Craigton. There were three Hunter brothers: Duncan, Alexander, James & Daniel. They were cotton merchants in Glasgow and had bleaching fields at Craigton, Milngavie.

1794 (Ref: "Commentaries on the Laws of Scotland and on the Principles of Mercantile Jurisprudence" Bell, GJ Volume II, pub. 1827)

Hunter of Craigton v Austin & Co., 25 February 1794.

1799 (Ref: Land Tax Rolls 3/4/1799)

Craigallian, parish of Strathblane, owned by John Graham, of Glasgow. His Superior was the Duke of Montrose. John Graham also appears, as owner, in the 1852 "Directory of Gentlemen's Seats"; and is the owner of lands in Ferenze, Barrhead, Renfrewshire which, in 1844 are put up for let in the Glasgow Herald. Mathew Blackwood, eldest son of William Blackwood, took a bleachfield by Arthurlie House, Barrhead.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's 1837 Directory)

William Blackwood & Son, Craigallian bleach field.

1841 (Ref: 1841 census - Craigallian)

William Blackwood, age 90 (approx.) Craigallian, parish of Strathblane. Also son John Blackwood age 50 (approx.), bleacher, Craigallian, parish of Strathblane; William Blackwood, grandson (baptised Strathblane 29/12/1824), grandson John Blackwood (baptised Strathblane 11/11/1828), granddaughter Agnes Blackwood (baptised Strathblane 26/11/1830).

1841 (Ref: 1841 census - Craigton House)

David Dunlop, age 75 (approx.), Craigton House, parish of East/New Kilpatrick. Also wife Agnes (née Colquhoun), son David and his wife Catherine (née Watt), daughter Agnes, daughter Susan, daughter Jane, son John and grandchildren William & Walter Dunlop (children of David & Catherine).

1852 (Ref: Directory of Gentlemen's Seats)

Craigton Bleachfield, Milngavie, William Blackwood & Son.

1856 (Ref: Liverpool Mercury 11/2/56)

The hurricane blew down works chimney and as it fell it destroyed part of the bleach works.

1860 (Ref: OS Name Books)

Craigton Bleach Works described as: "An establishment, composed of stone buildings for bleaching cotton, & employing on an average from 80 to 130 hands. It is wrought by the Messrs. Blackwood, & is the property of Sir AJ Campbell. In trade these establishments are commonly termed fields, from the work being in former times done in fields &c. which steam power has done away with."

1861 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 12/3/61)

Huge fire at Craigton bleach works destroyed a four storey building, used as a drying store resulting in damage estimated at about £1,500 then. The firm carried inadequate insurance.

1863 (Ref: London Gazette 23/10/63)

William Blackwood & John Blackwood of Craighton, Milngavie. Patent for invention in connection with washing/drying yarns now void for non-payment of additional stamp duty.

1885-6 (Ref: P O Directory)

W Blackwood & Son, Craighton; orders to be left at 82 Virginia Street, Glasgow.

1898/1900 (Ref: "The Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow")

John Blackwood of Craighton House qualified as a "wright" (engineer) in 1898 and became a member of the society in 1900. William Blackwood & Son, Bleachers, Craighton, & Craighton Works, Milngavie.

1900 (Ref: Edinburgh Evening News 30/3/1900)

Rationalisation of the various arms of the Blackwood business in bleaching - and of members of the family who hold stock in the arms - both in Milngavie and in Neilston. All to become part of Blackwoods Limited.

1911-12 (Ref: PO Directory)

W Blackwood & Son, Craighton, Milngavie; orders to be left at 82 Virginia Street, Glasgow.

1920 – 1937 (Ref: PO Directories)

John Blackwood, Clober, Milngavie. The Valuation Rolls show John with the Mansion House and 'lands'.

1920-1926 (Ref: PO Directories)

Andrew Blackwood, Clober, Milngavie. In the Valuation Rolls Andrew is also shown as occupying 'Bravel', Clober, Milngavie.

1925-6 (Ref: PO Directory)

Blackwood's Ltd., (John Blackwood & Son) bleachers of all classes of cotton in cop, hank and warp, also starchers of hank and warp. Springfield Bleachworks, Springfield Road, Glasgow; orders left at Miller & Co., 94 Miller Street, Glasgow. Telegraphic address: Blackwood, Glasgow; Telephone 539 Bridgeton. Blackwood's Ltd., (Wm Blackwood & son), bleachers of threads, yarns, cops &c., also starchers, Craighton Bleach Works, Milngavie. Telegraphic address: Blackwood Milngavie. Telephone 117, P.O. Milngavie.

1926-7 (Ref : PO Directory)

Blackwood's Ltd., (John Blackwood & Son) bleachers of all classes of cotton in cop, hank and warp, also starchers of hank and warp. Springfield Bleachworks, Springfield Road, Glasgow; orders left at Miller & Cos., 94 Miller Street, Glasgow. Telegraphic address: Blackwood, Glasgow; Telephone 539 Bridgeton. Blackwood's Ltd., (Wm Blackwood & son), bleachers of threads, yarns, cops &c., also starchers, Craighton Bleach Works, Milngavie. Telegraphic address: Blackwood Milngavie. Telephone 117, P.O. Milngavie.

1929 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 12/7/29)

Re-location of the main Blackwood business to Glasgow.

1930 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

The Craighton Bleachworks, Craighton, Milngavie. Owner: Captain George Ilay Campbell. No tenant. Houses (4) Bleachworks, Craighton. (Note: Captain Campbell was the son of Sir Archibald Lindsey Campbell of Succouth).

1930-32 (Ref : PO Directory)

Blackwood's Ltd., (John Blackwood & Son) bleachers of all classes of cotton in cop, hank and warp, also starchers of hank and warp. *Springfield Bleachworks, Springfield Road, Glasgow*; orders left at Miller & Cos., 94 Miller Street, Glasgow. Telegraphic address: Blackwood, Glasgow; Telephone 539 Bridgeton.

1947 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 26/12/1947)

Craighton Bleaching Company Limited (In Liquidation). At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above Company, held at 1A Glenside Crescent, Milngavie, on Tuesday, 23rd December 1947, the following Special Resolution was duly passed, viz: - 'that the Craighton Bleaching Company Limited be wound up voluntarily; and that Mr John Robertson Gardner, Solicitor, Milngavie be, and is hereby, appointed Liquidator for the purposes of such winding up.' John R Gardner, Liquidator. 1A Glenside Crescent, Milngavie, 23rd December 1947.

1949 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 14/10/49)

Craighton Bleaching Company Limited. (In Liquidation). Members voluntary winding up. Final winding up meeting. 13th October 1949.

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FUEL AND POWER IN MILNGAVIE

In the early part of the nineteenth century people in Milngavie would have depended upon candles for light, wood and coal for their fire and, at the corn mill and other industrial sites, water power as a motive force. Below are some notable dates and people who have been using fuel and power in industry in Milngavie.

(a) Coal

The nearest local colliery was at Netherton, Maryhill. Other coal would have come by canal barge – both from the Clyde fields and from the Lothians. A number of colliery accidents took place at local coalfields with often fatal results. The local carters were kept very busy hauling coal, for Milngavie, from Netherton Colliery itself; but also from Maryhill Locks. In time the railway was used for the transportation of both house fire coal and the coal required, by John Learmont, to make town's gas in Milngavie. Such coal arrived at Milngavie Station. Sadly, in 1862, John's second son – John Craig Learmont – died following an accident with coal wagons at Milngavie Station. The boy was just ten years old.

1878 (Ref: Slater's Directory)

Milngavie coal merchants (house coal): Mr Peter Buchanan, Mr David McFarlane and Mr John Strathdee. Peter Buchanan was, in the rest of his life at this time, a pattern drawer at the calico print works. By 1881 Mr McFarlane had given up his business and become a colour matcher in the calico print works. Mr John Strathdee was: a farmer, a spirit merchant, a potato merchant and a coal agent.

1893 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 8th June 1893)

Advertisement: "Contracts – Gas coal – the Milngavie Gas Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of 1,000 tons of FIRST and SECOND QUALITY of GAS COAL, to be delivered at Milngavie Railway Station. – Offers addressed to Secretary by 8th inst. Milngavie 3rd June 1893".

(b) Water power

1855 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Water power- Clober – Alexander Dunlop, Barrister, £12 0s 0d pa; Robert McGrigor & Co., Spinners, £12 0s 0d pa.

1865 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Water power- Clober – Alexander Dunlop, Barrister, £12 0s 0d pa; Robert McGrigor & Co., Spinners, £12 0s 0d pa.

1875 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Water power- Clober – Alexander Dunlop, Barrister, £12 0s 0d pa; William Whyte & Co. paper makers, £12 0s 0d pa.

1885 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Water power- Clober – Trustees of Alexander Dunlop, Barrister, £12 0s 0d pa; Ellangowan Paper Co., £12 0s 0d pa.

(c) Gas

1855 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Milngavie Gas Company Secretary: Mr Charles Keir, teacher. Mr Keir lived next door to Mr William Turnbull, a gas fitter.

1865 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Gas Works, Milngavie. J Cranmer. (Mr Cranmer was a clerk at the calico print works).

1872 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 10/6/72)

AGM Milngavie Gas Company in Black Bull Hotel. Chair: William Blackwood of Craigton, Secretary: John Cranmer. The usual dividend of 10% on original shares approved. The working committee and auditors were appointed.

1875 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Gas Works, Milngavie. J Cranmer, Secretary.

1879 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 16/6/79)

Advertisement for gas coal for the Milngavie Gas Company; tender invited to supply 500 tons for delivery at Milngavie Railway Station. Tenders also required for the (removal of) tar and ammonia Produced by the Milngavie Gas Works.

1885 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Gas Works, Milngavie. J Cranmer, Secretary.

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Gas Works, Milngavie. J Cranmer, Secretary.

1900 (Ref: Kirkintilloch Herald 8/8/1900)

50th AGM of Milngavie Gas Company. Urgent need for another gas holder for the increased demand in the town. Suggestions that another gas holder, to meet winter demand, be placed on the site of the manager's house and front lawn. Current price: 4s 2d per 1,000 cubic feet of gas consumed.

1900 (Ref: Kirkintilloch Gazette 22/9/1900)

"At a meeting of the Commissioners – Provost D McMillan presiding - a long discussion took place as to whether the Commissioners should take over the local gas supply, which is presently worked by a private company, and latterly the unanimous opinion was that in the meantime they could not see their way to recommend the burgh to adopt the Gas Act. At the same time, the opinion was expressed that if the gas company were prepared to quote a price at

which they would sell the **whole** undertaking then the matter might be further considered.”

1901 (Ref: Dundee Evening Post 14/10/1901)

“The shareholders of Milngavie Gas Company have resolved by 12 votes to 2, to accept the offer of Glasgow Corporation to purchase the Works for £4,000.”

1902 (Ref: Kirkintilloch Gazette 23/8/1902)

Glasgow Corporation were charging 50% more than Milngavie Gas Company had, but were using the additional money to lay more gas mains and local pipes.

