

# Remembering Strathpeffer



During winter 2010/2011 and again in 2013 people gathered at Strathpeffer Community Centre to remember the physical remains of Strathpeffer – buildings, sites, or monuments which were new, modified or no longer there. Using old maps, photographs (some more than a century old), a detailed sales prospectus from the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, and memories spanning over 80 years, information about over 80 sites was gathered. Some pupils from the school joined us as well for both sessions, looking on in some amazement at the excitement and enthusiasm in the room.

This report summarises the results of the meetings. The details will also be forwarded to the Highland Council Historic Environment Record (HER) where they will provide valuable new information about Strathpeffer's past (<http://her.highland.gov.uk>). It is clear that given more time even more information could have been gathered, and hopefully future projects will continue this work.

The sessions were organised by ARCH which provides opportunities for people interested in learning about and helping to preserve their heritage. Funding for the first sessions was provided by Generations Working Together: the Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice. The second session was organised by Strathpeffer Community Centre, with funding from High Life Highland. Thanks also to the Highland Museum of Childhood for allowing us to see text panels from their 2009 'Hands Across the Sea' exhibition. But most of all thanks to everyone who has shared their memories and photographs, often braving difficult weather. There is still more work to be done and the hope is that future sessions can add to this growing archive.

This version: 2014

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| 1        | Spa Buildings, The Square | NH<br>48352<br>58205 | Shops       | In use    | <p>This row of shops dates back to the 1840s (Murray 1985). Though externally little altered, internally the layout of the shops has changed considerably. On the OS 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition maps (1876, 1906), the Post Office was located at the west end of the block, though it is now at the opposite end. It originally had a clock above the front window. In a postcard, dated 28 Sep 1909, 14 staff are lined up in front of the PO (Uncles 1998, 27). Next door to the PO was George Souter (Stationer), then T Wellwood Maxwell (Pharmacy).</p> <p>Mr Wellwood Maxwell had a darkroom in the flat above the pharmacy and his photographs, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark, include several of the Spa Buildings. These photographs date from between 1900 and 1910. The earliest of these, dated c. 1900, shows that it was occupied by (from west to east) the Post Office; T Wellwood Maxwell, Hughan and Co., Fishmongers, Hughan and Co. Grocers and W. Mackenzie and Sons, Provisions and Wine Merchant. Later photographs show different names above the shops. One shows, from west to east, the PO, H. Beaton 'Stationer and Tobaccanist', T. Wellwood Maxwell, J. E. Adams, 'fishmonger', and D. F. McLeod, 'Italian Warehouseman'.</p> <p>Another shows that the former PO at the west end was occupied by A. Cross, 'Draper and Clothier', with the Pharmacy next to it and then A. Humphries and Co. (the rest of the block is not visible).</p> <p>In one photo, there is a chimney facing the front of D. F. McLeod's shop at the very east end of the block. This was removed during renovations in the 1970s and replaced with a door.</p> <p>Duncan Finlayson remembers the shops from the 1920s. Again from west to east they are:</p> <p>1) The end shops which changed uses frequently, but included a</p> | MHG55626 |             | <p>Duncan Finlayson, Margaret Spark, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Fiona Newton</p> <p>Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Uncles 1998; Sale Catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |

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|          |      |        |             |           | <p>Ladies' woollens shop run by Mrs MacDonald of Croftcrunie and a hairdresser at the back run by Muriel MacDonald. Later Miss Agnes Fraser who had run the newsagent took over the woollen goods. It then had a variety of occupants.</p> <p>2) A. &amp; M Fraser Newsagent, Stationer, Books and Tobacconist, run by sisters Agnes and Molly Fraser, and later their nephew Donald.</p> <p>3) Pharmacy run by T. Wellwood Maxwell and then Mr Barnie.</p> <p>4) Adams fruit and vegetable shop, run by Mr &amp; Mrs Adams and sister-in-law Mrs Johnstone.</p> <p>5) The current double shop was joined in his time, and included a grocery, but mainly the bicycle repair and parts run by Mr &amp; Mrs Humphrey.</p> <p>6) D. F. MacLeod, Grocer, and later in the 1930s the shop passed to Mr Smith he thinks. The entrance was at the corner on the eastern side. Domestic quarters were behind the shop at shop level and upstairs.</p> <p>See attached documents for Duncan Finlayson's memories of the shops and the people who ran them in the 1920s. The date the Spa Pharmacy opened is not known, but it was there in the 1890s, when taken over by Mr T. Wellwood Maxwell. Prior to that Mr Wellwood Maxwell had been the manager, and a messenger boy is known in 1883. The prescription books go back to the 1890s. The pharmacy was originally two shops: a butchers closest to the PO (then at the west end of the block) and a pharmacy in the other, but they were knocked together, probably in the 1890s. The dished butchers slab was found under the most westerly window sill when the two shops were renovated in the 1980s. The pharmacy was taken over by Sandy Barnie in 1936 and was sold to William Bolton (Margaret Spark's father) in 1958. Margaret Spark sold the pharmacy in 2001.</p> <p>In a sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, dated 1949,</p> |         |             |                      |

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|          |           |                    |             |            | <p>the shops from west to east were respectively a wool shop (Miss M. A. Fraser), a Booksellers and Newsagents (also Miss M. A. Fraser), the Spa Pharmacy (Mr Alexander [Sandy] Barnie), a Fruit Shop and Grocer (Mr J. E. Adams) and a Licensed Grocer and General Merchant (Mr J. George Smith).</p> <p>Miss Agnes Fraser with her sister Molly originally ran just the Booksellers and Newsagents, but later also took over the wool shop. She was still running the wool shop into the late 1960s or early 1970s. Miss Fraser drank a bottle of spa water a day. Her nephew, Donald, ran the booksellers and newsagents ('The Paper Shop').</p> <p>Up until the 1980s the building was green and white, not black and white - and Miss Fraser resisted the loss of the 'Spa colours'.</p> <p>The flats above the shops were accessed by a door at the east end of the block. There was a row of sheds at the back of the shops, used as a sweet factory in the 1950s.</p>                                   |          |             |   |
| 2        | Spa Hotel | NH<br>4768<br>5764 | Hotel       | Demolished | <p>The first edition OS map shows the Spa Hotel as a relatively modest building, but by the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS it had greatly expanded. The Spa Hotel was known locally as the place for posh people to stay at the Spa resort. Prescription books from the local pharmacy show that this was where royalty stayed. Betty Ramsay's uncle was a chauffeur employed there. During the war it was used as a hospital. Trees were planted in the grounds by famous people, some commemorated with plaques. A letter from Dr Horne, Medical Officer of Health for the County, requested the consent of the Board to use the hospital for accommodating patients presently occupying Elsie House, to make room for the Spa Hotel patients on behalf of the county (4 May 1942 from Minutes of Board of Management of Nicolson Mackenzie Memorial Hospital (pp 287-279); information supplied by Fiona Newton.) A Ross-shire Journal article describes the fire which destroyed the building in</p> | MHG22637 | 109059      | <p>Betty MacKenzie,<br/>Jennifer Haslam,<br/>Elma o'Rourke,<br/>Betty Ramsay,<br/>Margaret Spark,<br/>Doris Junor ;</p> <p>Finlayson 1979</p> |

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|          |   |                |                         |            | May 1942 recording that the hotel had been taken over by the County Council as an Infectious Diseases Hospital two years earlier. All 25 patients were evacuated safely. According to the newspaper, the central buildings were completely destroyed, but the annex and surrounding buildings were saved. Members of the A.T.S. Clerks' School came to assist the firemen, along with other servicemen. After the war, Isabel MacMaster remembers that it was still in use as a hospital, so perhaps the surrounding buildings were in used. The remains and surviving buildings were presumably demolished when the Council bought the land and built council houses, after 1961. Lots of cream pots, etc said to have been found when digging foundations for the new houses of Kinellan Drive. The hotel burnt down when in use as a hospital during WWII (Finlayson 1979, 90).   |          |             |  |
| 3        | Ardival Steading / Ben Wyvis Motors / The Depot | NH 48502 58331 | Steading; garage; shops | Demolished | On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), a U-shaped steading is shown with an additional rectangular building along its west side and a small building and what may be pens along its open (north) side. On the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), it seems to have been roofed over to form a single unit. It was a coaching stables prior to the introduction of motor vehicles, the carriages occupying one side and the horses the other, with the coachmen and stable boys living above. In the 1920s, the garage was operated by Willie Kennedy; he moved to Spa Motors (see below and Site 19, MHG32482). According to Peggy Macdonald nee Ramsay, who lived at Ardival House (Site 9) after the Finlayson family left after WWI, the garage burnt down about 80 years ago, destroying 7 carriages; this was probably when the curved corrugated iron roof was put on. A plumber and a mason worked from the east end of the building after the fire. This is how it appears in a 1949 sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, when it was in use as the Ben Wyvis Garage, run by Messrs. Logan & Co. In 1949, there was a painter's shop and | MHG55627 |             | Kitty Campbell; Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald; Fiona Newton; Peggy Macdonald; participant at Open Day 2014<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |

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|          |                   |                      |             |            | store, let to Mr Ross, between the garage and the Dingwall road. This was later occupied by Robertsons, Joiners. There was also a small shed at the end, which had a rent collection point for the council. When the Logans moved to Muir of Ord, they took the name with them, and the garage became known as Ben Motors. It remained in use as a garage, run by Bill Gilbert, until 1953, when it was taken over by the then County Council as a roads depot and signshop; it is annotated as 'Depot' on the current edition of the OS map. The corrugated iron roof had become rather dilapidated by the time the building was demolished in October 2010. See also Site 26.  |          |             |  |
| 4        | 'Tank'            | NH<br>48243<br>58075 | Tank        | Demolished | Depicted on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906) and on the current edition of the map between Hamilton House and the Highland Hotel. Now demolished but foundations said to be under thick rhododendron bushes. It would have been located near the original bathhouse and so may have been connected to it, to hold water in case the wells ran dry. A well is shown next to Studdingsail Hall on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876) and this may also be related.   | MHG55628 |             | Margaret Spark;<br>Iain Davidson   |
| 5        | (Lower) Pump Room | NH<br>4830<br>5810   | Pump Room   | Demolished | The Pump Room appears on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), but had become a much larger complex by the time the map was revised in 1906 for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition. The Pump Room also housed a bath house and treatment rooms. It had become very dilapidated and was demolished in 1950 (Murray 1985). It was replaced in 1987 by the present buildings, built by Ross and Cromarty District Council and designed by Dave Somerville. After demolition, the Clock face from the old Pump Room was taken and put into Fodderty school, and when the school moved to Strathpeffer, the clock was removed there. Some of the Pump Room's doors were brought up to Newhouse croft on the Heights after demolition. | MHG22712 | 108983      | Fiona Newton;<br>Duncan<br>Finlayson; Neil<br>Macdonald;<br>Margaret Scott<br><br>Other sources<br>cited: Murray<br>1985 |

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| 6        | Birch Lodge       | NH<br>4810<br>5817   | House       | In use           | This is a relatively new house, built as a doctor's house by Dr Douglas Hanton in 1975. The surgery, now known as Birch Cottage, was located in the bottom of the garden. Before the surgery was built, Dr Hanton consulted at Cairngorm (Site 54). Previously, the doctors' surgery had been located in Fife Lodge (Site 21, MHG22734) and prior to that at Greenside (now Inver Lodge, MHG22728). After 1975 Kitty Campbell owned the surgery part of Birch Lodge, until the early 2000s   | MHG22711 | 108981      | Fiona Newton;<br>Margaret Newton;<br>Kitty Campbell  |
| 7        | Urinal            | NH<br>4832<br>5821   |             | No longer extant | Shown on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), but not on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906). See also Site 24.   | MHG55603 |             |  |
| 8        | Studdingsail Hall | NH<br>4824<br>5812   | House       | Demolished       | Prior to the building of the Highland Hotel in 1910 (Site 20, MHG16401), the site was occupied by Studdingsail Hall. The Hall appears on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876). It was reputedly very similar in appearance to Kinnettas House (MHG16416) and so may be of similar date. See also Site 20.   | MHG55604 |             | Margaret Spark;<br>Jennifer Haslam   |
| 9        | Ardival House     | NH<br>48550<br>58334 | House       |                  | Reputedly the oldest house in Strathpeffer, it is said to have originally been an inn, but was also a farm and mill (Finlayson 1979, 31-2). It is called Ardvall on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), but the farm - and the name - seems to have been transferred to its present location, up the hill by the time of the map was revised in 1906 (Finlayson 1979, 31; see MHG22697). The building was originally single storey and has been altered significantly during its lifetime. Ardival was run as a boarding house by Kate Finlayson prior to WWI. See also Sites 3 and 26. | MHG55605 |             | Duncan Finlayson;<br><br>Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009) Finlayson 1979 |
| 10       | The Shieling      | NH<br>4838<br>5823   | Shop; well  | Extant           | This building is described as 'clad in vertical half-round poles dark stained and with a slated and piended roof over' (Murray 1985). A semi-circular building is present on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906). In a photograph by Mr Wellwood Maxwell, c. 1900, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark, the sign above the door reads 'Castle Leod Well and [in much larger letters] Lady Cromartie's Well'. On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), this area is  | MHG22633 | 109024      | Duncan Finlayson;<br>Margaret Newton;<br>Fiona Newton;<br>Margaret Spark   |

