

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area:

1. Jamestown



During 2015 people gathered at Strathpeffer Community Centre and Achterneed Hall to remember the physical remains of the Strathpeffer area – Jamestown, Strathpeffer, the Heights, Achterneed and Milnain – focussing on buildings, sites, or monuments which were new, modified or no longer there. They built on previous sessions which had begun to look at Strathpeffer. Using old maps, photographs (some more than a century old), various printed sources, and memories spanning over 80 years, information about over 350 sites was gathered. Some pupils from the school joined us as well for Strathpeffer sessions as part of their project investigating World War II.

This report summarises the results of the meetings focussing on Jamestown, with a few extra memories of places further west. The details have also been forwarded to heritage databases: the Highland Council Historic Environment Record (HER) (her.highland.gov.uk) and Historic Environment Scotland's Canmore (canmore.org.uk) where they will provide valuable new information about the heritage of the area.

The 2015 sessions were part of a project organised by ARCH and Strathpeffer Community Centre, and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Mackenzie New York Villa Trust. Funding for the smaller projects in previous years was provided by Generations Working Together and 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.

Any additions or corrections should be sent to ARCH at info@archhighland.org.uk or The Goods Shed, The Old Station, Strathpeffer, IV14 9DH. This version: December 2015.



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Jamestown: a planned settlement

Jamestown was clearly a deliberate settlement – but strangely no one seems to know exactly when or who James was! Map research shows that no settlement was there in the 1820s.

The settlement is split by Contin and Urray parish, and Fodderty parish borders on the north – a factor which led to the Free Church being built there. The layout of the hamlet suggests a planned settlement, with regular, very small crofts. Our earliest reference is 1835 (a court case), and there are c. 27 households in the 1841 census in the Contin parish, and more than double that in the 1851 census. However, the early censuses for the Urray side do not call this Jamestown, but several other names including Moyside. Many of the people are listed as paupers, but there are also a number of tradesmen; most were born in Contin parish. Some, like Margaret Urquhart's father, worked on Coul estate.

Who is James? James Alexander Stewart married Mary Hood, the widowed daughter of Lord Seaforth (Brahan estate), and they founded Maryburgh in 1815. However the fact that the Brahan estate side of the settlement has only four houses, and does not call them Jamestown in the censuses until 1881, suggests that the naming is probably from Coul estate – and thus far we have not been able to find any James in the Mackenzie of Coul line. Further work is needed.

Minutes of a meeting held by the Heritors of Contin on 26th January 1833 (now held in the National Records of Scotland (GD1/1149/55 (3)) may refer to Jamestown: ‘...To these Queries may be added a fourth on a different subject of doubt viz. Sir George Mackenzie whose Estate is situate in the Parish and Mr. MacKenzie of Seaforth, whose Estate is in the adjoining Parish of Fodderty. Having had occasion some years ago to Straighten their Marches by giving and taking, or in other words exchanging land[?] without any formal excambion, parts of their respective properties, and Mr Mackenzie having thereupon erected a Village on that portion of the Coul Land which fell to him under the above arrangement the question occurs whether this Village is to be considered a parochially situate in Contin or Fodderty and consequently in which of these two Parishes the Inhabitants are entitled to church accommodation.’ (information obtained by Betty Ramsay). Jamestown is currently split between Contin and Urray parishes, not Fodderty, but it is difficult to imagine what other village might be referred to.

Located at the join of three parishes, it was an ideal location for the Free Church. The first church probably dates to the 1840s at the time of the Disruption, though the derelict stone church is from 1861-2.





At the time of the first detailed census, 1841, there were 27 households in Jamestown. Most people were agricultural labourers, probably working on the Coul estate, but there is also a cabinet maker, shoemaker, carpenter, cartwright, weavers, sawyer, tailors and a roadmaker. All were born in Contin parish (research by Susan Pucci).







Today a number of old cottages still remain, as well as remains of the stone church with an early school behind it.