1905 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

In 1905 Glasgow Corporation Gas Department owned the Manager’s house in Milngavie; their tenant was Mr John Learmont, gas manager.

(d) Electricity

1890 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 24/5/90)

The Edinburgh Electrical Exhibition was held in May 1890. Council committees, from across Scotland, attended and came back fired with the desire to have their town or city illuminated by electric light.

1892 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 16/11/92)

“Baillie McMillan read a letter from the agent on Barloch estate complaining of the present condition of the conduit* crossing Kirk Street from the Tannock (*sic*) burn. This was being attended to at present.”

1894 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 10/10/94)

...”a report showing that an arc lamp (*at the junction Mugdock Road and Station Road*) complete for electric light would cost £14. 10s. to burn 10 hours without recharging. Mr Woodburn had agreed to supply the electric power for the first year free. Further consideration was left over until the houses at Clober Crescent had been supplied with electricity.”

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Details of various properties across Milngavie that Mr Woodburn owned or had built, including shops and houses at Clober Crescent (one of which is described as ‘electric shop’), joiner’s shop, yard, offices, stables, shed and a van shed.

1895 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 1/1/1895)

“The greatest improvements to Milngavie have been in the building line by ex-Provost Woodburn, who a year ago fued the old Calico Printfield, and has built handsome shops and dwelling-houses, which are supplied with electric light with power from the river Allander”. “He has also fued 20 acres of Barloch estate, where he will build villas and make a lake in the centre covering five acres, containing 7,000,000 gallons of water”.

1895 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 12/6/95)

“Mr Woodburn submitted plan and sections of embankment for his loch Tannock (*sic*) reservoir[†] which is to hold 7,000,000 gallons. It was remitted to the Burgh Surveyor to see that the work is properly executed.”

1913

Electricity supplied to Westerton by the Strathclyde electrical supply company (later known as the South of Scotland Electricity Board; currently Scottish Power).

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* *Map 1896 Milngavie map, the Godfrey edition – the conduit can be traced down Tannoch Burn crossing Kirk Street, dog legging back on to Cheapside and discharging, at Allander Place, into the Allander itself. The Glasgow Corporation, in building Mugdock Reservoir, had arranged ‘over flow’ from the straining wells to run down, in waste water tunnels, into the Tannoch Burn. This pooled in the shallow valley and formed a lake. (They repeated this with Craigmaddie Reservoir). On occasion this, in turn, overflowed the burn and made Barloch moor much more damp with its existing springs and rivulets flowing in various ways and a “well”, useful for stock rather than humans.*



Postcard from collection of HJ Cameron

† John Woodburn was to build an embankment straight across the bottom of the lake (Tannoch Loch). On this embankment, once it was suitably stable, he would build eighteen villa houses. These were advertised in the Glasgow newspapers at prices ranging from £500-£800 each. Solicitors for the properties (no estate agents then) were Clark & Cameron of 220 St Vincent Street, Glasgow. A Mr Thomas Kyle was his 'house factor'. Mr Kyle bought one of the houses himself – 'Rockfort'. John Woodburn, his wife Margaret and his sons William and James lived next door at 'Brackenhairst', Tannoch Drive. The houses were: 'Glenesk' (Miss Ann Kinniburgh), 'Afton' (Mr Gavin S Cherry), 'Almorah' (Mr CJ Ellis), 'Bulawayo' (Mrs Isabella Hain), 'Bellmont' (Mr WH Ellis), 'Duntrune' (Mr R Taylor), 'Moorlands' (Mr John B Galbraith), 'Dunrowan' (empty in 1901 census), 'Brackenhairst' (Mr John Woodburn), 'Craigbarloch' (Mr R Kyle), 'Craigmillar' (Isabella Kyle), 'Dunalestair' (Mrs Elizabeth Baxter), 'The Firs' (Mr RK Hendry), 'Brierfield' (Mr AG Taylor), 'Novar' (Mr J Dinwoodie), Un-named house – household schedule 26 (Mr AH Blair), 'Rockfort' (Mr T Kyle) and lastly 'Heathcote' (Mr W Logan).

AERATED WATER & GINGER BEER COMPANY MILNGAVIE

Most fair sized places, in the 19th century, had 'aerated waters' businesses. These would be lemonades, ginger beers, "Kola's" and something to put in your whisky – if you were so inclined. Milngavie had a very small aerated water business, situated near The Douglas Arms. Although a source suggests that the man who made that fizz was a George Milne, there is no record whatsoever of such a person in the 1861 or 1871 or 1881 census or the Valuation Rolls. Another source suggests a Mc/MacMillan family operating a 'lemonade' factory in Milngavie between 1880-90. Searches in census, Valuation Rolls and Post Office/Trade directories yield no one, by that name, associated with any kind of beverage manufacturing.

However, there is evidence, in the Valuation Rolls, that one John McKay/Mackay had a house at 56 Douglas Street and an aerated water manufactory also. Both properties belonged to Walter Weir and his wife, Ann. Neither were large – the house had three tenants living there and the 'manufactory' was rented at the same price as a shop. These properties were rented to a John Mackay/McKay. Mr Mackay was in the aerated water business in Glasgow, importing raw materials, manufacturing and exporting too.

The finished product was not, in any way, advertised in any of the directories of the time under Mr Mackay's name, or with a Milngavie connection.

What we do know with certainty is that the growing demand for mineral waters of this type grew apace and by 1900 farmer's and coal merchant's son Alexander Dunlop Strathdee had decided to utilise the same premises to make his own aerated water. A source suggests that Mr Strathdee's product was called "Allander Springs", but this was a trademark of the Garvie business in the 20th century and one that is still registered today.

Again, there is no mention of the products in any trade or Post Office directories, so presumably this was for local consumption only. As Mr Strathdee had lucrative businesses in the farming and quarrying industries, the mineral waters must have been small beer! Suffice it to say that between 1925 and 1930 he disposed of the business to a James Garvie. By 1937 Mr Garvie, who is in that telephone book and whose entries continue to 1940, had phone number Milngavie 1284 and had an open van in which he delivered his goods.

1891 (Ref: 1891 census)

Walter McFarlane, from Dunoon, manager of the mineral water works, Milngavie. Living with his wife Christina and daughters Margaret and Helen at 'Broombank' Cottage, near the top of Mugdock Road. Previously manager of chemical works, in Glasgow (possibly Mr McKay's business – see below).

1893-4 (Ref: PO Directory)

McKay, John & Co., aerated water manufacturers and ginger beer brewers (wholesale and export), manufacturing chemists, importers of essential oils, manufacturers of concentrated soluble essences, fruit essences, and every other requisite for the aerated water trade, original makers of "the famous Sparkling Kola," 76 Lancefield Street, Glasgow.

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

John McKay – house at 56 Douglas Street, shared with three families; and an "aerated water manufactory" next to the hall, in that street. All the properties were owned by Mrs Ann Weir, widow of Walter Weir. At 56 Douglas Street are: Helen Burke, Margaret & John Dougan & family & James McGill & family.

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee, "Greenwood", Glasgow Road, Milngavie. Merchant & aerated water manufacturer.

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

Walter McFarlane, from Dunoon, manager of the mineral water works. Living with his wife Christina and daughters Margaret and Helen at 'Broombank Cottage', near the top of Mugdock Road.

1905 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee, tenant/occupier of works and stable Nos 26 & 28 Douglas Street, Milngavie – Aerated Water Co. (Mrs Weir's Trustees are the owners of the property – this is the Douglas Arms property & several adjoining sites).

1911 (Ref: 1911 census)

Walter McFarlane, from Dunoon, 'retired aerated water manufacturer'. Living at 'Broombank Cottage', near the top of Mugdock Road.

1912 (Ref: PO Directory)

Alexander D Strathdee, General Merchant.

1915 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee, tenant/occupier of works and stable Nos 26 & 28 Douglas Street, Milngavie – Aerated Water Co.

1920 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee, tenant/occupier of works and stable Nos 26 & 28 Douglas Street, Milngavie – Aerated Water Co. (Mathew Weir's widow was the owner of the property – this is the Douglas Arms property & adjoining sites.)

1925 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee, tenant/occupier of works and stable Nos 26 & 28 Douglas Street, Milngavie – Aerated Water Co. (Mathew Weir's widow was the owner of the property – this is the Douglas Arms property & adjoining sites.)

1930 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Dunlop Strathdee has ceased his aerated water business. He has also let go of the family farm and shootings at Burnbrae, Milngavie. His business interests now focused on Craigengaun Quarry, at High Craigton, which his son, John, manages. (The quarry is owned by Sir Archibald Lindsay Campbell) "Greenwood" and its adjoining

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outbuildings, are owned by Mr Strathdee's wife, Jessie Graham Cranmer, and he is a tenant of the property. John, his son, lived at 25 Ferguson Avenue, Milngavie.

1930 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

James Garvie, 18 Douglas Street Milngavie – aerated water works & stable.

1937-1940 (Ref: Telephone Directory)

James Garvie, Mineral Waters, Moorfield, Milngavie. Telephone Milngavie 1284.

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THE ALLANDER PAPER MILL AND THE ELLANGOWAN PAPER MILL

Contrary to some published data there was not a paper mill in Milngavie before 1800. However, there was one in the parish of East or New Kilpatrick and that was at Dawsholm, in the south of the parish. James MacArthur & Co. began making paper there around 1750. Both the old and the new Statistical Accounts mention the paper mill in the parish of East or New Kilpatrick. The Scottish Book Trade Index lists them as: MacArthur, James & Co., stationers, paper makers and snuff makers, Glasgow. William MacArthur - Dawsholm Mill 1783; Russel & MacArthur - Dalsholm Mill 1825; James MacArthur & Co. 72 Glassford Street, Glasgow & Dalsholm Mill 1832; James MacArthur & Co. 82 Glassford Street, Glasgow & Dalsholm Mill 1835-49, Dalsholm Mill 1852-76. In 1890 the firm became a private limited company, was taken over in 1934 and eventually became part of the Associated Paper Group.

1851 (Ref: 1851 census)

William Whyte (Junior)[†] (1825-1908). Lived at Partick, Glasgow. Occupation: Commission Agent. Wife Jean.

1861 (Ref: 1861 census)

William Whyte (Junior). Lived at 29 Richmond Street, Glasgow. Occupation: Rag Merchant. Wife: still alive.

Children: William (Junior), Jane, Margaret and Andrew.

1866 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 10/1/66 & 2/2/66)

Milngavie Cotton Spinning Mill (Robert McGrigor & Co.,) for sale, mansion house, workers houses & shop; gas works on the site.

1867 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 23/2/67)

Sale of cotton spinning equipment, from Milngavie Cotton Spinning Mill. Apply William Whyte & Co., 120 South Albion Street, Glasgow.