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|          |              |                      |             |            | <p>depicted as garden ground, apparently associated with Clisham (Site 60, MHG22692). Though there are wells in the vicinity on the 1876 map (one at the south east corner of the plot belonging to the Strathpeffer Hotel, with another close to where the boundary between Craigvar (then Park House, Site 30, MHG16224) and Mackay's Hotel (Site 32, MHG22732) meets the road, on the 1906 map a well is marked under The Shieling. At some time after 1906, The Shieling became a shop - and also housed a lending library. In Miss Sarah McKeon's time, from the 1920s-1940s, it sold good quality fancy goods; Miss McKeon was Irish and a staunch Roman Catholic, hence the Gaelic name, <i>Tigh Mile Annas</i> ('house of the hundred thousand welcomes'). Much of the fancy work, such as lace, which Miss McKeon sold was made in convents. She lived for a period in part of the bungalow in the grounds of Holly Lodge (Site 37, MHG16410) while the Finlaysons were there, and latterly in rooms or room at Hope's Hotel. Mrs Littlejohn, who followed Miss McKeon, sold tweeds and other woollen goods. Mrs Littlejohn was followed by Mrs Cherret.</p> <p>This building should not be confused with the now-destroyed Shieling (Site 11).</p> <p>The Shieling is currently unused and is for sale (2014).</p> |          |             | Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Duncan Finlayson - Shops  |
| 11       | The Shieling | NH<br>48496<br>58395 | Shop        | Demolished | <p>The older of two shops known as The Sheiling, it was also constructed of wood, though it was not similar in appearance to Site 10. It is shown as no. 111 on Plan 3 in a 1949 sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate. It lies against the boundary of Burnhill (Site 29, MHG22284), on what must once have been Ardival ground (see Sites 3, 9, and 26). The shop burnt down before 1957, reputedly because a firework was put through the letter box on Guy Fawkes Night. The outline of the plot is still indicated by a fence and by the concrete threshold. In the 1920s-1930s, it was run by Miss Macdonald and Miss Fraser, who sold good quality woollen ladies wear. This was a</p>   | MHG55606 |             | <p>Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources cited: Sale catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |



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|          |   |                      |             |           | very successful business, serving both visitors and locals alike. Miss Macdonald and Miss Fraser lived in Holmwood, now Glenesk (Site 61, MHG22724). Both were very active in the life of the Strath; Miss Fraser was a great walker and a fine skater. In the 1940s-1950s, The Shieling was run by Mrs Joan Cooper, who also sold woollen goods.   |          |             |   |
| 12       | Heatherlie                                | NH<br>4828<br>5821   |             |           | Heatherlie was 'originally named The Studio when built in 1897, it was a photographer's studio and home ... It also incorporated a small bank entered by a second entrance' (Murray 1985). The bank is marked on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906).   | MHG16372 | 108908      | Murray 1985   |
| 13       | Former Post Office;<br>Telephone Exchange | NH<br>48213<br>58132 | PO          |           | <p>The Post Office and Telephone Exchange were formerly located in the sandstone building behind the Highland Hotel. Though the Post Office is shown on the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906) within Spa Buildings (see Site 1), photographs of Spa Buildings by Mr Wellwood Maxwell, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark, suggest that it may have moved to this location by c. 1910. In the 1920s-1930s, the Post Office was certainly here and was a hive of activity. There were three units: 1) a Post Office, with a fine counter and full staff; 2) behind this the telegraph office; 3) a mail depot (sorting office).</p> <p>The Telegraph office went automatic in the late 1950s. Then the building was used as an annexe for the Highland Hotel. By the 1970s it was a hostel for staff, and it is believed to be still owned by Highland Hotel.</p> <p>In the 1920s and 1930s the postmaster was Major Wilkie, who had a residence upstairs. The Telegraph Office was so important that there was a permanent telegraph boy (Ian Henderson in Duncan Finlayson's day). In the summer, because of all the visitors to the Spa, a second telegraph boy was required. Later Jackie Mellis was telegram boy who went on to be a postie. Walter Ross did the telephone exchange at night – he was there until it went automatic (in the late 1950s).</p> | MHG22706 | 108975      | <p>Duncan Finlayson;<br/>Fiona Newton;<br/>Jennifer Haslam;<br/>Kitty Campbell;<br/>Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources:<br/>Duncan Finlayson<br/>- Shops</p> |

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| 14       | SHOP AND RESTAURANT | NH<br>4833<br>5809 | Shops       | In use    | <p>This building, though now only one property, was originally four separate premises. It is present on the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), though the current footprint is much larger.</p> <p>In the 1920s it had 4 shops:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A jewellers and watchmakers shop, a branch of a shop in Tain, but served by Miss MacKintosh, daughter of the miller at Millnain. It had window displays of pearls from the River Conon.</li> <li>2. A vegetable and fruit shop (before the coming of Adams in the Square).</li> <li>3. A butchers run by Murdo MacGregor. This fine business supplied meat to hotels and boarding houses from Mr MacGregor's own farms, and was noted for its quality. Miller Macrae was the butcher after Murdo MacGregor.</li> <li>4. A small useful grocery run by Miss Jean Graham, daughter of the stationmaster.</li> </ol> <p>When put up for sale in 1949, two of the shops were occupied by a furnisher and upholsterer (Messrs Fraser &amp; Co.), with the other two let to a butcher (Representatives of Murdo MacGregor) and a grocer (Miss Jean Graham).</p> <p>The Post Office was located here from the 1960s to the mid 1980s. More recently several other shops have been located here. In the early 1990s it was a café and creative drafts shop. In the 2000s, it was a craft shop owned by a Dutch couple. More recently the site has been an antiques shop (run by Jessie Mackenzie in the old sorting office end) and a church, a chocolate shop (Maya) and now a restaurant who have done extensive renovations.</p> <p>The stone footings are original, though the roof burnt down c. 1960 and the three shops were converted into two. The Smiths owned it prior to the fire, when it was taken over by the Millers. When purchased in the early 2000s, the property still had 3 post codes. The sign for the PO was found during renovations in 2004.</p> | MHG22291 | 108969      | <p>Duncan Finlayson;<br/>Jennifer Haslam;<br/>Fiona Newton;<br/>Yves Pattyn;<br/>Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources cited: Sale Catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |

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| 15       | Highland Home Industries Shop | NH<br>4840<br>5818 | Shop             | Demolished | This shop, run by Miss MacCallum, was located in the grounds of Craigvar, at least since 1949 (for its previous location, see Site 36). It shut as the Highland Home Industries shop in the late 1970s/early 1980s and was then briefly a sweet shop, run by Ernie Dan, who wanted to turn it into a chip shop, but was not allowed. The shop only opened during the summer months during its latter years. More recently, it was used by the church to make teas, also in the summer months; it did not have running water or toilet facilities. The building was only demolished fairly recently; the plan of the sunken garden, dated 2000, attached to MHG29343, relates to this site.   | MHG41168 | 109097      | Kitty Campbell;<br>Fiona Newton;<br>Margaret Spark;<br>Duncan Finlayson   |
| 16       | Bank of Scotland              | NH<br>4840<br>5813 | Bank (Financial) | Extant     | This wooden building, 'a charming essay in timber post and harling' (Murray 1985), was in use until the early 1990s. Heavy bags of money were collected from the bank in Dingwall by the bank manager and the clerk and taken up to Strathpeffer on the bus - and returned in the same way at the end of the day. Following the closure of the bank, the building lay empty for a while, before being taken over by Douglas Murray, architect and then as offices for the Pavilion Association during the restoration of the pavilion. The building was originally a doctor's surgery (Murray 1985). See also Site 36.   | MHG22700 | 108808      | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Fiona Newton;<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>Other sources cited: Murray 1985   |
| 17       | Windsor Lodge                 | NH<br>4836<br>5850 | House            | In use     | According to research undertaken for the Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition in 2000s, this house was built in 1890 by Donald MacRae, a joiner and cabinet maker from Garve, as a boarding house with 20 bedrooms, and run by his wife Helen MacLennan. Donald specialised in staircases, and examples are said to survive at Windsor Lodge, Holly Lodge, Brunstane Lodge and in the Highland Hotel. Windsor Lodge is notable for its 'interesting half-timbered projecting bay windows' (Murray 1985), which must also reflect MacRae's joinery skills. The boarding house was run by Helen MacLennan until the 1950s. After her death, Windsor Lodge was divided into flats in which members of the family lived. Their former housekeeper, Jean | MHG22612 | 109129      | Fiona Newton<br><br>Other sources cited:<br>Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009); Murray 1985 |

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|          |                |                    |             |            | (Shine) MacLean was given Windsor Cottage and the entrance between the now flattened house and cottage was sealed up.  |          |             |  |
| 18       | Grain Store    | NH<br>4808<br>5802 | Storehouse  | Demolished | This is located where Nicolson Court now is.   | MHG19888 | 94602       |  |
| 19       | Spa Motors     | NH<br>4813<br>5799 | Garage      | In use     | This was originally the steading for Kinnettass House (MHG16416). It appears as a large complex of buildings on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876). Its use as a garage predates mechanised transport. In the 1920s, it was run as a garage and taxi service by Davy Munro, who lived in Francis Villa. In return for keeping Davy's accounts, Duncan Finlayson's father kept his car at the garage, in an area where the remnants of the horse stalls were apparent. According to a 1949 prospectus for the sale of the Strathpeffer Estate, it was known as Kinnettass Garage, when let to William Kennedy, who built the bungalow next to the garage; Willie had previously been at Ben Wyvis Garage (see Site 3). There was a cinema at the back of the depot during the war.<br>Neil MacDonald has a photo of the horses and carriages in front of the garage. | MHG32482 |             | Duncan Finlayson;<br>Neil Macdonald;<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>Other sources cited: Sale Catalogue 1949   |
| 20       | Highland Hotel | NH<br>4824<br>5812 | Hotel       | In use     | The Highland Railway opened the Highland Hotel in 1911 (Ross 2005 p. 88). In the 1920s the Highland Railway became part of London Midland and Scottish Railway (LMS), and presumably the hotel transferred to this body. The Hotel still has stone carvings of Highland Railway logo above door (facing east) and a stained glass window at top of stairs. Jennifer Haslam's grandfather was head porter, and then caretaker; she spent her first five years in the hotel. The Highland Hotel was used in WWII to house military families, as well as female service personnel who were attending classes at the Ben Wyvis hotel. The interior panelling was covered up to protect it during the war, when the hotel was used to house troops. Army families were still there after the war, and there was a nursery school in   | MHG16401 | 108916      | Jennifer Haslam,<br>Elma O'Rourke,<br>Betty Ramsay,<br>Kitty Campbell,<br>Fiona Newton,<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>David Ross 2005.<br><i>The Highland Railway</i> |

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|          |                     |                    |              |           | the hotel, and so many children that they had to be split between Fodderty and Contin schools. After the war it was owned by someone who sold it to Harry McGee, the Glasgow businessman who also owned the Ben Wyvis Hotel in the village. In 1964 the council Education service took it over, and it became a catering school from Sept to March. Then Mr Ross bought it (and stripped the panelling), and after that Shearings. Jennifer Haslam remembers the basement which had old documents, the laundry, wine cellar, and her father's and grandfather's workshops. The documents do not seem to have survived.   |          |             |  |
| 21       | Fife Lodge          | NH<br>4822<br>5820 | House        | In use    | The land for Fife Lodge was bought from the Duchess of Sutherland in 1887 by Colin Cameron who was valet to the Duke of Fife, which presumably accounts for the house's name. The house was built in 1888. Subsequent owners were C.J. and Alice Cameron (1917-28), Mrs M.C.S. Smith (1928-46), Hector MacLean (1946-51), Mrs Jean Fleming (1951-8), Dr & Mrs Dick (1958-2006). Val Moffat has a copy of a wedding photo from around the turn of the century at Fife Lodge. Fife Lodge was one of a number of houses in the village which had service people billeted there during WWII. After 1955, it was bought by Doctor Dick as his home and for use as his surgery; his patients waited in the dining room, with the surgery in a smaller room behind. The doctor's surgery later moved to Birch Lodge (Site 6, MHG22711); previously Dr. Dick had used Greenside (now Inver Lodge, MHG22728). | MHG22734 | 108899      | Val Moffat; Fiona Newton; Margaret Newton; Margaret Spark; Jennifer Haslam           |
| 22       | Cromartie Buildings | NH<br>4841<br>5831 | Shops; flats | In use    | This three storey block dates to 1885 (Murray 1985). In the 1920s-1930s, the downstairs shops were Burnetts Bakery, with a tea room in the back (east) and a drapers (west), run by Samuel Fraser and his family. The Frasers lived at Timaru. See Duncan Finlayson's memories of this building in the 1920s. Behind Cromartie Buildings, there was a long row of garages, where the delivery van was kept and, behind that again, the   | MHG22709 | 108978      | Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark; Jennifer Haslam<br><br>Other sources |

| ARCH No. | Name   | Where?             | What is it? | Condition        | Description   | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors                         |
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|          |        |                    |             |                  | <p>bakery itself. On the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), the long narrow row of buildings at the rear of Cromartie Buildings, and, behind this, another building, would seem to correspond to this description</p> <p>The Burnetts, an Inverness family, advertised themselves as 'Bakers to the Highlands' and the bakery and the tea room were vital to the Spa. Like Burnetts, the Frasers - who held a tremendous stock, including mens, womens, and childrens clothes, table linen, bed linen, etc - delivered around Strathconon, the Heights and Garve.</p> <p>Burnett's continued in business until the 1980. After Burnetts, the property was a supermarket which also sold fishing permits and had accountancy.</p> <p>Frasers drapery shop was succeeded by George MacKenzie, ('Gentleman George'), when it was known locally as 'The Toffs'. Then it was run by Eric Simpson. Taylors had it after the Simpsons.</p> <p>The properties above the shops were flats from at least the 1920s and probably before. Originally the people who owned or managed the shops often lived above them. For example, the Abbot family, who ran Burnett's in the 1920s, lived in these flats. Later, in the 1950s, Mrs Murchison, who was manager of Burnetts, lived upstairs. But later tenants were not associated with the businesses. There has been a large turnover of people living in this building.</p> |          |             | cited: Murray 1985; Duncan Finlayson - Shops |
| 23       | Well   | NH<br>4833<br>5814 |             |                  | There was an open well in the middle of square, now under the modern Pump Room.   | MHG55607 |             | Margaret Spark                               |
| 24       | Urinal | NH<br>4832<br>5811 |             | No longer extant | Shown on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), but not on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906). See also Site 7.   | MHG55608 |             |  |

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| 25       | Hamilton House      | NH<br>4826<br>5805   | House       | In use     | This Georgian style house is now divided into two separate dwellings.   | MHG16358          | 108907      | Iain Davidson  |
| 26       | Ardival Mill        | NH<br>48471<br>58359 | Mill; dam   | Demolished | The pond and sluice which served Ardival Mill are shown on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), but are not visible on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906). The mill was still present on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map, but is no longer extant. According to Watson 1904, the mill is first mentioned in 1586 and 'in 1681 it is mentioned as "Tympane mill, near Clach an Tiompan," the stone in the grounds of Nutwood near the public road ...' (1904, 99). According to Finlayson, the mill, which stood of the bottom of Ardival's garden, was not generally known as Ardival Mill, but as the Tympan Mill (1979, 32). The Eagle stone (MHG43542) was said to have originally been located beside the mill. See also Sites 3 and 9. | MHG55609          |             | Watson 1904;<br>Finlayson 1979   |
| 27       | Kinnettas Graveyard | NH<br>4803<br>5818   | Cemetery    | extant     | The last burial took place at least 40 years ago. This may have been of Andrew Ross, who sat in the front pew at church and who had fought in the Boer war; Andrew worked on the roads and lived in one of the cottages next to the graveyard. A study of the graveyard has been done.  | MHG7897,<br>41436 | 12405       | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Margaret Spark   |
| 28       | Timaru              | NH<br>4846<br>5844   | House       | In use     | The arcaded balcony is actually made of iron, not wood as stated in Murray 1985. For about 20 years it was known as Ardgour, but now is known by its original name. Fraser the draper (see MHG22709) lived here in the 1920s. The house was built by Donald MacLennan (b. 1838) from the Heights of Achterneed who had emigrated to Timaru in New Zealand. On his return after 1873 he built Timaru, as well as Timuka (MHG7865) and Oamaru (possibly now called Murroona; MHG22710) nearby, and possibly Camuserroch (MHG22286) behind Oamaru. Donald was known as 'Old Timaru' and died in Strathpeffer in 1919.  | MHG7886           | 12418       | Margaret Spark;<br><br>Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009); Murray 1985 |

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| 29       | Burnhill        | NH<br>4850<br>5839 | House       | In use    | Formerly known as Breadalbane, this was built by Daniel Scott, an Inspector of Schools, who came from Perthshire. The Sasine abridgements show that the plot was bought in 1887 by Daniel Scott, clerk of the School Board, from the Countess of Cromartie. The house was built in early 1888. In 1899 it was bought by Mary Macneil, wife of Duncan Bain of Elgin. In 1914 it was bought by Edith Christian Macrae & Dorothea Kathleen Macrae, daughters of Donald Macrae, jeweller of Inverness. The Macintoshes lived here in the 1960s and 1970s. The plot size is listed as 2031 sq yards. The property had iron steps at the back for Dr Chisholm; these no longer survive. | MHG22284 | 108831      | Fiona Newton;<br>information from Sasine abridgements supplied by descendent of Daniel Scott to Fiona Newton. |
| 30       | Craigvar        | NH<br>4840<br>5815 | House       | In use    | Murray thought that this villa dates back to the 1860s (Murray 1985), but it was built in 1839 (Margaret Scott). On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), Craigvar is named as Park House. During the 1920s-1930s, Dr Thompson from Dingwall consulted in Craigvar twice a week; this was in addition to both ordinary consultations taking place at Dr. Bearn's surgery in Eaglestone (Site 65, MHG16305), and to the consulting rooms attached to the spa (Site 38, MHG22690). During WWII, it was taken over for military accommodation, housing amongst others the Norwegian chaplain.   | MHG16224 | 108887      | Duncan Finlayson;<br>Margaret Scott<br><br>Other sources cited: Murray 1985                                   |
| 31       | Athole House    | NH<br>4845<br>5824 | House       | In use    | This villa dates to c.1874 (Murray 1985). On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), Athole House is named as Lairg House.   | MHG22698 | 108805      | Murray 1985.  |
| 32       | Mackays Hotel   | NH<br>4842<br>5819 | House       | In use    | This was originally MacGregor's Hotel and dates back to the late 1860s (Murray 1985).   | MHG22732 | 108950      | Murray 1985.  |
| 33       | Spa Lodge Hotel | NH<br>4843<br>5823 | House       | In use    | On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), the name is given as Caberfeigh House and it was known by this name until the late 1990s or early 2000s when it became known as Spa Lodge Hotel. Jackie Cross, renowned goalkeeper for Dingwall Victoria and later as it became Ross County, lived here in the 1920s and 1930s. Like many properties it was a boarding house.   | MHG22285 | 108832      | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Duncan Finlayson  |



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| 34       | Station goods yard | NH<br>4863<br>5841   | Goods yard  | Demolished       | Following the establishment of the Strathpeffer branch line in 1885, extensive sidings for goods, such as coal, paraffin and oil, etc., grew up on the north side of the station (Site 50, MHG6292). One of the two goods sheds was located under the present Peffery House. There were two coal merchants in Strathpeffer - Roy Munro and then Willie Kennedy (for Kennedy, who ran Ben Wyvis Garage and then Spa Motors, see also Sites 3 and 19). Jock Henderson, who lived at Kinnettass, used his horse and cart to carry luggage and the large amounts of goods of all kinds that came by railway between the station and the various hotels before WWII. A path from the station to the Ben Wyvis Hotel (MHG7864) allowed the porters to walk up to the hotel. | MHG55586 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>Duncan<br>Finlayson;<br>Neil Macdonald                          |
| 35       | The Anchorage      | NH<br>47984<br>57762 |             | No longer extant | Grit for the roads was kept in a hollow, surrounded by chestnut trees, just below Park Terrace. This is probably what is described as 'A Useful Site', fronting onto the main Dingwall road and let to the County Council in a sale prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, dated 1949. The accompanying map appears to show a triangular shaped hollow on the plot where The Anchorage now is. On the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), this same hollow lies beyond Corrie Vanie, at that time the last house on this side of the Dingwall road. On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), there are no buildings near this spot.  | MHG55587 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam<br><br>Other sources cited: Sale Catalogue 1949 |

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| 36       | Shop (original Highland Home Industries premises) | NH<br>483<br>573   |             | No longer extant | Before it moved to the grounds of Craigvar (Site 15, MHG22486), the first home of the Highland Home Industries shop was in a small building behind The Shieling (Site 10, MHG22633). In a sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate from 1949, it was being offered as two lots; Lot 12a, a store for the Commercial Bank of Scotland, while the rear of the building, forming part of Lot 13, was described as offices for the bank (see Site 16, MHG22700). It was a tin roofed, timber building and appears on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), as well as in a photograph by Mr Wellwood Maxwell, c. 1900, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark.   | MG55588  |             | Duncan Finlayson<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 37       | Holly Lodge                                       | NH<br>4828<br>5841 | House       | In use           | Though the Listed Building record says it was built c. 1860, this Classically influenced villa was constructed in 1901 according to Murray (Murray 1985). It was run as a boarding house by Mrs Finlayson from 1928 until 1939. Later (in the 1970s) it was run as a hotel with 'The Blue Room' being very popular for dining.   | MHG16410 | 12415       | Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton<br><br>Murray 1985                 |
| 38       | The Cottage                                       | NH<br>4833<br>5820 | House       | In use           | In a 1949 prospectus for the sale of the Strathpeffer Estate, this single-storey dwelling house is described as having been previously a doctor's consulting rooms and was let to Dr. David Dick. This appears to have been the consulting rooms attached to the spa - with ordinary consultations taking place at Dr. Bearn's surgery in Eaglestone during the 1920s-1930s (Site 65, MHG16305), while Dr Thompson from Dingwall consulted in Craigvar twice a week (Site 30, MHG16224). The building must be on the site of the urinal noted on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876; Site 7); it is present by the time the map was revised in 1906. The maps included in the 1949 sales prospectus show that the sexagonal building at the rear of the building was separate, though it has now been incorporated into the main part of the building. | MHG22690 | 108836      | Duncan Finlayson<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |

| ARCH No. | Name                           | Where?                                       | What is it?                    | Condition                             | Description  | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors   |
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| 39       | Kinnettas Square Tennis Courts | NH<br>4803<br>5805                           | Tennis court                   | Buried                                | A clay court tennis court, a foot beneath the soil of the gardens, was owned by the Highland Hotel (Site 20, MHG16401) for their guests to play on. Mrs Sheila Dick, the doctor's wife, taught tennis there in the mid 1950s. There was a little pavilion, which had become very dilapidated by this time.   | MHG55589 |             | Hamish (P7 at Primary School);<br>Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam                                   |
| 40       | Pavilion Gardens, curling pond | NH<br>48379<br>58013                         | Curling pond;<br>tennis courts | Buried                                | By the time of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), a curling pond, along with two bowling greens (Site 52) and a bandstand (Site 53), had been laid out in Pavilion Gardens (Site 59). The curling pond became tennis courts by the mid 20 <sup>th</sup> century - and is shown as such on the map contained in a 1949 prospectus for the sale of the Strathpeffer Estate. Later it reverted to a curling pond, and it is again tennis courts. | MHG55590 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam;<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 41       | Jubilee Pond                   | NH<br>47981<br>57266                         | Curling Pond;<br>pavilion      | Pond: extant.<br>Pavilion: demolished | This was available to everyone as a pond for skating and curling (Finlayson 1979, 90-1). Its name commemorates Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. There was also a small log-built pavilion, which had a veranda protecting two seats on either side of the door, where you sat to put on your skates. The pond remained in use until the late 1950s. The pavilion does not survive and the pond is now very overgrown.                      | MHG55591 |             | Jennifer Haslam<br><br>Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979   |
| 42       | Sawmill, Jubilee Pond          | c. NH<br>47947<br>57322                      | Sawmill                        | Demolished                            | This sawmill ran from 1952 for at least 25 years. It was powered by electricity.   | MHG55592 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam;<br>Neil Macdonald  |
| 43       | Timber huts, Jubilee Pond      | c. NH<br>47966<br>57319                      | Huts                           | Demolished                            | A series of timber huts housed the workers at the sawmill (Site 42).   | MHG55593 |             | Pat Justad   |
| 44       | Jubilee Drive                  | NH<br>47781<br>57496<br>- NH<br>5034<br>5838 | Carriage Drive                 | Track                                 | This was established to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. It ran from immediately north of Elsick House (MHG7863) up to Knockfarrel, where you could take tea at The Chalet (Site 51). It was very well made and allowed small horse drawn carriages to travel up to Knockfarrel.   | MHG55594 |             | Duncan<br>Finlayson; Pat<br>Justad   |