1867 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 26/11/67 & Perry's Bankrupt Gazette 14/12/67)

Dissolving of a Partnership between William Whyte and Robert Biggart, paper maker of Beith and of Burnhouse, Bellshill, Glasgow. They have been in Partnership T/A The Allander Paper Mills, Milngavie – utilising esparto grass - and operating as rag waste and Commission Merchants with the 120 South Albion Street, Glasgow address. Mr Whyte is wholly responsible for the firm's debts.

1868 (Ref: P O Directory 1867-8)

Whyte, William & Co., Rag waste and Commission Merchants, 120 South Albion Street, Glasgow address. House: Milngavie.

1871 (Ref: 1871 census)

William Whyte living at "Allander House", Milngavie. Occupation: Master of the Paperworks, employing 83 adults and 15 boys. W. Whyte, the one year old, is a recent addition to the family. It seems that William is carrying on papermaking without his business Partner.

1872 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 15/5/72)

A dispute between Mr Whyte and his workers.

1872 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 9/7/72)

A second dispute, this time by William Whyte Junior as to ownership of the invention of a product development with one of his father's workers – Mr Charles Stevenson. Mr Stevenson was awarded the judgement that the patent was his.

1876 (Ref: Western Times (Plymouth) 8 /9/76)

The Allander Paper Mills of Messrs Whyte & Sons, Milngavie went on fire on Tue 5 September 1876. The damage was estimated at £25,000 and 150 people who worked at the Mill were without work.

1876 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 4/12/76)

The workmen who were clearing away the fire debris have finished. The newspaper reports that re-building the works will not, just now, be proceeded with.

1878 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 25/5/78)

William Whyte & Company, paper makers of Milngavie, now in receivership. Creditors meeting 3rd June 1878.

1878 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 27/6/78)

Mr Whyte examined before Sherriff Galbraith as a bankrupt.

1878 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 25/9/78)

The Allander Paper Mill to be sold at public roup on 16th September 1878. Buildings, machinery, approximately 14 acres of ground, full water supply from Allander Water, a two-storey manager's house, garden and ground; and shops and dwelling houses.

1878 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 2/12/78)

The Allander Mill to sell at roup at *reduced* price.

1879 (Ref: GRO 27 April 1879)

Death of William Whyte junior from TB at Allander House, Milngavie. He had been ill with TB for one year.

1879 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 24/7/79)

The Allander Paper Mill sold at greatly reduced price to Dawsholm paper maker John Craig of 3 Lorne Terrace, Maryhill.

1882 (Ref: The Edinburgh Gazette & Glasgow Herald Gazette 16/6/82)

Mr John Craig of The Allander Paper Mill, Milngavie bankrupt. Appeared before Sherriff Guthrie June 1882.

1882 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 6/9/82)

The Allander Paper Mill, Milngavie for sale by public roup. Advertisement also appeared in the London Evening Standard in two weeks in September.

1882 John Birrell and his business Partner, Andrew Bertram – both of Penicuick, Midlothian, bought The Allander Paper Mill and subsequently re-named it The Ellangowan Paper Mill Ltd. Andrew Bertram died in 1894 and John Birrell continued the firm investing and expanding to produce paper for the stationery and book trades. Mr Birrell died on 18th September 1920 in Milngavie. The business continued under the guidance of one of his step-brothers – ETF Birrell.

1923 (Ref: Phillips Paper Trade Directory of the World)

Ellangowan Paper Co., Milngavie. Managing Director: John A Kidd of John A Kidd & Son, 20/21 Queenhithe, London EC1.

1930 (Ref: TNA, Kew)

G Outram & Co., the Glasgow newspaper publishers take an interest in the Mill.

1940 (Ref: TNA, Kew)

Ellangowan Paper Co. Ltd. Re-organisation and development.

1940 (Ref: The Scotsman 23/4/40)

Paper trade depression nationally with many mills stopping altogether.

1944 (Ref: Daily Record 8/8/44)

Fire at Ellangowan Mill destroyed the grass, boiler and duster houses.

1945 (Ref: Daily Record 6/9/45)

50 barrels of resin go on fire at The Ellangowan Paper, Milngavie.

1949 (Ref: TNA)

Absorbed by the Clyde Paper Co.

1971 (Ref: Grace's Guide)

Clyde Paper Co. closed.

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†*William Whyte (junior) was the son of William Whyte (senior). William Whyte (senior - 28 Nov 1790 Glasgow – 22 July 1861 – Helensburgh) was a Gibraltar Merchant, JP, forestry owner and a farmer (120 acres). In 1841 (census) he lived at Gairbread House, Trongate, Glasgow with his wife Mary Smith and their two children: William Whyte junior and Mary Whyte junior. By 1845 he lived at Kilmardinny House. (Ref: Glasgow Citizen 27 Sep 1845). By 1851 and still living at Kilmardinny House he was widowed. Both his children had left home. Daughter Mary married Robert Walkinshaw; Son William (junior) married Jean McKendrick. William & Jean had five children: William (1851-1879), Jane, Margaret, Andrew and Hugh.*

BURNBRAE BLEACH, PRINT AND DYE WORKS

This site appears to have been operated as both a bleach field/works, a dye works and a print works by different firms – sometimes three at a time on this site.

1783 (Ref: Initial subscription: Glasgow Chamber of Commerce 1793-1983 pub. Blackie & Co.)

David Watson & Co., Merchants & Calico & Linen Printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie. (Appear to have been recruited to the Glasgow Chamber by John Glassford of Dougalston.)

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1819-20 (Ref: Perthshire Courier 21/10/19; Glasgow Herald 18/9/20; Blackwood's Magazine 1820; Edinburgh Gazette 1819)
Morrison & Watson, Merchants in Glasgow & Bleachers in Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's Directory)
James Reid & Co., Calico Printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1841 (Ref: Perthshire Advertiser 23/12/41)
Burnbrae Printworks, Milngavie destroyed by fire.

1851 (Ref: Elgin Courier 26/12/51 & Perry's Bankrupt Gazette)
Sequestration of Thomas Bond, bleacher of Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1852 (Ref: Directory of Noblemen & Gentlemen's Seats & 1855 Valuation Rolls)
Burnbrae: William Bond (brother of Thomas Bond)

1852 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 30/4/52 & 14/5/52)
Lease of bleachfield & bleacher's utensils at Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1852 (Ref: Glasgow Sentinel 14/2/52)
Lease of bleachfield & bleacher's utensils at Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1855 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 14/9/55)
Lease of Burnbrae bleach field for sale.

1856 (Ref: Liverpool Mercury 11/2/56)
Chimney blown down in hurricane of Clark & Cos., Burnbrae, Milngavie destroying the dyehouse.

1856 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 3/11/56)
Sale of bleaching machinery Burnbrae Bleach works.

1860 (Ref: P O Directory 1860-61)
Patrick Neilson Dyers & Printers, Burnbrae Works, Milngavie. House: Burnbrae House, Milngavie; Office 69 Glassford Street, Glasgow.

1862 (Ref: County Directory of Scotland)
Patrick Neilson, Printworks, Burnbrae, Milngavie. House: Burnbrae House, Milngavie; Office 69 Glassford Street, Glasgow.

1862 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 29/4/62)
29 April 1862 Creditors Notice – Patrick Neilson.

1863 (Ref: P O Directory 1863-64)
Alexander Ross & Co., dyers & printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1864 (Ref: P O Directory 1864-65)
Alexander Ross & Co., dyers & printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1866 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 28/6/66)
Death of John Muir Ross at Burnbrae Works, age 24.

1868 (Ref: County Directory of Scotland)
Alexander Ross & Co., dyers & printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1871 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 17/6/71)
Alexander Ross & Co., dyers & printers – news story about weather.

1874 (Ref: P O Directory 1874)
Alexander Ross & Co., dyers & printers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1874 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 23/12/74)
Alexander Ross & Co., suspended payments to suppliers and the firm ceased immediately.

1874 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 4/4/74)
Heavy snow & then severe flooding Burnbrae & Kilmardinny.

1875 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 2/2/75 & Craigton Cemetery data)
Thomas & James Reid of Alexander Reid & Sons, dyers, Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1878 (Ref: Dundee Evening Telegraph 8/1/78)
Strike at Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1878 (Ref: Edinburgh Evening News 25/10/78)
Short time working at Burnbrae, Milngavie.

1879 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 9/10/79)
Fire £500-600 worth of damage at Burnbrae dyeworks, Milngavie.

1900 (Ref: Grace's Guide)
Acquired by the United Turkey Red Company of Alexandria, Glasgow.

-ends-

CLOBER BLEACH FIELD / BLEACH WORKS

1759 (Ref: Subscriber: Sermons/Watson/Smallbrook)

Allan Park, farmer and bleacher, Clober, Easter Kilpatrick, Stirlingshire.

1773 (Ref: 'Curiosities of Glasgow Citizenship as Exhibited Chiefly in the Business Career of its Old Commercial Aristocracy' pub: 1881)

James McGrigor*, Linen Merchant, bleacher & dyer, East Side of Candleriggs, Glasgow and Clober bleaching works, Milngavie.

1783 (Ref: A list of the Magistrates & Town Council of the City of Glasgow)

James McGrigor Esq., Dean of Guild, Merchant Candleriggs, Glasgow.

1820 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 7/2/1820)

John Jones, Lower Clober Bleachfield, Milngavie will lay down linen for bleaching. Office: No 51 Bell Street, Glasgow.

1821 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 2/2/21)

John Jones, Lower Clober Bleachfield, Milngavie – lease for let of field.

1821 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 9/2/21)

John Jones, Lower Clober Bleachfield, Milngavie will lay down linen for bleaching. Office: No 51 Bell Street, Glasgow.

1826 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 20/2/26)

John Jones, Lower Clober Bleachfield, Milngavie continues to bleach linen & cotton shirtings & sheetings for private families – as formerly – cloth received at office No 51 Bell Street, Glasgow, at 66 Glassford Street, Glasgow (Messrs. Duncan Smith & Co.) and at his Agents in the country towns. He also reminds clients that he keeps a full stock of Dunfermline table linen (bleached & unbleached) and bed & table covers, for wholesale & retail.

1826 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 24/5/26)

Notice of change of numbering in Glasgow. Henceforth No 51 Bell Street, will be No 76 Bell Street. Cloth, for bleaching, is received at this newly numbered office and also at Joseph Nixon & Co., No 122 Trongate, Glasgow.

1826 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 8/9/26)

Partners John Jones, Bleacher at Lower Clober, & Duncan Smith of D Smith & Co., soda makers[†] at Port Dundas & Merchants in Glasgow applied to the Court of Session for a discharge.

1836 (Ref: Scottish PO Directory 1836-7)

John Jones, Bleacher at Lower Clober, Milngavie. Office and Dunfermline table linen warehouse: 76 Bell Street, Glasgow.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's Directory 1837)

Mary Jones (*née Morrison, wife of the late John Jones*), bleacher at Lower Clober bleach field, Milngavie.