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| 45       | 'The Shoppie' | NH<br>4788<br>5758   | Shop        | Demolished | Until about 10-15 years ago, there used to be a general stores at the corner of Park Road. It was a green painted, wooden building, with a car park to the south. It was built by Bill Brown, the physiotherapist at the Nicolson Mackenzie Memorial Hospital. Bill Brown was known as 'Rogie', because he was such a keen fisherman and the shop also sold fishing tackle. The shop was demolished and rebuilt as three houses, now known as 'The Crannog'. It was partly built over a well. Bill Brown was well known around Scotland for his fishing expertise, writing in a number of journals.   | MHG55595 |             | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Pat Justad;<br>Fiona Newton;<br>Kitty Campbell  |
| 46       | White Cottage | NH<br>48298<br>58174 | Shops       | Extant     | On the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), a very small building is depicted in this location in the garden of White Lodge, known on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map as Ivy Cottage (MHG16481). In the 1920s-1930s, one of the shops was a dairy, distributing Mr Duncan MacGregor, Ardival Farms's cream, etc. The other shop had a variety of occupants, some only for a short time, including a fish shop, and shoe shop. In the 1930s the shops were called Syndicate Buildings as shown by an advert in <i>The Book of Ross</i> by Donald MacDonald and Alexander Poulson (1932). The advert is for Keltic Boot and Shoe Warehouse, run by John MacLennan in Dingwall, with a Branch shop at Syndicate Buildings, Strathpeffer. In a 1949 sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, this building is described as 'a block of three modern stone, rough cast and slate Shops', occupied by a shoemaker (George Anderson), baker (James Deas) and fishmonger (Ann Macgregor). In the 1950s, Ken McMaster had a carpenters shop behind the two surviving shops. In the 1960s-late 1970s, the building was occupied by a ladies hairdresser and a ladies' clothes shop. More recently it was occupied by a 'Tea Shoppe'. It is now a holiday cottage. | MHG55596 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam;<br>Fiona Newton;<br>Margaret Spark;<br>Duncan Finlayson,<br>Isabel MacMaster<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949;<br>Duncan Finlayson – Shops<br><i>The Book of Ross</i> by Donald MacDonald and Alexander Poulson (1932), p. 80 |

| ARCH No. | Name                                 | Where?               | What is it?     | Condition  | Description   | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors  |
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| 47       | Former Police Station                | NH<br>4831<br>5807   | Police Station  | Demolished | The plot boundaries shown on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906) suggest that the police station was built on what must have been part of the garden of Hamilton House (Site 25, MHG16358). This building, the successor of Site 49, was built in the 1950s/60s and went out of use in the 1980/90s; it is marked on the modern OS map as a former police station.  | MHG22289 | 108964      | Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Haslam;<br>Fiona Newton   |
| 48       | Nicolson Mackenzie Memorial Hospital | NH<br>4803<br>5806   | Hospital        | Extant     | The hospital was built in 1895 (opened 1896), to a design by W. C. Joass, though it has now been extended many times. It originally had a tower, which no longer exists. It developed as a specialist rheumatology unit, which was passed over to the NHS in 1948. Later it was moved to the Peterkin Maternity Unit in Dingwall. The original plans are on display in the current rheumatology unit. It is now a private home, known as Mackenzie House. Fiona Newton has compiled a history of the hospital.  | MHG7883  | 12421       | Fiona Newton;<br>Kitty Campbell   |
| 49       | Old Police House                     | NH<br>48679<br>58363 | Police House    | In use     | The police house, which preceded Site 47, was probably built in around 1900. It recalls Railway Cottage and Viewfield, the buildings immediately adjacent to it, in style. It was sold in 1978 as a private house after the last policeman left. A local resident was told that there was a place beside it with a cell. There used to be a small right of way from the house to the station, used by students getting the train to Dingwall Academy.   | MHG55597 |             | Kitty Campbell;<br>information from<br>local resident at<br>Open Day  |
| 50       | Strathpeffer Station                 | NH<br>4860<br>5839   | Railway Station | In use     | Though the station closed to regular passenger traffic on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 1946, freight was carried until 26 March 1951. The rails were taken away by 1952. The present station is comprised of buildings from three periods:<br>The oldest part of the station is to the west. During the 1920s-1930s, John Menzies had a bookstall at the station, built against the west wall of the station and with a sloping display area. It sold cigarettes, tobacco, chocolates, sweets, papers (some of which were regular orders for the nearby properties), magazines and books. In the 1950s and 1960s there was a coal merchants there and Bob Knox had an upholstery business. | MHG6292  | 12460       | Duncan<br>Finlayson;<br>Margaret Spark;<br>Kitty Campbell;<br>Jennifer Maxwell<br><br>Duncan Finlayson<br>– Shops |

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|          |                         |                |             |   | <p>The middle section of the station, currently (2011) housing the bookshop, was constructed in the 1970s/1980s.</p> <p>The 2010 extension to the Museum of Childhood lies to the east.</p> <p>There is tunnel under the station which came out near the Burnhill garden, and is said to have an access under the current toilets, though this has not been checked</p> <p>See also Site 34 and 73.</p>  |          |             | Kitty Campbell, information to Highland Museum of Childhood  |
| 51       | The Chalet, Knockfarrel | NH 50362 58382 | Tea Room    | Demolished; only iron foundation pieces survive | <p>This was a wooden building, encircled by a veranda, similar in character to The Shieling (Site 10, MHG22633). In the 1920s/1930s Miss Camerons (sisters) ran it. They initiated the idea of teas at Knockfarrel, and then the enterprise was made a reality by the Cromartie Estate providing the chalet. It was very cleverly designed, where the shutters let down to form tables for outdoor teas. In busy times tables were also set out in the more level areas of the surrounding grassland. The Miss Camerons lived in one of the crofts lying immediately at the foot of Knockfarrel slope on the Loch Ussie side, carrying the necessary provisions and water up the slope. Duncan Finlayson remembers the delicious teas with home baking and, in season, strawberries and cream at 2/6 a time – a lot of money in those days. Some visitors to Strathpeffer regarded tea at the chalet as a ‘must’, though his family regarded it as a luxury.</p> <p>The chalet was in business until the mid 50’s /1960s, when it was run by Flora MacDonald, who had a croft on the south side of Knockfarrel and also carried water up to The Chalet from a well on the croft each day. A number of photographs survive of the chalet (a particularly good one in Uncles 1998 p. 29). The chalet became very dilapidated and derelict, before it finally burnt down in the later 1960s (date not positive) - reputedly an act of arson by a group of boys seen running away from the scene. Remnants of the foundations can still be seen.</p> | MHG55598 |             | <p>Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam Neil MacDonald Duncan Finlayson</p> <p>Other sources cited: Uncles 1998</p> |

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| 52       | Pavilion Gardens, bowling greens | centred NH 4845 5806 | Bowling green | In use     | Two bowling greens - along with a curling pond (Site 40) and a small building which was a bandstand (Site 53) - are shown on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906) within Pavilion Gardens (Site 59). The smaller of the bowling greens was used for crazy golf during the 1960s-1970s. One of the bowling greens was a putting green in the 1950s.                                  | MHG55599 |             | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam                                   |
| 53       | Pavilion Gardens, bandstand      | c. NH 4835 5800      | Bandstand     | Demolished | Within Pavilion Gardens (Site 59), a building shown on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), next to the curling pond (Site 40) and the bowling greens (Site 52), was a bandstand. It was an open building, large enough for people to sit under cover when the weather was wet. There were toilets in the back by the 1950s. The bandstand is now long gone.                       | MHG55600 |             | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam                                   |
| 54       | Cairngorm                        | NH 4818 5837         | House         | In use     | Before Dr Douglas Hanton built Birch Lodge in the late 1970s (Site 6, MHG22711), he consulted in Cairngorm.  | MHG55601 |             | Kitty Campbell  |
| 55       | 'Back Roadie'                    | SEE TEXT             | Path          | Extant     | Bounding the north and east edges of the plot associated with Cromartie Buildings (Site 22, MHG22709) is a lane, known as the 'Back Roadie', which acted as a short cut to the bakers and the station from the Free Church (MHG16337).<br>NH 4839 5834 - NH 4836 5835 - NH 4831 5829   | MHG55602 |             | Duncan Finlayson; Kitty Campbell                                  |
| 56       | The Orchard                      | centred NH 4798 5814 | Orchard       | Pasture    | This was run very successfully by the Paris family in the 1920s who sold the produce locally. In the 1949 sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, this is Lot 34, which was described as 'A Useful Area of Garden Ground', 1 acre 1 rood and 3 poles in size. At that time it was let to John Henderson, with most of it sub-let as cottage gardens for nearby Kinnettas Cottages. | MHG55610 |             | Duncan Finlayson<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |

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| 57       | Raven Cottage    | NH<br>4842<br>5836            | House       | In use     | 'A neat cottage tiny in comparison with its neighbours', this cottage has multi-paned sash and case windows and originally had a thatched roof (Murray 1985). The cottage is present on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876). Two photographs by Mr Wellwood Maxwell, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark, show the cottage with its thatched roof. Local tradition is that the thatch is still under the current roof. In a 1949 prospectus for the sale of the Strathpeffer Estate it is also known as 'Tigh na Fhitheach' and had a wooden shingle roof. The roof is now tiled (2011).   | MHG22716 | 109006      | Margaret Spark,<br>Kitty Campbell<br><br>Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 58       | Victory Hall     | NH<br>4811<br>5799            | Hall        | Demolished | This was a Hall built after WWI. It was also the regular venue for many smaller or medium sized concerts, public meetings, election meetings, district drama, clubs, basket whist and for films (the Pavillion (MHG7887) was for bigger occasions and important concerts). It also housed a billiard room to the right after going through the door. The hall had large metal stoves, and often smelled of paraffin. It is now (2011) a cleared area used as additional parking for Strathpeffer Community Centre. The hall burnt down in the 1970s or 1980s. The Boys Brigade also met there. | MHG55611 |             | Duncan Finlayson;<br>Jennifer Haslam;<br>Kitty Campbell<br><br>Participant at Open Day 2014     |
| 59       | Pavilion Gardens | centred<br>NH<br>4828<br>5794 | Gardens     | In use     | On the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876), the Pavilion Gardens - though not named as such - are shown as planted with trees and with a network of paths. By the time of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906), a curling pond (Site 40), a small building which was a bandstand (Site 53), and two bowling greens (Site 52) had been laid out.  | MHG55612 |             |   |
| 60       | Clisham          | NH<br>4837<br>5826            | House       | In use     | Clisham was formerly known as Brookside, because there was originally a burn, formerly an open drain. Now covered over, the burn can still be heard. Clisham is one of the earliest houses in the Spa development and is very typically Highland in appearance (Murray 1985). As Brookside, it is recorded in a 1949 sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, when it had a builders yard, office, workshops, and a store at the rear.  | MHG22692 | 108835      | Neil Macdonald;<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949; Murray 1985 |



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| 61       | Glenesk   | NH<br>4820<br>5842                     | House               | In use    | This villa was built c. 1910 and was previously known as Holmwood. It was lived in by Miss Macdonald and Miss Fraser, who ran The Shieling (Site 11). After them came Joan Cooper and then the Sparks. The veranda woodwork was similar to that originally at the Highland Hotel, but was pulled down because it had rotted.   | MHG22724 | 108892      | Duncan Finlayson;<br>Margaret Spark   |
| 62       | Ord Wood  | Ord Wood centred at NH<br>4778<br>5818 | Carriage drive      | Track     | In addition to Jubilee Drive (Site 44), there was also a carriage path into Ord Wood which went up to the Flagstaff. It was a 'favourite perambulation of the Victorian visitor' (Murray 1985). It may have originated as a drove road: 'Skirting the graveyard was a drove road which at the junction with a farm track had a well, used alike by residents and passers-by. A pump which supplanted the well was in use until just before the First World War' (Finlayson 1979, 31). Exact route not know.  | MHG55613 |             | Duncan Finlayson<br><br>Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979; Murray 1985      |
| 63       | Strathpeffer Golf Course                        | NH<br>4804<br>5858<br>(club-house)     | Golf course         | In use    | Most of the lands of Kinnettass Farm are now part of the golf course. There is still ridge and furrow visible. The clubhouse (MHG22719) and adjacent open fronted caddies shelter, roughly where the present (2011) shop is situated, are present on the OS 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition map (1906). The clubhouse appears in one of Mr Wellwood Maxwell's photographs, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark. The course was laid out by Colonel Blunt-Mackenzie in 1902 (Finlayson 1979, 83). Before 1914, there was a shorter ladies' course in front of Ord Wood (ibid.). | MHG22719 | 108905      | Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald<br><br>Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979   |
| 64       | Strathpeffer Parish Church, underground chamber | NH<br>4820<br>5799                     | Underground chamber | Buried    | In the grounds of the church, between it and the road, there was an underground chamber. Children played there in the 1940s-1950s. It is now filled in, with a lump in the ground where it originally was.   | MHG16425 | 12441       | Neil Macdonald  |
| 65       | Eaglestone House                                | NH<br>4842<br>5848                     | House               | In use    | This house, with its separate coach house to the rear, is present on the OS 1 <sup>st</sup> edition map (1876). Owners believe that the house was built around 1870, with extensions in the 1890s. The outbuilding has a date plaque. The cast iron columns supporting the veranda were apparently once gnarled timber posts (Murray 1985). During the 1920s-1930s, Dr. Bearn had his  | MHG16305 | 108896      | Information from display at Victorian Day ;<br>Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton |

| ARCH No. | Name                                | Where?       | What is it?  | Condition        | Description   | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors                                   |
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|          |                                     |              |              |                  | surgery in Eaglestone House. This was in addition to the consulting rooms attached to the spa (Site 38, MHG22690) and to Dr Thompson from Dingwall, who consulted in Craigvar twice a week (Site 30, MHG16224). In a 1949 prospectus for the sale of the Strathpeffer Estate, the house is listed as having outbuildings consisting of garage, laundry with sinks and coalhouse, all built of stone with a slate roof, as well as a Gardener's Cottage with coal shed, W.C. and tool shed.  |          |             | Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949; Murray 1985 |
| 66       | Loch Kinellan, crannog              | NH 4710 5759 | Crannog      |                  | Peggy Macdonald née Ramsay, whose father was factor to the Fairburn Estate, remembers that when Kinellan Farm was part of the estate, there was an orchard on the island. In the excavation report for the island, this is also recorded: 'In the nineteenth century the island was, under different tenants, used as a kitchen garden. A number of fruit trees still growing upon it are evidence of this somewhat ignoble use, while the rich crop of nettles that mantles its surface season after season is further eloquent of its departed glory (Fraser 1917, 52). This use of the island went back at least as far as 1837: 'Loch Kinellan is also a pleasing object with its pretty little island (for many years a garden), and the fine arable fields on one side contrast strikingly with the wilder scenery on the other (Downie 1837, 236). | MHG6285  | 12467       |  |
| 67       | Loch Kinellan, crannog dugout canoe | NH 4710 5759 | Dugout canoe | No longer extant | Though the canoe was said to have been taken to Fort Augustus Abbey museum where it disintegrated, Duncan remembers seeing this as a boy in Inverness Museum  | MHG43472 | 12467       | Duncan Finlayson                                       |
| 68       | Kinellan Drive pond                 | NH 475 573   | Pond         |                  | This whole area was always very peaty when ploughed. The formation of the pond is probably due to blocked field drains and now means that the water drains to the east (down into the village) rather than to the west.   | MHG55615 |             | Neil MacDonald   |

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| 69       | Glenorchy                   | NH<br>48613<br>58343 | House       | In use     | This house is situated overlooking the Station. It was built c. 1901 and was originally called Stanley Villa, but was renamed in 1952. It had a room in the back near the coal shed with a cooker, so the family could live there when they let the villa for the season. This happened in a number of properties in Strathpeffer. The cottage built onto the back was built for one of the sons of the original owners. | MHG55616 |             | Kitty Campbell                     |
| 70       | Electricity Company Offices | NH<br>4838<br>5823   | Shop        | demolished | Duncan Finlayson remembers this building as being situated beside the Sheiling (Site 10, MHG22633).  | MHG55617 |             | Duncan Finlayson                   |
| 71       | Drill Hall                  | NH<br>4811<br>5799   | Hall        | demolished | This wooden building was situated across the little road from the Victory Hall (site 58), next to Macgregor's tattie stall. Army cadets was held there, and Neil MacDonald remembers being taught to box there.  | MHG55618 |             | Neil MacDonald                     |
| 72       | Beechlea                    | NH<br>4833<br>5831   | House       | In use     | Situated behind the Strathpeffer Hotel. This was built by Jackie Fraser in the 1960s. It is unusual for being a bungalow in the conservation area.   | MHG55619 |             | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Margaret Scott |
| 73       | Station gates               | NH<br>485<br>584     | Gates       | extant     | The gates to the Station premises are comprised of a larger and smaller one. The larger was made in the Rose Street foundry, Inverness. When the station premises were redone the entrance was made wider and the smaller gate was added on. This later one looks similar but is of different construction, welded rather than riveted.  | MHG55620 |             | Neil MacDonald                     |
| 74       | First Community Centre      | NH<br>4811<br>5799   | Hall        | Demolished | This was built to the side of Victory Hall (site 58), in the 1960s, and was in use until the 1990s.  | MHG55621 |             |                                    |

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| 75       | Strathview      | NH<br>4832<br>5844   | House        | In use                 | Museum of Childhood display panel: 'Strathview was built in 1890 on land bought by a Mr Skinner from the Countess of Cromarty. The property was originally a hotel called the Kildonan Hotel... During the First World War the house was used as a convalescent home before reverting to use as a hotel. In the Second World War the house was used again as a convalescent home...In 1947 the property was divided into two semi-detached dwelling houses called Kildonan and Strathview.'                                | MHG16456 | 109119      | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009)                   |
| 76       | The Haven       | NH480<br>580         | House        | In use                 | House situated between the Hospital and Jock's Garage. It belonged to Ann Asher. The house is on the 1949 map. According to Duncan Finlayson, it was built in the 1930s.   |          |             | Duncan Finlayson,<br>Betty Ramsay  |
| 77       | Nutwood Cottage | NH<br>483<br>586     | House        | Moved, then demolished | This house was situated behind Nutwood House. In the 1950s it was moved to Achterneed (approx. NH 488 596) but was recently demolished. Jennifer Haslam has a picture of her mother and grandparents at this cottage.  | MHG55622 |             | Jennifer Haslam;<br>Fiona Newton   |
| 78       | Nutwood House   | NH<br>48445<br>58598 | House        | In use                 | This was the factor's house for the Cromartie estate. It also housed an office.  | MHG55623 |             | Duncan Finlayson   |
| 79       | New House Croft | NH 498<br>605        | Well         | buried                 | On the site of New House Croft, Heights of Inchvannie, there was a sulphur well. It has since been buried.   | MHG55624 |             | Neil Macdonald   |
| 80       | Loch Kinellan   | NH 47<br>57          | Curling Pond |                        | Although no one remembered curling on Loch Kinellan, a photograph of early 1900s in the possession of Mrs M Spark shows curling on the pond.   | MHG55625 |             |  |
| 81       | New York Villa  | NH<br>4809<br>5785   | House        | extant                 | Built by Donald Mackenzie in 1889. Donald was a stonemason, born in Drynie Park in Mulbuie in 1854. He travelled in the US and New York as a young man, and when he returned he built New York Villa for his marriage. Slater's Directory of 1911 notes that he had apartments to let, suggesting the property was run as a guest house. The house was sold in 2004-5, having remained in the family until that time. When this went on the market in 2005, it was two apartments, but it is now is back as one residence. | MHG7867  | 12437       | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009)<br><br>Val Moffat |

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| 202      | Newton Villa            | NH<br>48585<br>58475 | HOUSE       | Surviving | Stone built house at the entrance of the village coming from Dingwall. It does not appear on the 1 <sup>st</sup> edition OS map, but is there in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition of 1906. The present owner was told that the house has been extended twice, once over 100 years ago, and once about 70 years ago. Originally it was said not to have windows facing the railway, but the younger extension does have windows in that direction. The man who delivered coal from the station used to live at Newton Villa, and there are still hooks for the sacks. After the war it had three families living in the house, one named Mr Elliot, a Newfoundlander who worked in on the railway, and the Guss or Guess family. After 1950 it was owned by Catherine Anderson's parents, and then, by 1952, by Mr Kennedy who had the garage in the village. Recently it has been a gallery. |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Kitty Campbell,<br>Jennifer Haslam,<br>Sally Dovey, Betty<br>MacKenzie, |
| 247      | Station House<br>/ Ulva |                      |             | Surviving | The house called Ulva was originally the Station Master's house   | MHG22610 | 109126      | Participants on<br>public walk   |
| 220      | Eagle Stone             |                      |             | Surviving | The Eagle stone was in its current location by the time of the 1 <sup>st</sup> edition OS map. It was concreted in 1962-3 because local boys were trying to push it over to test the Brahan Seer's prediction.  | MHG43542 | 12458       | Kitty Campbell   |
| 233      | Free Church<br>Manse    |                      | MANSE       | Surviving | A local resident reports that this property was built in the late 1890s, and was used as a manse until 1959. It has a back staircase, leading to the maid's quarters at the top. There was an inscription there written recording words to the effect 'I've been here X years' and signed.  |          |             |  |
| 237      | Dunbeath                |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | The house was originally called Croftcrunie and was built in 1880. At some point the house was divided into two and in the 1950's people from Dunbeath bought one half and called their bit Dunbeath. During the war a lady called Mrs MacDonald lived in the Croftcrunie part of the house and all but one room was requisitioned by the army. Dunbeath was bought by the Radins in 1960, and in 1975 when Mrs MacDonald died the Radins bought her section and made the house one again.  | MHG22725 | 108893      | Mrs Radin<br>Isabel MacMaster  |

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| 224      | Ardival Farm |                | FARMHOUSE    | Surviving | Building situated up the hill from Ardival House, and now sometimes called Ardival. It was originally single storey, and had its roof raised in 1947 or 1948, by jacking up the structure and placing the existing roof on the heightened building. The nearby steading is stone built with an outside staircase, but is in a poor state of repair.  | MHG22697 | 108804      | Margaret Spark, Kitty Campbell, Fiona Newton   |
| 232      | Manse        | NH 48525 58167 | MANSE        | Surviving | The manse was built at the same time as the United Free Church (now Glendale), and is depicted in a sketch, where it is shown situated at the back of the plot, elevated above the church. When the church was merged with the Parish Church, the manse continued to be used by the joint congregation.  |          |             | Finlayson 1979 p. 67   |
| 203      | Glendale     | NH 48492 58182 | HOUSE CHURCH | Surviving | Formerly the United Free Church. It does not appear on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition OS map, so must be later than 1906. The Scottish Architects website <a href="http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk">www.scottisharchitects.org.uk</a> lists Donald MacDonald and William Mackenzie as architects who prepared the plans and specifications sometime after 1906. Although the union of the United Free Church and Church of Scotland was in 1929, the congregations did not join until 1947, with Mr Reid preached to the joint congregation in June 1948 in the Church of Scotland premises. The church was not used after this time. It was presumably sold off, owned first by Donald John Ross (Cash) in 1961-65, and he sold it to the Shepherds who lived in the front while converting it to a private residence; they named it Glendale. Old photographs, sketches and aerial photos from 1930 show that it had a steeple. The nave and steeple were taken down in the renovations, and the transept converted into the private residence. There is a stained glass window in the current flat at the back.<br>Finlayson 1979 p. 67 records: 'In 1900 the Free Church of Scotland united with the United Presbyterian Church to make the United Free Church. But the United Presbyterian Church scarcely existed in the Highlands and was somewhat suspect to the Free Church; the ironic result was that in Strathpeffer as in |          |             | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Margaret Spark, Betty MacKenzie, Doris Junor, Andy Puls<br><br>Finlayson, Clarence 1979. <i>The Strath. The Biography of Strathpeffer</i> , p. 67 |