1838-9 (Ref: Scottish P O Directories 1838-9)

Mrs John Jones, Bleacher at Lower Clober, Milngavie. Office: and Dunfermline table linen warehouse at 76 Bell Street, Glasgow.

1838 (Ref: The Jurist Vol 1 p. 631, 1838)

James Pender & son, Dumbrock Field, Strathblane, Stirlingshire in sequestration.

1841 (Ref: 1841 census)

Mrs Mary Jones, Bleacher; John (son); Jane (daughter), William (son), Elizabeth (daughter), Lower Clober House, Milngavie. (Other daughters, Janet and Liliias, have married and are at their own homes).

1841 (Ref: 1841 census)

Alexander Dunlop, Upper Clober House. (Independent Means – not a bleacher), Janet (daughter), Ann (daughter), Alexander (son), John (son).

1843 (Ref: Scottish P O Directory)

Mary Jones, Bleacher at Lower Clober, Milngavie. Office: and Dunfermline table linen warehouse at 76 Bell Street, Glasgow.

1844 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 1/4/44)

Lower Clober Bleachfield, dwelling house & offices to be let.

1844 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 27/9/44)

Mansion House, offices & Gardens at Lower Clober, with such land as may be required, for let – furnished.

1845 (Ref: Scottish P O Directory)

James Pender & Son, Bleachers, Clober. Parcels left at Thomas Howatson, Senior, & Co., 59 Hutcheson Street, Glasgow. (*Note: Firm being run by son William Pender*).

1845 (Ref: Glasgow Citizen 24/5/45)

James Pender & Son Linens & orders left at Thomas Howatson, Senior, & Cos., 59 Hutcheson Street, Glasgow. (*Note: Firm being run by son William Pender*).

1845 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 24/10/45)

Clober Mansion House with garden and offices for six month let or longer. (Alexander Dunlop, a barrister, was relocating to Edinburgh).

1849 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 9/3/49)

Clober Mansion House with garden and offices for six month let or longer.

1856 (Ref: Liverpool Mercury 11/2/56)

Hurricane has 'levelled' the works and a wooden drying 3-storey shed at James Pender & Son, Clober, Milngavie.

1858 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 29/3/58)

Clober House to let furnished. Includes 3 public rooms, 10 bedrooms, ample servant's accommodation with 4-stalled stable, coach house, garden, shrubbery etc & if wished 8-10 acres pasture.

1860 (Ref: Dunbartonshire O.S. name books)

Clober House, property of A. Dunlop Esq., Clober Bleach works, property of A. Dunlop Esq., worked by William Logan & Co.

1861 (Ref: 1861 census)

Lower Clober House, Clober, Milngavie. William Logan, wife Agnes, children Margaret, Alexander and John.

1862 (Ref: County Directory)

Clober bleachfield: James Pender & Son; Clober House: J G Fleming M.D.

1865 (Ref: The London Gazette 10/3/65 & Perrys Bankrupt Gazette 11/4/65)

Sequestration of William Logan, Bleacher, sole Partner of James Pender & Son, Clober, Milngavie.

1876 (Ref: GRO)

Death of William Logan, Master Bleacher, James Pender & Son, Clober, Milngavie.

1885-6 (Ref: Glasgow P O Directory)

James Pender & Son, Bleachers, Milngavie; orders left at Kerr & Richardson's, 89 Queen Street, Glasgow. (Firm now operated by William Pender Logan).

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

James Pender & Son, Clober, Milngavie. (Operated on behalf of William Hamilton Dunlop, son of Alexander Dunlop & heir of William Pender Logan.)

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

Walter Drew T/A James Pender & Son, Clober. Living at 'Clober View' with sister Jessie and brother James, who is a school teacher.

1915 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Walter Drew, bleacher, T/A James Pender & Son, Cloberfield, Milngavie.

1923-4 (Ref: Phone Books)

James Pender & Son, Clober, Milngavie. Telephone Milngavie 137.

1925 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Walter Drew, bleacher, T/A James Pender & Son, Cloberfield, Milngavie.

1927 (Ref: GRO)

Walter Drew died in Milngavie.

1930

11 July 1930 – Clober bleachworks demolished.

-ends-

**Correct spelling of Mr McGrigor's name. Mr McGrigor was Dean of Guild when the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce was first established and he was elected first deputy chairman of that Chamber. His business had several partners/investors, one of whom was John Glassford of Dougalston.*

His daughter's husband was the engineer James Watt of Greenock. The couple married on 27 July 1776 in New Kilpatrick. However, prior to the marriage Mr McGrigor was unhappy about Watt's financial standing and ability to support a wife and children. He required, of Watt, sight of the financial agreement between Watt and his Partner Boulton guaranteeing income, before he would sanction the marriage. Watt, who was aware of Berthollet's work on chlorine as a bleaching agent, enabled his father-in-law, James McGrigor to utilise the idea in newly developed bleach works at Clober. These included the laying out of fresh water courses, a steam house, steam drying equipment and other refinements for bleaching and printing and thus enabled these activities to be undertaken quickly and cheaply, resulting in increased productivity and income.

James McGrigor's sister – Margaret – married into the Dunlop family of Glasgow. They were merchants, who imported cotton and other goods on their ship "Martha" through Greenock. James left his bleach works, at Clober, to his nephew Robert Dunlop of Dunlop, Hamilton & Co. This man's son – Alexander Dunlop – inherited Clober, but handed its operation to his relative's firm

James Pender & Son. The Pender family had bleach works at Strathblane and moved the main part of their operation to Clober in 1817. James, who died in 1824 at Clober, left his works to his grandson William Pender Logan (1849-1916).

† Soda makers – they made chemicals, including chlorine, for bleaching.

CROSSBURN CALICO PRINTWORKS

A small calico printing operation, Crossburn, is described in the 1841 census, as a printworks. It is interesting since only a small number of people worked there and, of these, the Stevens family, of four men were crucial to the business - they were two calico printers and two others, one of whom was a 'pattern drawer' while the other was a 'colour maker'. Others working at the business in 1841 were noted as 'journeyman calico printers'. The firm was run by Glasgow Merchant and calico printer John McGregor with partners, John McGregor (Junior) and John Clark of Menteith Row, Glasgow.

1820 (Ref: PO Directory 1820)

John McGregor & Co., Cotton & Linen Merchants 26 Brunswick Place, Glasgow.

1822 (Ref: PO Directory 1820-22)

John McGregor & Co., Cotton & Linen Merchants 26 Brunswick Place, Glasgow.

1824 (Ref: PO Directory 1825)

John McGregor & Co., Merchants & Calico Printers, 44 Brunswick Place, Glasgow.

1826 (Ref: PO Directory 1826)

John McGregor & Co., Calico Printers, 35 Virginia Street, Glasgow. House & Print Works, Kelvinhaugh.

1835 (Ref: PO Directory 1835-6)

John McGregor & Co., Calico Printers, 35 Virginia Street, Glasgow. House & Print Works, Kelvinhaugh, Partickbank.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's Directory)

Calico Printers: New Kilpatrick, Milngavie & Neighbourhoods: John McGregor & Co., at Crossburn, Milngavie.

1841 (Ref: census)

Crossburn Calico Printworks: Journeyman calico printers - Allan, Gribben, Gribben, McDonald, McLean, Quinn, Ritchie, Stevens and Stevens; brother William Stevens (pattern drawer), Robert Stevens (colour maker) and their families.

1841 (Ref: census)

John McGregor House: Cambridge Street, Glasgow.

It seems that between 1841 and 1851 Mr McGregor died. There is no sign of a printworks in the 1851 census and the land has been taken into the farm of Mains.

-ends-

FORTH & CLYDE CANAL & MARYHILL LOCKS

The Forth and Clyde canal played a part in the development of Milngavie. The locks at Maryhill were just five miles away and the canal was a route for heavy goods from the Clyde, which in turn was the major river for ships coming into Port Glasgow and on into the city. At the time that it was created, with no overhead fixed bridges along its length, it was anticipated that sea-going vessels could travel its entirety. Goods like cotton, hardwoods, sugar, tobacco and chemicals for the bleaching and dyeing industries came into its Glasgow end.

The canal was designed by John Smeaton FRS and was the longest of the four 'Lowland' canals. Smeaton, who is recognised as Britain's very first 'professional' civil engineer, was a Leeds man. Born in 1724 he was responsible for the design of four canals in the UK, as well as a whole host of other civil engineering projects like Banff Harbour, Aberdeen Bridge, Perth Bridge and Peterhead Harbour, as well as his most famous – the third Eddystone Lighthouse.

1767 (Ref: Caledonian Mercury 20/5/67)

Petition presented to the House of Commons on Thursday 14th May 1767 for a canal to be constructed

between the great rivers of the Clyde and the Forth.

1768

Act of Parliament assent given 8th March 1768.

1768 (June)

Work began on hand digging out the channel for the canal (from the Glasgow end).

1771 (Ref: Caledonian Mercury 22/6/71 & 17/7/71)

Four Roman altars found by canal diggers at Auchendavie[†] (*sic*). Altars 'put into the possession of the University of Glasgow'.

1773

Water filled the canal as far as Kirkintilloch.

1775

Canal works reached Maryhill.* Locks were made and a cut was dug towards Hamiltonhill.

1775

Stoppage of all works due to shortage of funds.

1783/4

Works re-commenced utilising government funds taken from estates forfeited by Jacobite adherents.

1790

28th July – canal completed.

-ends-

[†] Now known as 'Auchendavy', the largely unexcavated Roman Fort on the Antonine Wall.

*The canal ran through the lands of Robert Graham of Dawsholm, whose wife was Miss Mary Hill – thus the locality became known as "Maryhill".

THE GLASGOW & MILNGAVIE JUNCTION RAILWAY

1845 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 7/11/45)

Notice in newspaper to the effect that 'an application is to be made to Parliament for leave to bring in a Bill for making and maintaining a railway from a point at or near the village of Milngavie on the line of the intended railway called the Caledonian and Dumbartonshire Junction railway.' In the event, the above concept was abandoned and instead the Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway was a branch from the Glasgow – Dumbarton & Helensburgh line at Westerton (with stations at Bearsden and subsequently Hillfoot). Sir Archibald Islay Campbell of Succouth, MP was a principal shareholder; others from Milngavie included James Spens Black of Allander Printworks and the Works Manager, Mr Frederick McCall.

1861

Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway Act received Royal Assent on 1 August 1861.

1863 (Ref: Advertisement Glasgow Morning Journal 13/4/63)

"Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway – Opening of the Line – the Public are informed that this line will be OPENED for PASSENGER TRAFFIC on MONDAY 10th inst. Trains will run as follows:"

(Trains ran three times a day each way; fares were Glasgow to Milngavie, single, first class 9d; third class 6d; returns: 1s 3d first class and 9d third class. Journey time: 30 minutes.) "BY ORDER. Company's Offices 6th April 1863."

Railway opened, as a single track.

1866 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 17/3/1866)

Chairman's report to shareholders – working capital for the railway = £30,000.