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|          |                 |                      |             |           | many other northern parishes the 'Union' of 1900 meant another division! The Strathpeffer section entering the Union had then to build themselves a suite of buildings of their own which was quite comparable with their neighbours. When this denomination united with the Parish Church in 1929 the two sets of buildings were not necessary. The UF manse was retained as that of the united charge, but the spire and nave of that church were demolished, and the remainder with the halls were converted into a very attractive private hotel.'   |         |             |   |
| 225      | Ben Wyvis Hotel |                      | HOTEL       | Surviving | The listed building report describes it as built in 1879 with additions in 1884 and 1990-1. Jennifer Haslam has a photograph from 1961 showing its extent then. Sally Dovey has a pre WWI photograph showing people playing croquet on the lawn. The 1930 aerial photograph shows an extensive market garden behind the hotel. See also details on the swimming pool and laundry.  | MHG7864 | 12440       | Jennifer Haslam, Sally Dovey, Doris Junor                               |
| 205      | Laundry         | NH<br>48521<br>58222 | LAUNDRY     | Gone      | The laundry for the Ben Wyvis hotel was situated near the footpath towards the pavilion. A building depicted on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition OS map is in the approximate location. People can remember it there in the 1950s, but in 1962 the hotel's laundry was moved to the basement of the Highland Hotel, when Harry McGee, a Glasgow businessman, owned both hotels (and other properties). The laundry was wooden with a corrugated iron roof, all painted green. It was gone by the mid to late 1970s. Kitty Campbell's mother used to get her sheets done there. After the laundry moved in 1962, tour buses would often park outside to be washed. |         |             | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Christine Briggs         |
| 204      | Swimming pool   | NH<br>48478<br>58205 | POOL        | Gone      | There was a swimming pool for the Ben Wyvis hotel near the footpath between the Ben Wyvis hotel and the Pavillion, near the laundry. Doris Junor remembers it there in the 1950s, but it was gone by the time Jennifer Haslam worked in the hotel in the early 1960s.  |         |             | Sally Dovey, Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Doris Junor |

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| 206      | Telephone Exchange                    | NH<br>48467<br>58191 | TELEPHONE EXCHANGE | Surviving | The original telephone exchange was in a building behind the Highland Hotel. A purpose-built exchange was constructed at this location near Glendale, perhaps in the 1960s or 1970s. A map from the 1960s shows it as a single building set back from the path. Later maps show it as having two buildings, but now there is only one and a large concrete slab. Margaret Spark was told that the big slab represents the location of the first building on the site, which was replaced by the current one, and the foundation slab left on the site. The telephone exchange was manual still in 1955, but automatic by 1964. |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Kitty Campbell,<br>Jennifer Haslam,<br>Sally Dovey,<br>Christine Briggs,<br>Margaret Spark,<br>Fiona Newton |
| 207      | Council Houses, Upper Ardival Terrace | NH<br>48556<br>58106 | HOUSES             | Surviving | There are two rows of council houses to the north east of the pavilion gardens. The upper row (to the south) dates to before World War II, and appears in the 1930 aerial photograph. These were the first council houses in Strathpeffer. At the northern end are two semi detached houses which are later, built perhaps in the 1960s. A number of people who lived in Upper Ardival Terrace are remembered, including Mr Dempster who collected clocks, and had a nearby garage filled with them, all going off on the hour.  |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Kitty Campbell,<br>Jennifer Haslam,<br>Hamish Poulson   |
| 208      | Council Houses, Lower Ardival Terrace | NH<br>48538<br>58140 | HOUSES             | Surviving | There are two rows of council houses to the north east of the pavilion gardens. The lower row (to the north) was built sometime around 1960. When the sawmill closed, people were moved to the houses. Jamie and Sandy Campbell (of Jock's garage) were among the first occupants of lower Ardival Terrace when it was built.  |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Kitty Campbell,<br>Jennifer Haslam,   |
| 236      | Inver Lodge                           |                      | HOUSE              | Surviving | A local resident reports that the house was built around 1903, but it is probably older than that. It has been known as Greenside and before that Thistlebank Cottage (name confirmed in Pharmacy Prescription Books). Reputedly the people who built the cottage got land with it, but after it was up, the estate took the land off them to make the bowling green. The new name – Greenside – was because it was beside the (bowling) green.  | MHG22728 | 108906      | Margaret Spark<br>Isabel MacMaster   |



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| 230      | Spa Pavilion   |                      | PAVILION    | Surviving | There are several leaflets and references in books relating to the Pavilion. During WWI it was a hospital for the American navy. In WWII it was used for PE for the troops, and also appears to have been an entertainment venue; Jennifer Haslem was told the servicemen came from Evanton airfield to dances at the Pavilion. It was known far and wide for several decades in this role. Busses came from as far as Tain , Nairn and Forres for dances and other entertainment.  | MHG7887  | 12417       | Hamish Poulson,<br>Jennifer Haslam<br>Kitty Campbell                                     |
| 235      | White Lodge    |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | This property was said to have been owned by the Pavillion, and the gardener lived there. At some times in its history it has been divided into two properties. There is a Bavarian style summerhouse, partly with a well under it. Cattle were said to have used the well for water before the summerhouse was built. At the back of the garden, near to White Cottage (MHG55596) there was said to be another well. White Lodge is said to have a ghost in a long Victorian coat and top hat.   | MHG16481 | 109128      | Sandra and<br>Walter Fleming,<br>Betty Ramsay,<br>Isabel<br>MacMaster,<br>Margaret Spark |
| 210      | Seafield House | NH<br>48318<br>58357 | HOUSE       | Surviving | House built c. 1880s. The current owner was told that it was extended about five years after construction, to the east. Originally it had a large balcony. There are different stories about what happened to the balcony. One story is that it was taken down in the 1960s; it was certainly rotten by that time. Another is that it burnt down when workmen were doing work on the house with blow torches. In the 1960s the house was owned by Col. Olaf MacLeod and Hester MacLeod, who was an opera singer. Col. MacLeod had been in the Indian Army, and was a model maker and artist who specialised in military uniforms. Olaf's sister Morven, a potter, also lived there. The Strathpeffer Amateur Operatic Society originated and met at Seafield House; Kitty Campbell and her brother were in some of the first productions. Margaret Spark has a picture of the house with its balcony. |          |             | Margaret Spark,<br>Fiona Newton,<br>Kitty Campbell                                       |

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| 234      | Summerhill / Tara       |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | This house was converted into two houses after the war. There are walls with holes in them, said to have been caused by billeted troops playing darts.   | MHG22616 | 109120      | Val Moffat   |
| 244      | Tarbat                  |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | Tarbat Hotel advertised itself in 1932 as having hot and cold running water in all bedrooms, and excellent cuisine. Proprietor J.G. Young, with tariffs 3 Gns. to 5 Gns. The advert includes a picture. The Ambaile Web website has a postcard of the hotel <a href="http://www.ambaile.org.uk/en/item/item_photograph.jsp?item_id=38410">http://www.ambaile.org.uk/en/item/item_photograph.jsp?item_id=38410</a><br>It has now been divided into separate residences.   | MHG22283 | 108830      | Isabel MacMaster<br><i>The Book of Ross</i><br>by Donald MacDonald and Alexander Poulson (1932), p. 82 |
| 227      | The Craig               |                      |             | Surviving | Dr Thompson lived here.  | MHG22701 | 108837      | Jennifer Haslam  |
| 214      | Salisbury and The Cliff | NH<br>48259<br>58319 | House       | Surviving | This stone house is now two buildings, but originally the Cliff was probably the coach house, converted later to become a residence. Betty Ramsay remembers an arch between the two buildings, but the west ground floor flat in Salisbury shares a wall with the Cliff, so it must have been attached in at least some parts. Originally it was a hotel. The O'Connells were the last family to live in Salisbury, and they divided it into flats, probably in the 1990s. It now is 4 flats. Murray 1985 comments on the fine sandstone squinched quoins. | MHG22632 | 109021      | Betty Ramsay,<br>Christine Briggs<br>Kitty Campbell<br><br>Murray 1985                                 |
| 215      | Craigroyston            | NH<br>48215<br>58290 | HOUSE       | Surviving | Murray 1985 notes that Craigroyston was built around 1890, in a style with its tower and turreted roof harking back to fortified houses. Miss Menzies lived there with her maid Janet who later lived in Kinettas Cottage.   | MHG22721 | 108888      | Kitty Campbell,<br>Betty Ramsay,<br>Betty MacKenzie<br><br>Murray 1985                                 |
| 216      | Woodlands               | NH<br>48177<br>58276 | HOUSE       | Surviving | Murray 1985 dates Woodlands to 1886. It is now two dwellings, with a small building behind. Perhaps the small building was used for the family during the season, as was the case at Holly Lodge, Glen Orchy, Winsor Lodge and Crancil Brae.   | MHG7880  | 12424       | Murray 1985  |

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|----------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---|----------|-------------|---|
| 217      | Strathbran      | NH<br>48149<br>58245 | HOUSE       | Surviving | Murray 1985 dates this to 1882. It was used as a boarding house at least in the 1920s/1930s. Later, Margaret Spark's mother lived here for c. 10 years. The tower was a drawing room on the ground floor, bedroom on the first, and at the narrow top was a room with window glass all round, providing a great view. One story says that the tower was built for the owner to look over towards Castle Leod where he had a lady friend. The outbuildings at the back were the stables. | MHG7881  | 12423       | Margaret Spark,<br>Sally Dovey,<br>Sheila Fletcher<br>Murray 1985 |
| 238      | Balmoral        |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | This large house is now known as Strathallan, and is currently an old folk's home. It was run by a holiday Fellowship in the past as well.<br>Murray says that it was built c. 1890. Sandstone dressings dominate the building. The west wing appears to be a later extension, but is similar in style (Murray 1985)  | MHG22699 | 108806      | Jennifer Haslam,<br>Betty Ramsay<br><br>Murray 1985               |
| 218      | Brunstane Lodge | NH<br>48178<br>58323 | HOUSE       | Surviving | This building was known as Midhope in the 1960s, until it was bought in the 1960s by Mr Baine who changed the name. It was a boarding house. After the war Mr McLeod had it, and then sold it to Bob Baine, who first ran it as a restaurant for elderly folk. This didn't pay, and it then became a bar. Elma O'Rourke remembers a large organ on which Mr Baine played. No one remembers many exterior changes, although there have been a number of internal ones.                   |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Margaret Spark,<br>Elma O'Rourke,<br>Doris Junor |
| 226      | Dunraven Lodge  |                      | HOUSE       | Surviving | This building was a Church of Scotland old folks's home after the war and into the 1970s. The building is currently (2013) for sale, and the brochure says that the house was built in 1901, but the listed building report says c. 1895. Initially it was a hotel.   | MHG16277 | 108895      | Fiona Newton  |