1871 (Ref: 1871 census)

At this time there were thirteen people living in the parish of New Kilpatrick, who worked in connection with the railway, six of whom lived in Milngavie. Three were porters – Duncan Campbell of Allander Place, William Johnston of Barloch Lodge and Archibald Watt from Allander Place. Robert Learmont was, at that time, a ticket clerk and lived at the gas works cottage. The Station Master, John Park, lived at Westend (Douglas Street end of town) and Allan Lindsay, who lived in Main Street, was a Railway Agent. His work was that of part goods salesman, part organiser of goods and parcels.

1873

Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway absorbed by The North British Railway authorised on 28 July 1873.

1881 (Ref: 1881 census)

At this time fourteen people, who were living in New Kilpatrick parish, worked in connection with the railway. Five lived in Milngavie. Alexander Buchanan, a railway clerk, lived in Station Road, as did Alexander Watt and his son, Archibald. Both were porters at the station. Also in Milngavie was William Scott a goods clerk living in the old town. At Woodside Cottage, Milngavie was William Hislop. He was a railway collector (of unpaid fares) and he worked out of Buchanan Street Station in Glasgow for the Caledonian Railway. Still in the parish, but by Bearsden, was railway contractor James Young, who employed two hundred and sixty men.

1890 (Ref: London Gazette 25/11/1890)

Proposals for line and sidings for Burnbrae Dyeworks off the Glasgow & Milngavie Junction Railway.

1891 (Ref: 1891 census)

At this time thirty-seven people living in the parish of New Kilpatrick, worked in connection with the railway. Of these, probably the man who became very famous, was Robert McAlpine. He and his family lived at Garscadden House. Two of his children were born there. ‘Concrete Bob’ as he was later dubbed, built the Fort William to Mallaig line and was responsible for a whole host of major public works both in Scotland and in England. In 1918 he became a Baronet and the huge international construction and civil engineering firm still operates under the trading name Sir Robert McAlpine Limited.

Others in the parish and who lived in Milngavie and worked for the railways were two engine drivers – Robert Gray, who lived in Main Street and Alexander Robertson who lived in Sinclair Street. A railway guard – George Stewart – lived in Douglas Street. Five porters worked at the station. They were John Dodds who lived in Stewart Place, Robert Knowe who lived in Cheapside, George Reid who lived in Main Street and Archibald Watt who lived at 128 Station Road. Railway servant, James Crawford, lived up Strathblane Road, while clerks Kenneth Stewart and David Sutherland lived in Stewart Street and Victoria Place respectively. Railway labourer, John Harkins also lived in Stewart Street.

1893 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 28/4/93)

“Yesterday at one o’clock, the North British Railway extension into the Ellangowan Paper Mill was formerly (*sic*) opened. A train consisting of thirty-two wagons was driven from the junction at Crossvegat Bridge (this was then a bridge from end of Fulton Road to Public Park), by Mrs Birrel, wife of Major Birrel of Allander House.”

1899

Milngavie Railway Station re-built and a canopy added.

1900 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 25/4/00)

Doubling of line completed by 24 April 1900.

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

At this time one hundred and nine people, living in the parish of New Kilpatrick, worked in connection with the railway. Of these, forty-seven lived in Milngavie. Railway clerks (in the ticket office and the goods office) numbered twelve. They were William Dempster and his son, Andrew, who lived in Ebony Terrace (off Mugdock Road), Charles Graham who lived in Lower Barloch, two brothers Robert Gray and John Gray who lived in Douglas Street, while John Manuel, from Edinburgh, lived in Hillhead Street – so really handy for the station. Other clerks were John McLuckie who lived in Kirk Street and Alexander Patrick who was in Victoria Place (Glasgow Road/Station Road – two entrances to these flats). At Ebony Terrace were Australian-born Alex Smith with his two sons, also railway clerks – David and John, both born in Glasgow. Hector Turner lived in Victoria Place. There were nine porters living in Milngavie in 1901. They were Francis Boyle who lived in Douglas Street, Colin McDougall who lived at Woodburn Place. Two brothers, living in Kirk Street, were Hugh and William McLachlan and William McGrady lived two doors away from them. Arthur McMourouh lived in Cheapside, as did Joseph Shuky. John Owens, born in Milngavie, lived at Woodlands, while Archibald Watt lived nearer his work at 128 Drummond Place, on Station Road. Three passenger guards lived in Milngavie. James Douglas lived at Victoria Place, Daniel Ferguson at Allander Terrace and Samuel Ross lived in Bridge Place. Two engine drivers were in Milngavie at this time - James Minty who lived in Douglas Street, and John Taylor who lived in Victoria Place. Three railway surfacemen lived in Bridge Place: William Anderson, James Clinton and Joseph McNaull. Three labourers, who also helped keep the tracks in good order, were George Christie who lived in Main Street, James Provan who lived in Woodlands and Crawford Christie, who lived in Douglas Street. Two platelayers had their homes in the town – brothers David and Malcolm Crosbie, who had lodgings in Allander Terrace. Two men responsible for railway signalling were Alex Gunn, who lived at Hillhead Street and Henry C Duncan who lived at Allander Terrace. Stokers David Lamb, a Perthshire man, was at Main Street, while James May, had his house at Corbieha’ Place.

A fireman, for the engine, Henry Brown, lived in Main Street, while Milngavie’s railway carter – John Come – lived at the Station Cottage on the entrance to the railway station off Station Road. James Docherty was a railway overlooker and he lived at Kirk Street. The senior railway goods clerk was George Downey, who lived at Claremont Gardens; and the railway lorry driver was George Eddie who lived at Allander Terrace. The railway cashier, not just for Milngavie, but other stations too, was William Hislop who lived in a house named “Bennochty” with his family.

Ticker Collector James Rodger, from Portobello, lived in Douglas Street. A railway civil engineer, Arthur S Vowell, an Englishman, was a neighbour of Alexander D Strathdee (the aerated water manufacturer). Two other people of interest, who lived in the parish, but not in Milngavie, were Michael Conner who was an Irishman who had been a railway ganger in America and was now home visiting his family in Bearsden; and Patrick Bradley who had been ill but in 1901 was at the Schaw Convalescent Home in Bearsden. This lovely building, in beautiful grounds, was owned by Glasgow Royal Infirmary and was a peaceful place to recuperate.

1923

The North British Railway was absorbed by The London and North Eastern Railway (LNER).

1948

Railways in the UK were Nationalised and this line, among others, came under the control of British Railways, Scottish Region.

-ends-

THE MILNGAVIE COTTON SPINNING MILL

1775 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 4/2/65)

Letter from John Aitcheson referring to a date in 1775 when his father-in-law, James Robertson (Senior) a Partner in Robertson & Co., of Millbank, Port Glasgow built the Mill in Milngavie. This Partnership included a Mathew Robertson (a son with a business initially in Paisley) a James Donaldson and a James Kibble, from Paisley.

1796 (Ref: Deanston Distillery; Old Statistical Account)

The Deanston Cotton Spinning Mill, Perthshire was burnt down and about 20 families from there took up residence in Milngavie.

1797 (Ref: Horse Tax Rolls 1797)

Mathew Robison (Robertson) lived in Milngavie for a time and operated the spinning mill.

1797 (Ref: Game Duty Certificates)

Mathew Robertson, Cotton Works, Milngavie.

1805 (Ref: Game Duty Certificates)

Mathew Robertson, Cotton Works, Milngavie.

1806 (Ref: John Aitcheson's letter)

James Donaldson with James Kibble ran the cotton spinning mill in Milngavie.

1820 (Ref: Agreement with James Glassford)

William Dunn (Junior), his father (William Dunn Senior) and his brother took the Mill over.

1825 (Ref: Pigot's Directory)

James Kibble, now of Kibble & McKirrell, operates the cotton spinning mill, Milngavie.

1827 (Ref: Agreement with Mr Glassford)

Robert McGrigor[†] & Co., took over the cotton spinning mill, Milngavie. This firm comprised (and would comprise) Robert, brother Coll, brother John, brother Alexander, John's son, John and Robert's son Alexander.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's Directory)

Robert McGrigor & Co., Cotton Spinning Mill, Milngavie.

1838-39 (Ref: P O Directory)

Robert McGrigor & Co., Merchants & Cotton Spinners, 43 Brunswick Street, Glasgow; Works: Milngavie.

1841 (Ref: 1841 census)

Alexander McGrigor, (Robert's son) living at "Rockbank" and operating the Cotton Spinning Mill, Milngavie.

1851 (Ref: 1851 census)

Coll McGrigor) living at "Rockbank" and operating the Cotton Spinning Mill, Milngavie, which was noted as being six storey's high.[†] With him is John's son, John McGrigor. The firm employs 30 men, 90 women, 22 boys and 30 girls. The firm also had Works in Tureen Street, Glasgow and in Johnstone, Renfrewshire.

1859 (Ref: GRO)

Coll McGrigor dies in Milngavie (17/8/1859).

1861 (Ref: 1861 census)

Alexander McGrigor (Robert's son) shown living at "Allander House" with his wife Ann (née Baird, a Milngavie girl), and operating the Robert McGrigor & Co., Cotton Spinning Mill which employed 31 men, 13 boys, 68 women and 44 girls.

1861 (Ref: Slater's Directory)

Robert McGrigor & Co., Cotton Spinning Works, Milngavie.

1861-65 (American civil war)

Cotton raw material imports to the UK severely affected. This was known as the “cotton famine”.

1862 (Ref: P O Directory)

Robert McGrigor & Co., Counting House 30 Cochrane Street, Glasgow; Works: Milngavie & Johnstone.

1862 (Ref: Glasgow Sentinel 29/11/62)

Cotton Mill ceased operating on Tuesday 18 November 1862. 130 workers were thrown out of work. Mr McGregor (*sic*) immediately allowed house tenants to live rent-free and providing, for each family, a free cart of coal; while Mrs McGregor set about organising the making a distribution of porridge and of soup & bread. The couple also set up a school for the children of the workers, while several employees became ‘teachers’ at that school.

1865 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Cotton Spinning Mill in the hands of Alexander McGrigor of Robert McGrigor & Co., also sundry houses and shop.

(This site will become Whyte’s Paper Mill and then the Ellangowan Paper Mill)

-ends-

†Correct spelling of McGrigor, not McGregor. Source: 1855 Valuation Rolls for Milngavie and 1860 O.S. name book for Milngavie. Robert McGrigor & Co. pay £380 pa for mill site and have 4 tenements of houses, a shop and a house and the mansion house (Allander House), garden and outbuildings.

THE MILNGAVIE PRINTWORKS AND THE ALLANDER PRINTWORKS

There has been a degree of confusion surrounding these printworks, which this listing should help to solve.

Like very many of the textile industries in Milngavie, the various firms on the site across just over one hundred years, made considerable use of the Allander as a source of motive power. Latterly, of course, with the introduction of steam in processes the Allander was less used as ‘power’ to drive machinery.

Mr Peter ‘had constructed a channel and a weir for his works’. These became very useful to John Woodburn, a later owner of the site, when he used these to set up a small electric plant to provide lighting to his residential development called ‘Clober Crescent’ which was built on this old printworks site. (see below)

1783 (Ref: Caledonian Mercury 31/5/83)

Calico printing taking place in Milngavie. Andrew McNair, (husband of Janet Dunlop, daughter of David Dunlop owner of Craigton bleach field). Customers from Glasgow, Edinburgh, Port Glasgow, Greenock, Irvin, Beith, Stirling, Airth, Ayr, Falkirk, Linlithgow, Campbeltown, Rothesay, Dumbarton, Hamilton, Carnwath, Paisley.

1794 (Ref: The Scots Magazine)

Mr William Peter calico printing at Milngavie and Clober. (Mr Peter was married to Ann Muir and they had several children. However, he died and she re-married Alexander Graham of Tambowie Distillery).

1797 (Ref: ‘The Parish of Strathblane and its Inhabitants from Early Times’, Smith JG)

Walter Weir had been calico printing (1790) in Strathblane.

1801 (Ref: Scottish P O Directory)

Walter Weir, St Andrew’s Sq. Glasgow; Calico Printer.

1806 (Ref: PO Directory 1806/1807)

Walter Weir, 13 Brunswick Street, Glasgow, Calico Printer.

1809 (Ref: The Parish of Strathblane and its Inhabitants from Early Times, Smith JG)

Walter Weir “Retired”

1809 (Ref: ‘Random Notes and Rambling Recollections of Drydock, the Dock or Kelvindock, All Now Known by the More Modern Name of Maryhill 1750-1894’, Thomson, A)

Walter Weir - Calico Printer, Dawsholm.

1812-1813 (Ref: ‘Random Notes and Rambling Recollections of Drydock, the Dock or Kelvindock, All Now Known by the More Modern Name of Maryhill 1750-1894’, Thomson, A)

Walter Weir, Dawsholm, this time in partnership with George Yuill Shortridge. The firm was known as GY Shortridge & Co., Walter Weir didn’t figure, publicly, in the firm.

1816 (Ref: The Glasgow Directory)

George Yuill Shorridge, Drysalter, 39 Miller St., Glasgow. (*A drysalter was a chemical merchant*)

1816 (Ref: The Edinburgh Gazette 13/5/16)

Walter Weir, residing in Dawsholm, sequestration.

1816 (Ref: Perthshire Courier 23/5/16)

Walter Weir, calico printer Glasgow - creditors meeting.

1816 (Ref: Perthshire Courier 4/7/16)

Walter Weir - examination as a bankrupt in Sherriff Clerks' Chambers, Glasgow 11 & 25 July 1816

1816 (Ref: Perthshire Courier 4/7/16)

Walter Weir - creditors meeting at King & Campbell, 28 Brunswick Place, Glasgow.

1820 (Ref: Commercial Dir. of Scotland, Ireland & the foremost Northern Counties of England 1820-1821 & 182

George Yuill Shorridge & Co., Calico Printers. Partnership with Walter Weir having been terminated.

1820 (Ref: Commercial Directory of Scotland, Ireland & the foremost Northern Counties of England 1820-1821 & 1822)

Walter Weir & Thomas Paul, a Lanark Bank Agent, become Partners & begin calico printing at Milngavie calling themselves The Milngavie Printfield Co.,

1821-22 Ref: 'Random Notes and Rambling Recollections of Drydock, the Dock or Kelvindock, All Now Known by the More Modern Name of Maryhill 1750-1894', Thomson, A)

Firm became bankrupt

1824 (Ref: The Law Advertiser 23/3/24)

Sequestration of Walter Weir & Thomas Paul.

1824 (Ref: London Gazette 13/7/1824)

Sequestration data of Walter Weir & Thomas Paul.

1825 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 11/2/25 & 15/2/25)

Creditors meetings regarding Walter Weir & Thomas Paul.

1826 (Ref: The Scotsman & Glasgow Herald April 1826)

Walter Weir & Thomas Paul, the individual Partners in the Milngavie Printfield Co., - sequestration.

1833 (Ref: The Scotsman 5/12/1833)

John Black & Co, The Allander Printing Co., Milngavie – industrial dispute; James Black, Partner in Milngavie.

1834 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 23/8/34 Petition)

John Black & Co., Milngavie.

1834 (Ref: Caledonian Mercury 3/7/34)

John Black & Co, Allander Printing Co., Milngavie – industrial dispute; James Spens Black, Partner in Milngavie.

1836 (Ref: Caledonian Mercury 13/10/36)

Firm's social event. James Spens Black presiding.

1837 (Ref: Pigot's Directory)

John Black & Co., The Allander Printworks.

1841 (Ref: census 1841 Scotland)

Walter Weir living in an inn or hotel in King Street, St Ninians, Stirlingshire.

1841 (Ref: census 1841 Scotland)

Allander House, Milngavie previously the home of the Black family, Calico Printers, Milngavie.

Empty apart from 66-year-old Rachel Southgate, who is from Linlithgow.

1844 (Ref: Essex Standard 12/4/44 & Glasgow Chronicle)

Death of The Milngavie Print Works manager.

1845 (Ref: Glasgow Citizen 27/9/45)

Milngavie horticultural show – vegetables from the garden of Mr John Black of Milngavie Printworks.

1847 (Ref: Perry's Bankrupt Gazette 6/3/47)

Partnership dissolved between James S Black & James Black Junior.

1850 (Ref: Bradford Observer 11/4/50)

Much of The Milngavie Printworks destroyed by fire.

1850 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 23/12/50)

Changes in Partnerships within the Black family.

1851 (Ref: Dublin Evening Post 20/2/51)

Further changes in Partnerships within the Black family.

1851 (Ref: census 1851 Scotland)

James Spens Black home address: Allander House.

1854 (Ref: Falkirk Herald 14/12/54)

Contributions from James Spens Black Esq of Craigmaddie House, Baldernock and from the workers at The

Milngavie Printworks of John Black & Co., Milngavie for the 'Royal Patriotic Fund'. (*A fund set up to assist widows and orphans of UK servicemen dying in the Crimean War.*)

1856 (Ref: Liverpool 11/2/56)

Hurricane badly damaged The Printworks of John Black & Co., Milngavie (and Pender's Works at Clober bleach field, Blackwood's Craighton bleach Works and Clark's Works at Burnbrae, Milngavie.)

1858 (Ref: Glasgow Free Press 11/12/58)

Theft of textiles and dye products from John Black & Co., The Milngavie Printworks.

1859 (Ref: Stirling Observer 19/5/59)

Serious fire at John Black & Co., The Milngavie Print Works.

1861 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 2/1/61)

Concert at John Black & Co., to raise money for street gas lighting in Milngavie.

1862 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 1/3/62)

Works only able to operate 3-4 days per week due to lack of orders.

1867 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 6/2/67 & GRO)

Death James Spens Black, Craigmaddie House, Baldernock.

1871 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 7/12/71)

Senior Partner at John Black & Co., The Milngavie Printworks (Mr F McCall) celebrates his wedding.

1873 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 2/5/73)

Donations from employees at John Black & Co., The Milngavie Printworks to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

1874 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 7/4/74)

Closure of print works of John Black & Co., The Milngavie Printworks. Staff thrown out of work. Premises up for immediate sale.

1877 (Ref: Edinburgh Evening News 1/2/77)

Printworks of John Black & Co., The Milngavie Printworks finally sold to calico printers Boyd & Stirling of Barrhead, "having been stood empty for some time."

1879 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 28/3/79)

Allander Calico Printworks, Milngavie for sale with immediate possession.

1887 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 4/1/87)

The Allander Printworks, Milngavie "have been steadily employed in printing for the past 12 months under owners Thomson Robertson & Co."

1889 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 18/9/89)

Contents of Allander Printworks for sale by private bargain. Works have closed down.

1890 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 8/1/90)

Works, contents, equipment etc of The Allander Print Works, Milngavie to be sold at auction on 21/1/90. Grounds to be cleared, works for demolition.

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

The land has been built on by Mr John Woodburn in the period 1893-5. Units of shops, stables, van sheds and housing. Development named 'Clober Crescent'.

-ends-

MILNGAVIE RESERVOIRS

These reservoirs and treatment works were created to supply water to the population of Glasgow. Initially the Mugdock Reservoir was instigated on the back of two major outbreaks of cholera, in Glasgow, in 1838 and again in 1848. The need for clean, pure water drove forward the decision especially for the northern areas of the city and its suburbs. Death rates were exceptionally high for the 1848 outbreak and so the City Corporation made the decision for action in the following four years.

1852

Glasgow Corporation, having decided that a new water supply should be under their control (obviating the need for wells) commissioned John Bateman (1810-1889), a Yorkshireman, to carry out research and produce a report and solution to their water supply problem.

1853

In September of this year Bateman presented his report. This set out several options for the client to choose from these included: extending the Gorbals waterworks, taking water from the Clyde and the Avon, taking water from the Allander and the Duchray or taking water from either Endrick Water or Loch Katrine. His recommendation was to

utilise Loch Katrine to meet the city's developing needs. The Corporation agreed and put forward a formal request to Parliament with the active support and effort of Provost Robert Stewart of Murdostoun.

1855

Despite concern and opposition from the Admiralty, a Bill was passed in April 1855 giving assent to the proposals.

1856

Work began the following spring – 20th May 1856. The work involved not only digging the reservoir basin and establishing the area for water handling, but laying the 25.75 mile aqueduct from Loch Katrine, which would require no pumps, and thus little or no maintenance or energy expenditure.

1859

HM Queen Victoria officially opened the Mugdock Reservoir on 14th October 1859. The Reservoir could hold 500 million gallons of water and distribute 50 million gallons per day.

1881 (Ref: 1881 census)

Mr Charles Fenwick, originally of Scone, Perthshire, was the 'Inspector of Water Works' and lived with his wife and children at Mugdock Reservoir Cottage. Mr Fenwick, who had been a blacksmith in Glasgow, remained at the Mugdock Reservoir in 1891; but by 1901 he was the Water Works Superintendent and lived at Craigmaddie Reservoir. Also working at the Reservoir was Andrew Gray, of Cadder, Lanarkshire. Mr Gray, previously a spirit dealer in Mugdock village, worked at the Reservoir and lived at Craigholm Villa in Mugdock. He remained at the Water Works until retirement and in 1891 he still lived at Craigholm Villa. Another person working at the Reservoir was James Waddell of Slamannan, Stirlingshire. Mr Waddell and his wife Agnes and their two children lived at Woodlands Place, Milngavie – quite a short and pleasant walk to his work each day. By 1891 James had moved on to work as a dairyman.

1882

Within twenty years Glasgow Corporation realised that they needed more water for the city. A formal request was made to Parliament and in 1882 an Act was passed permitting the construction of a second Reservoir in Milngavie.