| ARCH No. | Name         | Where? | What is it? | Condition | Description   | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors  |
|----------|--------------|--------|-------------|-----------|---|----------|-------------|---|
| 239      | Camuserrochd |        | HOUSE       | Surviving | The house was probably built by Donald MacLennan (b. 1838) from the Heights of Achterneed who had emigrated to Timaru in New Zealand. On his return after 1873 he built Timaru (MHG7886), as well as Timuka (MHG7865) and Oamaru (possibly the building now called Murroona; MHG22710) nearby, and possibly Camuserroch (MHG22286) behind Oamaru. Donald was known as 'Old Timaru' and died in Strathpeffer in 1919. The registrar's office was said to have been located there. This building was called Te Anau.  | MHG22286 | 108834      | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009<br><br>Margaret Spark, Isabel MacMaster                 |
| 240      | Murroona     |        | HOUSE       | Surviving | The house is reported to have been built by Donald MacLennan (b. 1838) from the Heights of Achterneed, who had emigrated to Timaru in New Zealand. On his return after 1873 he built Timaru (MHG7886), as well as Timuka (MHG7865) and Oamaru (possibly the building now called Murroona; MHG22710) nearby, and possibly Camuserroch (MHG22286) behind Oamaru. Donald was known as 'Old Timaru' and died in Strathpeffer in 1919. The house is on the site of a property labelled Tarbet Lodge on the 1 <sup>st</sup> edition OS map. Oamaru was at some point in its history two houses, but is now joined as one again. Murray 1985 dates the house to c. 1875, describing it as 'a pleasant L-shaped villa in grey whin and sandstone and nicely carved barge boards.' | MHG22710 | 108955      | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009<br>Murray 1985<br><br>Margaret Spark, Isabel MacMaster. |
| 241      | Timuka       |        | HOUSE       | Surviving | The house was built by Donald MacLennan (b. 1838) from the Heights of Achterneed, who had emigrated to Timaru in New Zealand. On his return after 1873 he built Timaru (MHG7886), as well as Timuka (MHG7865) and Oamaru (possibly the building now called Murroona; MHG22710) nearby, and possibly Camuserroch (MHG22286) behind Murroona. Donald was known as 'Old Timaru' and died in Strathpeffer in 1919. Timuka is a timber and corrugated iron bungalow, with intricately carved barge boards, and the ridge finished with frilly cast-iron.   | MHG7865  | 12439       | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009<br>Margaret Spark<br><br>Murray 1985                    |

| ARCH No. | Name                        | Where?             | What is it?        | Condition | Description  | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors  |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|----------|-------------|---|
| 242      | Timaru                      |                    | HOUSE              |           | This building was briefly known as Ardgour.  | MHG7886  | 12418       |   |
| 211      | Swimming Pool               | c. NH 4803 5805    | SWIMMING POOL      | Gone      | There was an outdoor swimming pool for soldiers near Kinnettass Square beside the tennis courts during the WWII. No locals were allowed to use it. It was dismantled after the war. Exact location not known.  |          |             | Betty MacKenzie   |
| 222      | Kinnettass Cottages         |                    | COTTAGE            | Surviving | There used to be four cottages: 1&2 to the east, and 3&4 to the west. Now there are three, as the two to the west have been converted into one. These cottages are thought to be quite old, and appear on the 1 <sup>st</sup> edition OS map. Kinnettass 3 & 4 grid ref centred on NH 48028 58128  | MHG22730 | 108941      | Betty Ramsay, Betty MacKenzie, Margaret Spark, Jennifer Haslam,             |
| 223      | Francisville                |                    | HOUSE              | Surviving | House situated to the east of Kinnettass cottages. The manse had this. When the Munns lived there It had an aviary.  | MHG7872  | 12432       | Jennifer Haslam, Kitty Campbell   |
| 231      | Cnocan                      | NH 47979 58089     | HOUSE SUMMER-HOUSE | Surviving | The house has a summerhouse with bay windows, pitched pine and carved pillars which the current owner believes was built at the same time as the house. It was built c. 1900.  |          |             | Karen Evans   |
| 200      | Jock's Garage               | NH 48070 58045     | GARAGE             | Surviving | Garage in long use. Date of construction not known, but it was there in 1949. Jock Campbell had it for a number of years. Jock and his brother Sandy worked there. Jock bought it from John MacKenzie, who lived at Glenoran when he owned the garage. The family went to Australia in the 50's but didn't stay there too long. When they came back they bought Beechcroft. Glenoran is the 3rd house along the main road opposite the school. Jock Campbell was known as a man who could do anything. It is still (2013) a garage, owned by Ross Sutherland, but with a new proprietor. |          |             | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Lori Williams, Elma O'Rourke |
| 243      | The Garden House            |                    |                    | Surviving | The Garden House was divided at one time, with the other part known as Garden Cottage.   | MHG23262 | 111611      |   |
| 213      | Park Terrace Council Houses | Centred NH 479 576 | HOUSE              | Surviving | Council houses were built in this area of Strathpeffer from the 1950s to the late 1960s, in various waves of construction.   |          |             | Betty MacKenzie, Jennifer Haslam, Betty Ramsay, Margaret Spark              |

| ARCH No. | Name                            | Where?            | What is it? | Condition | Description   | HER No: | Canmore No: | Name of contributors  |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|---|---------|-------------|---|
| 246      | Civil Defence site              |                   |             | Gone      | Large marquees were situated in this area in the 1950s, and Jennifer Haslam was told they were for civil defence. They were in the fields owned by Mr Ian MacKenzie of Park Farm and were situated right behind Newton Villa.   |         |             | Jennifer Haslam   |
| 212      | The Hollow                      | c. NH 47776 57585 | HOUSE       | Surviving | This house was begun after the war, probably in the late 1950s, by Mr MacLennan. It was finished by Mrs Littlejohn. The entrance to the Spa Hotel ran by, but the house dates to after the hotel was burnt down.  |         |             | Betty MacKenzie, Jennifer Haslam, Elma o'Rourke, Betty Ramsay, Margaret Spark   |
| 221      | Elsick House                    |                   | HOUSE       | Surviving | This was a private home, built in the early 19 <sup>th</sup> century by Dr Thomas Morison who came from Aberdeenshire, and named the house after his family estate in Aberdeenshire (Downie 2014). He suggested building a new pump room in Strathpeffer, which was built in 1829 (Richards and Clough 1989 p 181). After his death in 1824, it passed through various owners. During WWI it was used for nurses' accommodation, and then as a hotel (Dounie 2014). After the Spa Hotel burnt down in the 1940s, the patients from the hotel (which was being used for a hospital during the war) were moved to Elsick House, and it became a Fever home. After the war it became a Youth Hostel, and is now divided into four apartments. Andrew Dounie has researched the history of the house. | MHG7863 | 12442       | Betty Ramsay, Fiona Newton<br><br>Richards, Eric and Clough Monica 1989. Cromartie: Highland Life 1650-1914<br><br>Downie, Andrew 2014. <i>Elsick House, Strathpeffer</i> |
| 228      | Bicycle shop and petrol Station | NH 49346 59070    | SHOP        | Gone      | Andrew Campbell in Blairninich made bicycles elsewhere before coming to the area in the 1920s. He sold bicycles and did repairs from his large premises in Blairninich in the 1920s and 1930s, and knew a great deal about bicycles. He was known locally as Cahoochie (the Scots word for the kind of malleable rubber used in golf balls and tyres). He also learned about electro-plating, and people brought items to him to be electro plated. He also sold petrol here during and after the war, into at least the late 1950s and perhaps as late as the 1970s. In the 1970s Mrs Campbell ran the shop on her own, and sold sweeties and chocolate.   |         |             | Duncan Finlayson, Jennifer Haslam, Betty Ramsay, Fiona Newton, Kitty Campbell   |

| ARCH No. | Name         | Where?               | What is it?     | Condition          | Description  | HER No:  | Canmore No: | Name of contributors             |
|----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|----------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 229      | Smiddy       | NH<br>49346<br>59070 | SMITHY          | Converted to house | The Smiddy in Blairninich was owned by Mr MacDonald just after the war. Douglas Murray converted it to a house.  |          |             | Betty Ramsay,<br>Jennifer Haslam |
| 244      | War Memorial | NH<br>5124<br>5938   | WAR<br>MEMORIAL | Surviving          | The War Memorial was one of the last to be built. The first plan was to put it in the square in Strathpeffer. Then there was a plan to put it on Knockfarrel. A stone base was put there with a wooden memorial which blew down. Then it was decided to put it in at Fodderty cemetery. A local committee used to look after it, with one representative from the Heights, one from Knockfarrel, one from Strathpeffer village and the Earl of Cromartie and the school master. A mason's firm from Aberdeen built it. | MHG39148 |             | Isabel MacMaster                 |
| 245      | Coul House   | NH<br>4625<br>5641   | HOUSE,<br>HOTEL | Surviving          | The two MacLennan brothers were masons and built the wall around Coul House estate. They were told their work wasn't up to scratch, so they went to New Zealand. The wall is still there.  | MHG14110 | 105490      | Isabel MacMaster                 |

#### Other notes in discussion

- Janet, Miss Menzie's maid at Craighroyston, originally stayed in a very small cottage situated above Park Farm. The cottage is no longer there
- The road through the Strath was said to be hard topped in WWI for military traffic (Betty MacKenzie)
- Hill Cottage, Jamestown – also with thatch under corrugated iron roof (Val)
- Original Rose Cottage on the Heights near the hall – also said to have thatch under corrugated iron roof (Fiona)
- Near the church in Jamestown there is a building reputed to be an old school (Betty Ramsay)
- Two side schools are known in the Heights: one at Docharty (Fiona) and one at Achterneed (Jennifer). The exact locations appear to have moved, depending on availability of rooms.
- During the war shinty was played at Castle Leod.
- Betty Ramsay read that in 1895 Gledfield Lodge Boarding School was in Strathpeffer. Does anyone know where this was? Could this perhaps be The Craig (227)?? Margaret Spark has heard a tradition that there was a girl's boarding school in the Strath.
- No memories of air raid shelters in the Strath, though Maureen was told there is one at Kinnellan.
- The air raid bell, with ARP on it, was preserved by Alistair Thomson, and now Jennifer Haslam.
- Hamish Poulson records that the land around Strathpeffer was used for training for the army, with soldiers billeted in houses and hotels. At Contin you can still see the bases for Norwegian huts
- The railings near the Episcopal Church were put in c. 30 years ago, and are now in a dilapidated condition. The previous railings were similar, but with sharp points on the tops. After the war they had gaps in them.

- Post Offices have moved over the years. Photographs from 1900-1910 show a post office in the Square at the west end. Later it moved to the building behind the Highland Hotel, where it also housed the Telegraph Office. Still later it was in Maya/Red Poppy building, probably from the 1960s to mid 1980s. Currently it is back in the Square, now at the East end.

Sale Catalogue 1949 = Messrs John D. Wood & Co., 1949. *Strathpeffer, Ross-shire. The Holiday Resort of the Northern Highlands. Part of the Strathpeffer Estate. For Sale by Auction as a Whole or in Lots.*

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Duncan Finlayson - Shops: DUNCAN FINLAYSON memories of businesses in Strathpeffer 1920s & 1930s



## BUSINESSES IN STRATHPEFFER in the 1920s and 1930s

DUNCAN FINLAYSON

Written 2011.

### Dating of these recollections

To identify dating of my recollections, family connections and Strathpeffer as follows.

My parents came from Inverness in 1905 to Kinnetas Cottage 2. My brother was an infant. My sister was born in 1908. We moved to Ardival House which my mother ran as a boarding house (very successfully).

War etc.

I was born in 1917. I have clear toddler reminiscences until 3 ½ to 4: Looking down at trains from Ardival. Playing with Bobby Abbot – his father was manager of Burnetts Bakers at Cromartie Buildings and a baker himself at the Strathpeffer bakery.

My father worked on Cromartie estate office at Nutwood and then ran the Strathpeffer Electricity Co. office in the Square, adjacent to what is now called the Sheiling.

1921 – My father to Fairburn estate Office. We moved to Marybank but still had close connection with Strathpeffer – Friendships etc. continued, coming and going to Strathpeffer. My father continued as an Elder of U.F. church.

1928 – Moved back to Strath. My mother ran (again very successfully) a BOARDING HOUSE at Holly Lodge. I went by train to Dingwall Academy. I went to University in 1936. But Strathpeffer was still my home.

Until 1943 – by which time my parents were in CRAIGVAR – housed, during war, Commanding Officer, Norwegian chaplain etc – taken over as military accommodation.

2000 – I returned to Strathpeffer. Retirement in 2000.

### LIST OF “BUSINESSES” IN MY TIME –

1. At Station was **MENZIES BOOKSTALL** selling paper, magazine, books, cigarettes, tobacco etc.

During the period when I was going to school:

It is not generally known that there was a John Menzies, typical of small railway bookstall. Menzies-style, it was built against station ‘west’ wall – usual sloping layout (so that patrons could quickly grab a paper and pay while rushing for the train – at least gives that impression.