1885

Civil engineer James Gale decided that repeating Bateman's design was the best and simplest answer and work began on the Craigmaddie Reservoir.

1891 (Ref: 1891 census)

Two contractors gave up the project because of difficulties with the geology. Glasgow Corporation decided, therefore, on direct labour and in the 1891 census a small 'village' of people (including wives and children) lived up at the Reservoir while the work was pushed forward. In 1891 Mr Alexander Shand, of Kinross, was an Inspector of Water Works at Milngavie. Mr Shand's previous occupation was in Glasgow as an Inspector of Buildings, so it seems possible that he was in Milngavie for his employers – Glasgow Corporation. Still in Milngavie in 1901, now as a Superintendent of Water Works, he and his family lived at Mosswell Cottage on Strathblane Road, so a really lovely walk, up through the trees, to his work each day. Mr John Haldane of Coatbridge, Lanarkshire was another Inspector of Water Works in Milngavie and, in 1891, he lived at 102 Strathblane Road, Milngavie. Sadly he died on 5th September 1900 at his home in Woodlands Place, Milngavie.

1896

Despite a number of problems, including contractors giving up the difficult work, the Reservoir was officially opened on 12th June 1896.

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

Mr William McLean and his family lived at 90 Woodburn Place, Milngavie and Mr McLean worked at 'Glasgow Corporation Water Works', known to folk right across the UK as "Milngavie Waterworks" – even today in places like Orkney, Cornwall and East Kent.

-ends-

TAMBOWIE DISTILLERY & FARM

There are suggestions of distilling taking place at Tambowie in the early 18th century. As shown in part one of the article entitled "Technology Embraced in Milngavie" the Tambowie farm distillery existed in 1766. Official distilling at Tambowie farm began in 1824. (In 1821 an illicit still and its output had been discovered nearby and 'the smugglers' had been put in jail in Glasgow. Ref: 30/4/21 Caledonian Mercury).

1827 (Ref: Inverness Courier 14/3/27)

Alex. Graham, Tambowie. Total gallons of proof spirits made from malt only, on which the allowance of 1s 2d per gallon has been paid – 2,364. Total bushels of malt used in making the same: 1,174. These figures are for the period 5th January 1826 - 5th July 1826.

1828 (Ref: Returns on the quantities of corn wash distilled)

In the year ended 10th October 1828 – Alexander Graham, Tambowie, Stirlingshire – 94,381 gallons of corn wash distilled; 9,517 gallons of spirits produced.

1837 (Ref: Description of the banquet given in honour of Sir Robert Peel on his election as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow” Cleland, J)

Alexander Graham was among those who attended a banquet given in honour of Sir Robert Peel MP on his election as Rector of the University of Glasgow.

1837 (Ref: Pigot’s Directory)

Alexander Graham, Farmer & Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1841 (Ref: 1841 census)

Distillery & Farm Alexander Graham

1846 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 26/6/46)

Draught Brood Mare – Alexander Graham, Tambowie, first prize, Dunbartonshire Cattle Show.

1854 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 21/7/54)

Death of Archibald Graham, son of Alexander Graham, on 20 July 1854 at Tambowie Distillery & Farm. Friends please accept this intimation.

1855 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander Graham, owner of six houses, farm and distillery at Tambowie, Milngavie.

1857 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 31//7/57)

Notice: Parties having claims on the estate of the deceased John Peters of Tambowie to come forward. (John Peters was Alexander’s stepson; and the son of Ann Muir and William Peter).

1860 (Ref: OS Namebooks)

Mathew Dickson, Inland Revenue Officer, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1860 (Ref: GRO Scotland)

Death of Alexander Graham (Junior) on 13 April 1860 at Tambowie Distillery & Farm from ‘gangrene of the lung’.

Death Certified by Dr William Logan of Milngavie.

1861 (Ref: Slater’s Directory)

Alexander Graham, Farmer & Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1861 (Ref: GRO Scotland)

Alexander Graham died 2 January 1861 of influenza at Tambowie Distillery Farmhouse, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1862 (Ref: PO Directory)

Alexander Graham Buchanan, Tambowie, Milngavie. (Grandson of Alexander Graham. He inherited as his two uncles had pre-deceased him).

1865-66 (Ref: PO Directory)

James McKenzie & Co distillers & merchants & agents for Mackenzie & Co., Xérès de la Frontera and Tambowie Distillery; 24 Stockwell Street, Glasgow.

1865 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

The Distillery & two farms (Carneddan & Broadmeadow) were inhabited by AG Buchanan who was a tenant of the Trust set up for him by his Grandfather. Also six houses. Excise Officers occupied two.

1866 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 8/9/66)

Advertisement for a Maltman. Apply Alexander G Buchanan, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1872 (Ref: PO Directory)

Tambowie, Milngavie. Alexander G Buchanan, farmer & distiller.

1875 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Distillery & Farm & Houses, Tambowie - Alexander Graham Buchanan; Carneddan Farm - Alexander Graham Buchanan; Broadmeadow Farm - Alexander Graham Buchanan.

1878 (Ref: PO Directory)

Tambowie, Milngavie. Alexander G Buchanan, farmer & distiller.

1882-85 (Ref: PO Directories)

Distillery & Farms - Alexander Graham Buchanan

1884 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 18/4/84)

Petition by Hugh Baird & Co., under the Cessio Acts against Alexander Graham Buchanan.

1884 (Ref: Dundee Courier 14/5/84)

Sequestration of Alexander Graham Buchanan.

1884 (Ref: Edinburgh Gazette 26/9/84)

Postponement of declaration of a dividend.

1885 (Ref: The Scotsman 9/3/85)

Four hour examination in Bankruptcy Court of Alexander Graham Buchanan.

1885-6 (Ref: P O Directory)

David Chrystal¹, Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie. Office: 153 West George Street, Glasgow; House: 13 Westbourne Terrace, Kelvinside, and Tambowie House. / Tambowie Farm = Mr John Galbraith.

1885 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Distillery: David Chrystal / Farm = Mr John Galbraith

1886-7 (Ref: P O Directory)

David Chrystal, Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie. Office: 153 West George Street, Glasgow; House: 13 Westbourne Terrace, Kelvinside, and Tambowie House. / Tambowie Farm = Mr John Galbraith.

1887 (Ref: P O Directory)

David Chrystal, Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie. Office: 153 West George Street, Glasgow; House: 13 Westbourne Terrace, Kelvinside./ Tambowie Farm = Mr John Galbraith.

1887

Visit by Alfred Barnard² & associates.

1888 (Ref: P O Directory)

David Chrystal, Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie. Office: 153 West George Street, Glasgow / Farm = John Galbraith

1889 (Ref: The Scotsman 22/3/1890 – Prospectus for a mortgage debenture Alexander Ferguson & Co. & others)
Alexander Ferguson & Co. acquired Tambowie Distillery in July 1889.

1889 (Ref: The Scotsman 22/3/1890)

Alexander Ferguson & Co. began distilling 31/10/1889./Farm = John Galbraith

1890 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 4/2/90)

Advertisement for ‘two men to make themselves generally useful about the Tambowie Distillery’.

1890 (Ref: The Scotsman 24/2/90; 2/3/90; 5/3/90; 9/3/90)

Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie unexpired lease for sale by public roup.

1891 (Ref: The Scotsman 14/3/91; 21/3/91; 24/3/91)

Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie unexpired lease for sale by public roup. Reduced upset price to ensure a sale: £3300.

1891 (Ref: House of Lords Appeal)

Alexander McNab & Co³. Distillers, Glasgow purchased the unexpired lease for Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie. This lease was due to expire in 1920. /Farm = John Galbraith.

1893 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 14/1/93)

Under Maltman⁴ wanted for Tambowie Distillery.

1893-4 (Ref: PO Directory)

Alex McNab Distiller, Tambowie, Milngavie, Farm = John Galbraith.

1893-6 (Ref: PO Directory)

McNab Distillery Company, Tambowie, Milngavie.

1894 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 27/3/94)

Advertisement for fresh draff 2s 6d per boll (96lbs.). Tambowie Distillery near Milngavie.

1894 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 20/12/94)

Advertisement for ‘a carter (steady) wanted immediately – apply, with references, Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie’.

1895 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Alexander McNab of Middleton Kerse, Menstrie, Clackmananshire. T/A both McNab & Co., and The Tambowie Distillery Company. Mr McNab owns the whisky store, but rents the Distillery and the houses thereof from the Trustees of the late Sir George Campbell./ Farm = John Galbraith.

1896 (Ref: Dundee Advertiser & Dundee Courier 16/12/96)

Judgement, in the House of Lords, against Mr McNab, the tenant of Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie. Ordered to pay costs.

1897 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 3/8/97)

Advertisement for ‘a few good bricklayers wanted at Tambowie Distillery.’

1899 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 16/8/99)

Prosecution of Mr Peter Thomson, manager for the Tambowie Distillery, for failure to notify two cases of swine fever. The pigs with swine fever had died, as well as other unaffected pigs, and all carcasses had been buried in the manure heap rather than having been incinerated. Charge proved, Mr Thomson fined. (Pigs were commonly kept at distilleries and fed on draff.)

1899-00 (Ref: PO Directory)

Tambowie Distillery by Milngavie. Sole agents Marshall, McEwen & Co., 146 St Vincent Street, Glasgow.

1901 (Ref: 1901 census)

Residents at Tambowie in relation to the Distillery: Daniel Connell, ploughman, Tambowie Cottages; Harold Eggington, Assistant Inland Revenue Officer; John Hale, Inland Revenue Officer (First Class); Robert Imrie, pig feeder, Tambowie Cottages; John & Donald McGilvray both Mull-born Maltmen, Tambowie Cottages; Samuel

McKillop, Distillery carter, Tambowie Cottages; Peter Thomson, Distillery Manager, Tambowie Cottages; James Thomson, Maltman, Tambowie Cottages; James Watson, Distillery Night Watchman, Tambowie Cottages.

1901-2 (Ref: PO Directory)

Tambowie Distillery by Milngavie: Sole agents Marshall, McEwen & Co., 146 St Vincent Street, Glasgow.

1903 (Ref: Slater's Directory)

McNab & Co., distillers, Tambowie Distillery./Inland Revenue Officer Tambowie: John Hale. Farm= John Galbraith.

1905 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Store & the buildings at distillery: Tambowie Distillery Co., per Alexander McNab, Milngavie. Also three empty houses; one house occupied by Inland Revenue Officer Tambowie: John Hale.

1905 (Refs: Cambridge Independent Press 3/2/05; Aberdeen Journal 2 & 3/2/05; Derby Daily Telegraph 2/2/05; Exeter & Plymouth Gazette 2/2/05; Dundee Courier 2/2/05; Manchester Courier & Lancashire General Advertiser 2/2/05; Western Times (Plymouth) 2/2/05; Derry Journal 3/2/05; Western Daily Press 2/2/05; Northampton Mercury 3/2/05; Glasgow Herald 2/2/05 et al)

Mid-morning explosion and fire at brick-built bonded warehouse/store (80 yards long x 30 yards wide) at Tambowie Distillery, Milngavie from a tipped paraffin lamp⁵. All stock (2,000 casks of whisky), less 20 casks, destroyed. Cost estimated in excess of £15,000. (1905 figures). Second bonded store untouched. No lives lost or injuries sustained.

1910 (Ref: The Scotsman 28/2/10)

Official notice that the excise station at Tambowie Distillery is discontinued. Indicates that production had ceased. A new 'Glasgow' district would be established.

1910 (Ref: PO Directory)

Farm = John Galbraith

1910-12

Farm = William Twaddell.

1911 (Ref: The Scotsman 24/2/11)

Malt Whisky sale at Lyon & Turnbull's, Edinburgh. Tambowie sold at 3 shillings.

1915 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Tambowie Distillery: Farm & House: William Twaddle; 2nd house: William Twaddle; Distillery & three houses & cattle yard: Tambowie Distillery Co., per Alexander McNab, Middleton Kerse, Menstrie. (Owner of all: Sir Archibald Lindsay Campbell).

1920 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Tambowie Farm, house & cottage Andrew V Graham, farmer; Distillery & three houses Tambowie Distillery Co., per Alexander McNab, Middleton Kerse, Menstrie. (Owner of all: Sir Archibald Lindsay Campbell).

1920 (Ref: Edinburgh Evening News, Lincolnshire Echo, Gloucestershire Echo 3/11/20)

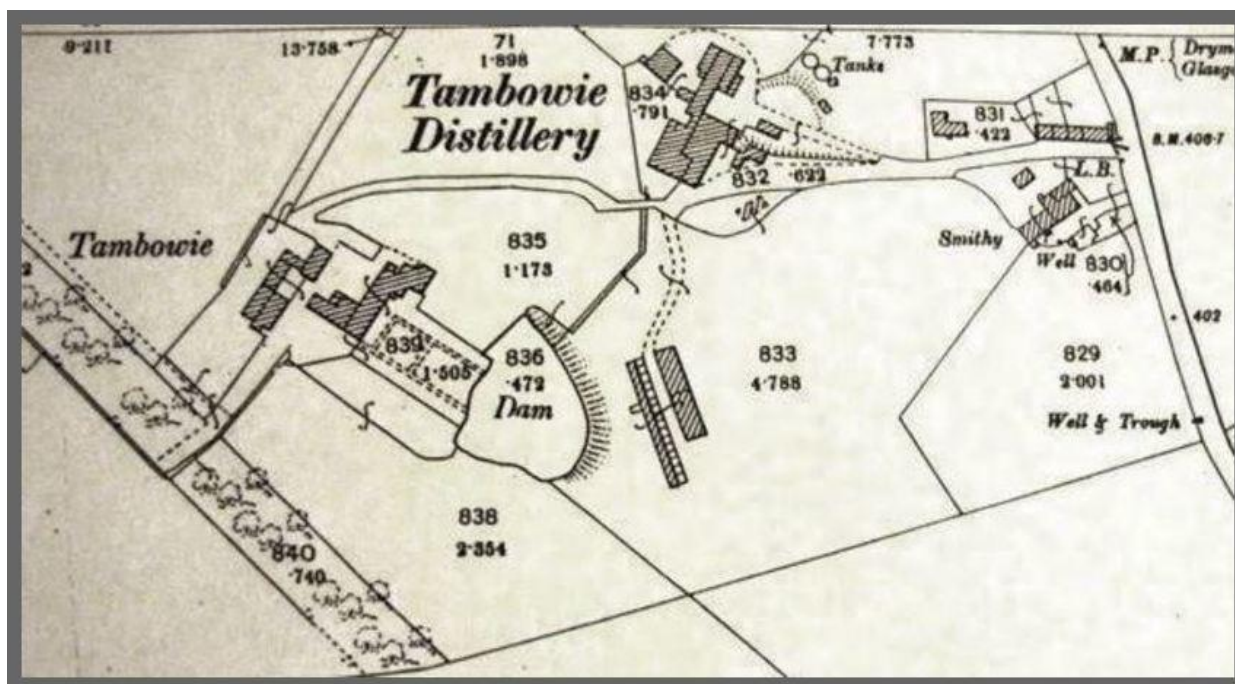
The Tambowie Distillery 'has been in disuse for several years'. In the course of a two-month demolition at the distillery a wall fell on two men and a boy there. All were buried under a collapsing wall. One died at the scene. The boy escaped largely unharmed, the other man suffered severe injuries.



(left) Advertisement, one of twenty four, around the edges of a 1902 UK railway map.

©R. Allan

(below) 1896 map showing location of Distillery & Farm and Cottages. The road on the right of the image is the Stockiemuir Road - the A809. Source/©: NLS



¹ David Chrystal was the great nephew of Andrew Chrystal, distiller at Dasherhead, Gargunnoch, Stirlingshire. David's father was a grocer providing foodstuffs to the well to do of Glasgow. He was also a wine & spirit merchant. At one point he worked as a buyer for Green & King (Greene King). After a trip to New York, for his father's business in 1880, David worked, for a time, as a commercial clerk at Lochhead Distillery. He concluded the sale of the Tambowie distillery to Alexander Ferguson in July 1889 and in February 1890 set sail on the 'Circassia' for New York, arriving there on 27th March 1890. He died in Manhattan on 29th July 1892. His memorial is in the Glasgow Necropolis.

² Alfred Barnard, who came from Essex, had a career encompassing toilet soap warehouseman & employer (1861 census) and that of a grocer/wine merchant. He and some companions travelled England, Scotland & Ireland over the period 1885-7 visiting various whisky distilleries. He worked as the 'Secretary' for "Harper's Weekly Gazette" – a trade paper of the time. His great grandson has analysed his career and put an article on the internet.

³ Alexander McNab and his brother were among those who formed the Distillers Company Limited (DCL).

⁴ The case of the 'diverted and altered' water supply rumbled on up to 1896 (final decision, from the Lord Chancellor, Lord Halsbury in December 1896). The complaint, by Mr McNab, against the Trustees of the late Sir George Campbell (representative: Gilbert Metcalfe Robertson), hinged on the water and its supply to the Distillery - pure spring/burn water being a premium requirement for distillers. Nevertheless, the distillery appears to have kept working over this period. Mr McNab lost the case. It was dismissed and he was ordered to pay costs. Mr McNab died in St Marylebone, London NW8 in 1921.

⁵ A local wag wrote a poem, published in the Milngavie & Bearsden Herald at the time, about a scene he could picture if the whisky had been tipped out in the burn while the fire raged. Such wishful thinking has, since then, been reported as actual fact!

THE ALLANDER BLEACHING COMPANY AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND LAUNDRY

Joseph Kaye Fairlie and Robert Learmont were Partners in The Allander Bleaching Company *only*. The West of Scotland Laundry was under the *sole* proprietorship of Robert Learmont.

1871 (Ref: census)

Robert Learmont, born Eaglesham, Renfrewshire March 1854, age 17 worked as a Railway Clerk.

1871 (Ref: census)

Joseph Kaye Fairlie born Feb 1859, Anderston, Glasgow, age 12, still at school.

1881 (Ref: census)

Robert Learmont, 'Bleacher & Garment Dresser', employing 5 men and 20 women. Lived in Milngavie.

1881 (Ref: census)

Joseph Kaye Fairlie, Commercial Clerk in South Africa Merchant's Office. Lived in Glasgow.

1891 (Ref: census)

Robert Learmont, Bleacher. Lived in Milngavie.

1891 (Ref: census)

Joseph Kaye Fairlie, Bleacher. Lived in Glasgow.

1901 (Ref: census)

Robert Learmont, Laundry Proprietor. Lived in Milngavie.

1901 (Ref: census)

Joseph Kaye Fairlie, Bleaching Proprietor. Lived in Milngavie.

1881 (Ref: P O Directory 1881)

The Allander Bleaching Company, Bleachers, Allander Bleachfield, Milngavie.

1881 (Ref: census)

Laundry workers in this census of Milngavie are: Laundry Foreman plus 2 starchers (dressers) and one laundry operative.

1882 (Ref: P O Directory 1882-3)

The Allander Bleaching Company, washing and renovating establishment, Milngavie. Parcels left at 183 Shamrock Street, Glasgow.

1884 (Ref: P O Directory 1884-5)

Allander Bleaching Company, Bleachers and washing and renovating establishment, Milngavie. Orders received at 107 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

1885 (Ref: Glasgow P O Directory 1885-6)

The Allander Bleaching Company, Milngavie. Orders left at 107 West Nile Street, Glasgow.

1885 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Laundry & Bleach works, Clober Rd, Milngavie occupied by Allander Bleaching Company. Feu: £12 16s 6d pa; annual rent £50 pa.

1885 (Ref: Valuation Rolls)

Houses: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 Laundry Place (there was no No. 3). Built and owned by Joseph Jardine, builder, 73 Park Road, Kelvin, Glasgow and Trustee for J&J Jardine, Glasgow.

1895 (Ref: Glasgow Herald 16/12/95)

First prize in London shirt dressing competition. 120 competitors took part.

1911 (Ref: The P O Directory 1911/12)

The West of Scotland Laundry Co., and Robert Learmont of The Allander Bleaching Company; House: Rockbank, Milngavie. Joseph K Fairlie of The Allander Bleaching Co., House: Craig-y-Barns, Mossspark Avenue, Milngavie.

1937 (Ref: Probate Notices /The Scotsman 1/2/37)

Robert Learmont of "Rockbank", Milngavie died 23 January 1937. Personal Estate: £13,611. Confirmation of Charles R Adam (Junior), his great nephew and Laundry Proprietor.

1939 - Business in the hands of Charles Riddell Adam (Junior). However, Mr Adam joined the RAF for WW2 as a Squadron Leader. His plane was shot down over Petrovac, Yugoslavia and he died 13 May 1944. During WW2 the Government requisitioned laundries for war work. While this was undoubtedly patriotic, it did nothing to help the laundry industry. The trade association placed advertisements in many newspapers across the UK explaining why domestic laundry was no longer handled during the war, but emphasising that, after the war, local laundries would resume domestic business. Post-war few could afford their services, many firms found new business in other fields of manufacture and the UK laundry industry shrank to approximately one fifth of its 1900 size.

-ends-

Sources: -

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'Rambles Round Glasgow' MacDonald, H

The Law Journal Reports for the year 1897 - Cases Decided by the Judicial Committee and the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council and in the House of Lords (Scotch and Irish Appeals); reported by Thompson, JE Barrister at Law; edited by Mews, J, Volume LXXVI

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Cameron family papers, photographs and postcard collection concerning Milngavie and now in the possession of the author

The Law Advertiser

Commercial Directory of Scotland

'The Parish of Strathblane and its Inhabitants From Early Times' Smith, JG