I can’t say how long it was there.

It sold papers, daily, weekly. Some people living at that end of village had their regular order there. Magazines – westerns, detective series Sexton Black, Dixon Hawk etc. Paperback popular literature.

Chocolate, sweets, cigarettes, tobacco.

It was run by Cathie Grant, daughter of senior policeman (Sargeant I think) at Police Station Dingwall. Later she married Jim Abbot of the bakery family. Later still she and Jim ran the very successful boarding house at Rosslyn Lodge.

2. Between Barnhill and Ben Wyvis Entry – **THE SHEILING** –  
Wooden showroom and shop. Good quality woollen ladies wear etc. Miss MacDonald and Miss Fraser.

Miss Macdonald and Miss Fraser were very active in local affairs. They lived in Glenesk on Golf Course Road – I think it had a different name then? Miss Fraser was a great walker – an active

person. Fine skater – I know, I skated with her! Though she once did have a very bad skating fall. Their business was very successful among visitors and locals.

### 3. **CROMARTIE BUILDINGS BURNETT'S BAKERY AND TEA ROOM.**

Dominated the area in a sense.

Fine shop at 'lower' end – whole business vital to the Spa. Highest quality bread and range of cakes, baking fancies. This was backed up by a busy bakehouse at the foot of what we called the 'back roadie'. All managed by Mr Abbot, himself a Master Baker – his wife a Burnett of the Inverness family. 'Bakers to the Highlands'. Local men among the bakers – families well-known still in the Strath! Jim Abbot went to the continent to learn the 'fancies' trade, French cakes etc... came back and enriched what was offered..

Beyond the shop was a very pleasant Tea Room. Afternoon tea there was the real thing (cream cookies – real cream of course – ah!).

Burnetts ran a delivery service and the well-stocked van served communities as remote as the depths of Strathconon. I occasionally acted as 'van boy' on these longer trips. The van was a large Guy. It was driven, and the people served, by Dan Campbell who lived in Cromartie Buildings and was a well-known and popular man in the community. On one occasion the gear lever cam unstuck on the Achterneed hill above the railway crossing. The van tumbled backwards, almost onto the railway and turned over. There were no casualties, just some bruised buns!

Times changed. The bakery became centralised in Inverness. This had serious consequences for local employment in the Strath. The usual story of centralisation.

### 4. **CROMARTIE BUILDINGS MR SAMUEL FRASER AND FAMILY. DRAPER'S SHOP.**

At the 'village' end of ground floor unit was a 'draper's shop'. This meant it carried an unbelievably varied stock in limited space. Men, women, children wear, household ware, table linen, bed linen etc etc.

It was run by Mr Samuel Fraser in partnership with Mrs. Fraser and their elder daughter Miss Elizabeth Betty Fraser. It serviced hotels and boarding houses etc. Betty was trained in corsetry and special fitting service and advice given (significant for her future).

At certain times while the ladies maintained the shop, Mr Fraser loaded his and went round the outlying areas – Heights, Strathconon etc. He may have offered 'terms' to country folk – I don't know.

Betty Fraser married and brought up a family but was widowed in late middle age. She moved to premises on Dingwall High Street. At one widow she offered Bibles for sale and in the other corsetry advice and provision by which she earned a livelihood. It is interesting to note that the Bible sales developed into the Christian Bookshop on Dingwall Station.

### 5. **Beside the square: Miss Sarah McKeon's TIGH MILLE ANNAS (now called The Sheiling). Good quality fancy goods. Lending Library too. Fine wooden showroom and shop.**

In Miss Sarah McKeon's time, from the 1920s-1940s, it sold good quality fancy goods; Miss McKeon was Irish and a staunch Roman Catholic, hence the Gaelic name, *Tigh Mile Annas* ('house of the hundred thousand welcomes'). Much of the fancy work, such as lace, which Miss McKeon sold, was made in convents. . She lived for a period in part of the bungalow in the grounds of Holly Lodge while the Finlaysons were there, and latterly in rooms or room at Hope's Hotel.

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## **SQUARE SHOPS:**

### 6. LICENSED GROCER, as now

I think I should preface this by reference to what preceded my time. My parents often referred to Mr and Mrs Dalling of the shop. They were personal friends of some years' standing, so perhaps the Dallings had the shop before and then during the war. I am just guessing from conversations when I was a child. Mr Dalling certainly was a figure of local importance and involved in community affairs. When the early Strathpeffer Electricity Company developed into becoming the Ross-shire Electricity Company, Mr Thomas Dalling was the first manager of the company.

However during the nearly all the time when I knew the shop, it was owned by the MacLeods. The domestic area behind and above the shop had to accommodate Mr & Mrs MacLeod senior, parents of the three sons who ran the shop in my time:

Donnie F. MacLeod, the eldest essentially ran the business  
Tommy who eventually joined the army  
and the youngest Simon, known universally as 'Spud'.

The position of the shop is as today, but the public shop itself was very small by comparison and of course with a counter. The public entrance was at the corner, on to the square where the Post Box and Post Office notices are today (2011).

After the MacLeods, the shop passed to Mr Smith in the 1930s. Donnie moved south but I used to see him in Edinburgh where he established a Fruit, Veg and Flower Shop at the top of Marchmont Road.

7&8 Double SHOP: 7 and 8 were joined in my time. These units are now (2011) separate – a Gift shop and hairdresser, but the connecting door is still there!

### 7. Part **GROCERY BUT MAINLY CYCLE SHOP AND CYCLE REPAIRS.** Mr Humphrey

Mr and Mrs Humphrey lived behind the shop.

The right hand shop had a counter – dealt in a few groceries and certainly had sweets laid out on counter.

The left hand shop was a cycle workshop. Mr H. did bicycle repairs – punctures etc – and had bicycle parts available.

Also I remember he had some golf items but the main business was bicycle repairs.

8. Followed by the Adams. They set up a very efficient and successful Fruit and Vegetable shop, with a delivery van. It was a family business: Mr & Mrs Adams, sister-in-law Mrs Johnstone, and the youngsters helped. All worked hard – a good business. The family lived at Summerhill. Son Jackie was a little younger than me but part of the gang of us boys of the time. Jackie was a very determined character. He was called up and came through the war but with impaired health. Died of T.B. As much a war casualty as any ....

### 9. **PHARMACY:** a) T. Wellwood Maxwell b) Mr Bernie

Has continued as such for a long long time. In my youth, the unforgettable T. Wellwood Maxwell reigned supreme – pharmacy and remarkable photography. He did a classic 'modern' analysis of the waters – sulphur and iron. He was a dapper, immaculate man. Very good at his job and locally revered. He belonged to Melrose and retired there. He lived with Mrs Maxwell and two daughters (one a pharmacist) at Crancil Brae.

(He was very kind to me.– encouraged my interest in chemical experiments. Trusted me with dangerous items, but with dire warnings ....)

After his retirement, Mr Bernie was the pharmacist – a very obliging nice man ...

10. **NEWSAGENTS**, Stationer, Books, Tobacconist – A.& M. Fraser  
A fine business run by the Fraser sisters Agnes and Molly.

This was an exceptional business. It was a proper newsagent handling:

- a variety of daily newspapers, weekly publications, monthly magazines –specialist (farming, fishing etc), periodicals. They would order any paper required.

– Paperbacks.

- Stationery – wide selection of items – paper, pens, writing equipment.

- Tobacconist – cigarettes, tobacco of every type. Snuff – a popular buy in those days!

- Fancy Goods – gifts – books

Agnes and Molly were in school with my brother & sister. Father was a gardener I think at Castle Leod. They lived in the lodge at Castle Leod gate. After the death of their father, I think it was, Agnes and Molly set up business. They lived with their mother above the shop.

When I was senior schoolboy I did a summer as newspaper boy – a big job – and helping in the shop. Quite a demanding job but I enjoyed it. 8/- per week (today's money 40 pence!)

After Molly married, Agnes carried on the business with hired staff. She had a nephew who as a boy came up regularly from down south and helped in the shop. Eventually he took it over – so then it became Donald Fraser shop. Meantime, Agnes had taken over Woolens Shop (see below no. 11).

11. **END SHOP** had various occupants
- a) I can't remember, but I have a persistent idea that when I first knew the shop it was a Highland Home Industry type of shop.
  - b) Ladies' woollens – good quality – Mrs. Macdonald, Croftcrunie
  - c) Hairdresser at back. Muriel Macdonald.

Later Miss Agnes Fraser of Newsagent (see 10) took over as woollen goods.

After my time, there were a variety of occupants in this shop, which was I believe a newsagents and later a post office.

There was considerable window display space. The entrance was at an angle from pavement. It is very difficult to deal with because, even in my time, it has known a variety of uses. E.g. I was present when a recent short-term lesee – antique shop – in making plans for a new shop notice above the shop unearthed an old large boarding. I can't remember the exact words, but something like 'Lady Seaforth's Shop ... for Soldiers'.

It was from a time when wealthy ladies set up businesses, the profit of which went to extra comforts and help for men on service and their families and could be related as in this case, to soldiers of a regiment raised by the landowning family.

I am only really clear about two main occupants in my time – both of them a ladies' (or wider) Woolen business. One was Mrs Macdonald of house then called Croftcrunie. Her daughter Muriel, but called familiarly Moolie, and she married 'Spud' MacLeod of the shop (see no. 6). She was a hairdresser and took over the 'back room' of the shop and ran a successful Ladies' hairdresser; she also cut boys' hair. Her young brother Thomas Donald Macdonald, known as Tomdon, was one of the liveliest of boys in the village. He was a very close friend of mine. He went on to become an officer with Fleet Air Arm and lost his life very early in the war when the aircraft carrier Courageous was torpedoed in the Bristol Channel. Sense of the war thus came early to Strathpeffer.

Then later, when Donald Fraser, Agnes Fraser's nephew, took over the newsagent [no. 10], Agnes

Fraser took over the woollen business next door.

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11A. **HIGHLAND HOME INDUSTRIES.**

Cabin was on a site which was let in to Craigvar Garden. Miss MacCallum ran the shop.

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**SHOPS BEHIND WHITE HOUSE [nos. 12 & 13]**

12. **DAIRY.** Consistently a dairy. Centre for dairy distribution etc. Per Mr Duncan MacGregor, Ardival Farm. Cream, dairy items.
13. Variety of occupants, some only for short time. Fish Shop. Shoe Shop (Keltic branch from Dingwall (run by MacLennans). Neither was long-lived.

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**GROUP OF SHOPS – MAIN ROAD. NOW CHOCOLATE SHOP [MAYA]. [nos.14-17]**

I can't be clear which shops were there when. I think there was an extra shop in the group before the fire.

14. **JEWELLERS AND WATCHMAKERS SHOP.**

Branch from the main shop in Tain. The shop was served by neat competent Miss MacKintosh, daughter of miller at Millnain. I can see her striding up and down daily. There were Conon pearls in the window.

15. **VEGETABLE FRUIT SHOP** (pre the coming of Adams in the Square).

16. **BUTCHER.**

Very fine business – wide range of supply to hotels and boarding houses. Proprietor Murdo MacGregor had local farms – extensive business. Probably as good quality as anything in the U.K. Murdo MacGregor also had a shop in Dingwall.

17. Small useful **GROCERY.** Miss Jean Graham (daughter of stationmaster).

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18. **POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE**

facing back entrance of Highland Hotel. Fine red building.

- 1) Well furnished Post Office
- 2) Telegraph office (mid door). Permanent telegraph boy, and 1 extra boy in summer
- 3) Mail office – sorting – dispatch – in mail – parcel centre
- 4) and apartment above – home of postmaster.

The postmaster was Major Wilkie in my time. He was a significant man in the community. His position and title of 'Postmaster' gave him an automatic status in those days. He was considerably involved in local affairs.

The Post Office was a real 'centre of significance' in the community - a high quality, purpose built building containing services of genuine daily importance to the community in the days before general telephone household contact or modern communications facilities.

19. Bicycle business outwith the Strath

Andrew Campbell in Blairninich made bicycles elsewhere before coming to the area in the 1920s. He sold bicycles and did repairs from his large premises in Blairninich in the 1920s and 1930s, and knew a great deal about bicycles. He was known locally as Gahoochie (the Scots word for the kind of malleable rubber used in golf balls and tyres). He also learned about electro-plating, and people brought items to him to be electro plated.