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: Jamestown



JAMESTOWN

ARCH No.	Name	Where ?		Condition	Description	HER and Canmore numbers	Name of contributors
400	Village pump	NH 47688 56444		Gone	There was no piped water in Jamestown until the 1950s. The village well is marked as a P (for Pump) on the 1st and 2 nd edition OS maps. No trace remains; there is a drain in the remembered location. Other houses in the village had their own wells. There was a real art to getting your water from the open deep wells.		Betty Ramsay
401	Dyke	NH 47773 56600		Extant	A section of a drystone dyke (c. 8 m) was repaired as part of a community project in 2015. It runs from NH 47779 56599 to NH 47771 56597.		Val Moffat
402	School	NH 47792 56591	 	Ruinous	Behind the Free Church is a ruinous small building which appears on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, when it is roofed. It is reputed to have been a school. The 1851 census for Jamestown mentions a school teacher boarding at East Coulwood. The building has clearly been altered, and it appears that a U-shaped structure was constructed within the remains. An inscription on the west face records repointing in the 1960s. A section of wall on the west face has been broken off. The door is remembered to have been on the south side, but it appears to have been blocked. The alterations probably date to when the crumbling roof of the church was taken off by Col. J.M. Sym. His builders used the rubble to make the squared structure within the derelict building behind the church, with the area in the centre used to burn rubbish (information from Major Whitelaw).		Betty Ramsay


Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

403	Manse steading	NH 47911 56627		Extant	The building to the north of the manse, and to the northeast of the church, was the steading for the manse. It is depicted on both the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, but in its current form appears more like a steading. It is currently a shed.		Betty Ramsay, Trina Wombell
404	Coulwood Cottage, Jamestown	NH 47770 56819		Extant	The house was built between 1841 and 1851. It appears on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps with what appears to be cultivated plots to the west. Betty Ramsay's family built the house with land from Coul Estate, forming a 4 acre croft. The building at the back was a shed, with stone foundations and turf upper walls. She remembers a well at the house (which has recently been closed in). Behind the house was the 'dry midden', and further off, the 'wet midden'		Betty Ramsay
405	Jamestown, Old Post Office (Tigh-na-Sonas)	NH 47611 56500	 	Part surviving, part destroyed	On the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, an L-shaped building with a small porch to the west is depicted at the intersection of the Strathpeffer road and the road into Jamestown. On the 2 nd edition OS map it is labelled Post Office. A separate small wooden building near the intersection, depicted on the 2 nd edition map, was a local shop, run by the MacLeans. It was taken down about 15 years ago. A tea shop was also here. Renovations on the house have a letter slot near where the old post box was situated. Renovations have also removed the porch on the west and have altered some of the house. It is now known as Tigh na Sonas.		Betty Ramsay, Margaret Urquhart, Kay MacAllister, Viven Samet, Current owner


Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

406	Hill Cottage	NH 47660 56523		Surviving	<p>Hill cottage has a corrugated iron roof, with original thatching underneath, and is thought to be over 150 years old. On the 1st edition OS map it appears to be a rectangular building with a separate outhouse situated to the north. On the 2nd edition OS the building seems to be two units, with a smaller extension to the east. It is currently one building, smaller than it was in 1904, and without the eastern extension.</p> <p>On the original deeds the cottage was bought in 1945 by Alec Grant's father, William Grant, from Helena Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth for £72 sterling. Later it was sold to Alexander (Sandy) Russell.</p> <p>Margaret Urquhart lived at Hill Cottage as a young girl, and then Margaret's sister moved in there. When she was there the roof was corrugated iron (as it is now). When she left in 1966 to live in Canada, Iain Ross, art teacher at Dingwall Academy, bought the cottage. After Achterneed Station closed in 1965, the signal box was moved by Iain Ross to the house where it served as an art studio. The studio was taken down in the 1970s. The house was sold in 1970.</p>		Margaret Urquhart, Kay MacAllister, Viven Samet
407	Jamestown Dumps	NH 47588 56496 NH 47776 56600		Remains visible at northern dump	<p>There were two dumps in the village. One was situated on the side of the wood near the road opposite the post office (approximately NH47588 56496) and the other near where the footpath has been built, near the newly reconstructed dyke (NH 47776 56600). A number of people in the village have dug through the midden in the past to get old bottles and pottery.</p>		Betty Ramsay, Sandra MacDonald


Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

408	Jamestown Free Church	NH 4777 5659		Surviving	The church dates from 1861-2, though probably on the site of an earlier, presumably wooden, structure. Inside the church is a plaque showing that the land was gifted by Mrs Stewart MacKenzie of Seaforth for the people of the parishes of Contin, Fodderty and The Lewis. A local resident remembers attending the last church service in 1954. The interior is remembered as being very austere. Later the church and manse were owned by Col and Mrs Sym. They removed the roof in the 1960s, as it was in danger of collapse. A rose garden was then planted inside, where there is a plaque commemorating their wedding.	HER: MHG23711 Canmore: 111530	Betty Ramsay, Margaret Urquhart, Vivien Samet; Information from Major John Whitelaw, in a letter to the Ross- shire Journal
409	Former Free Church Manse	NH 4789 5657		Surviving	The manse is said to date to c. 1844 (listed building report). Before the war, three Baillie sisters (Baillies of Lochloy) lived there. After the war it was the residence of Madeleine Stewart-Mackenzie of Seaforth (while Brahan Castle was being demolished.) Later Col and Mrs Sym owned both the manse and church ruins. The 2 nd edition OS map annotates a pump at the manse.	HER: MHG16722 Canmore: 111262	Information from Major John Whitelaw, in a letter to the Ross- shire Journal
410	Glebe Fields	NH 47882 56487 NH 47936 56592			Two fields are known as Glebe fields. One is the field to the south of church and manse, roughly bounded by NH 47771 56550, NH 47936 56504, NH 47950 56417 and NH 47822 56397. A modern house is in the NW corner. The other is to the east of the manse, one of a series of very regular fields depicted on the 2 nd edition OS map, roughly bounded by NH 47912 56637, NH 47965 56648, NH 47971 56523 and NH 47887 56527.		Betty Ramsay Neil MacDonald, information from Major Whitelaw

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

438	Green Croft, Jamestown	NH 47768 56531		Surviving	The field to the north of Eden Cottage was without housing on the 2 nd edition OS map, and was split by the parish boundary. The house 'Tormod' was built for a retired naval Commander and his wife, potter Morven Norman, relatives of Colonel and Hester Macleod . There was a flagpole in the garden where the Commander hoisted his flag on family occasions. In the 1990s John Quinn, a retired market gardener and his wife bought the house and moved from Sussex, bringing their 'Greencroft house sign with them. He owned the adjoining field and grew vegetables and strawberries.		Viven Samet
411	Eden Cottage	NH 47741 56482		Surviving	A cottage is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps, with outbuildings. This is remembered as two cottages, supported by the fact there are three chimneys, and divisions on the old maps. There was also a separate building situated to the southeast. Currently the western end of the building has older stone foundations, but the eastern end was rebuilt in the 1980s. A modern sun lounge is now at the west end. Miss Margaret Patterson, Contin primary school teacher, lived here until she inherited Jamestown Cottage (now Tigh na Sonas). In 1970 the cottage was rustic, with a long porch painted white with pink roses. In 1970 Mrs Sally Oldfield, a keen gardener from England, bought Eden Cottage. After she died Mr Ian Macrae bought the cottage and architect John Allan designed the major restoration. The iron roof was replaced by slates.		Betty Ramsay, Margaret Urquhart, Vivien Samet
412	Caberfeidh	NH 47756 56443		Destroyed	A cottage is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps, with a well to the west. On the 1 st edition map it is divided into four units, one not tinted, but on the 2 nd edition map the buildings have been combined, and a separate unroofed building is to the west. Within local memory there was an old cottage with a corrugated iron red roof. A new house was rebuilt on the site c. 10 years ago, on the same footprint. In mid 1900s the house belonged to the MacLennans.		Betty Ramsay, Margaret Urquhart, Sandra MacDonald, Viven Samet





Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

413	Rose Cottage	NH 47763 56412		Surviving	A building is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps. On the 1 st edition it is divided into four units, but on the 2 nd edition it has been separated into two separate buildings, the western one of which has an unroofed structure or enclosed yard on its west end. The current house was built 1895. This house belonged to Wallace Grant. It was two stories. Sandra MacDonald's grandfather bought the house in the 1920s from the estate, and rented the field to the south of it.		Betty Ramsay Neil MacDonald, Sandra MacDonald
414	Burnside	NH 47826 56382		Destroyed. New House on site	A crofthouse, small building, well and kaleyard are depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps at the end of the northern lane. The 1 st edition map shows a small house, and smaller outbuilding, with a kaleyard. By the time of the 2 nd edition map the house has been enlarged, the small building is no longer depicted, but another small one is near the well. Neil MacDonald's relations Harriet and Edward MacLean had the croft. They came from Achiltibuie, and then later moved to Balnaird on the Heights. Jean MacLean (Shine) was brought up here. She later worked in Strathpeffer. The house was known locally by some people as 'The Edwards'		Neil MacDonald Fiona Newton, Sandra MacDonald
415	Cottage	NH 47713 56566		Destroyed	A house is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, appearing to be split into three units on the 25" to a mile map. A well is also depicted, and enclosed yards to the south. It was derelict in the mid 1900s. Previous owners were the MacLeans.		Betty Ramsay Margaret Urquhart
439	Sundorne	c. NH 47698 56549		Destroyed	This house was situated between Hill Cottage and the cottage at NH 47713 58566 (no. 415). Although it appeared to be a 'tin house' (of corrugated iron with corrugated iron roof), Sundorne was a prefabricated building made from aluminium. It had been used for engineer's accommodation during hydro construction, and Mr Maclean bought it and later relocated it to Jamestown.		Betty Ramsay, Viven Samet






Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

416	Eastwood	NH 47635 56573		Surviving	A croft house with several small outbuildings and a well is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps. This belonged to the Grants. The fields for the croft included those to the north; on the old maps cultivated fields are shown to the south of the house. In the 1950s Eastwood was owned by Alec and Margaret Grant and an extension was built at the back for Margaret's aunt, Miss Chisholm. She had been a well-respected housekeeper working for Lord Burton for many years on the Dochfour estate in Inverness. Her room was full of black and white photographs, and she kept a parrot.		Neil MacDonald, Vivien Samet
417	Cottages, now Myrtle Cottage	NH 47688 56488		Destroyed; new house on site	A building divided into two cottages is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps. They show signs of being added on, since they are not on the same alignment. On the 1 st edition map, an unroofed building is at the west end. Betty Ramsay remembers this area as having a row of very small, very poor cottages which were habited in the mid 1900s by Elliots and MacKenzies. The house had a beaten earth floor. The house currently on the property is known as Myrtle Cottage and was built on a different alignment; the current owners believe it was built in the 1970s.		Betty Ramsay, Sandra MacDonald Current owners
418	Cottages	NH 47653 56462		Surviving	A building is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps where it is divided into three units, with a small building attached at the eastern end. It is currently two houses, one to the west a remnant of the original cottage with a tin (corrugated iron) roof, while the more eastern house has a date of 1914 above the door.		Betty Ramsay 
419	Muircroft	NH 47698 56452		Rebuilt?	A rectangular building is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps, where it is divided into three units (in the 1 st edition) and two units (in the 2 nd edition). The roof suggests that the house currently on the site appears to be a later rebuilding, but was there from at least the 1940s.		Betty Ramsay, Margaret Urquhart


Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

420	Cottages	NH 47627 56468		Destroyed	A row of eight very small cottages in three buildings is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps. Unlike most of the Jamestown cottages, they are aligned roughly north-south (NH 47621 56482 to NH 47634 56447). Colin Ross remembers a big black shed here. He also put concrete blocks in places along the road.		Reported by Neil MacDonald
421	Clovely Cottage	NH 47672 56433		Destroyed	A building divided into three units is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps. It was totally rebuilt after the war, perhaps in the 1970s or 1980s, but on the footprint of the original cottage, with an addition to the south. It is currently known as Red Kite House.		Betty Ramsay, Neil MacDonald, Sandra MacDonald, Viven Samet
422	Ivy Cottage	NH 47684 56405		Surviving	A building is depicted on the 1 st edition OS map with a kaleyard to the south. On the 2 nd edition OS map the building has been divided into two units, with a smaller third extension on the west. The kaleyard now has a modern building within it running N-S. Ivy Cottage is thought to be one of the older houses in the village. Mr Mackenzie, a postman, lived there, and it was known as Rory the Post's House. Then Duncan Macrae bought it.		Betty Ramsay
423	Cottage	NH 47709 56402		Destroyed	A cottage is depicted on the 1 st ed OS map divided into two units, with a small yard to the east. There was also a small building situated to the south. The house was known to some local residents as the Witch's House, but not to others.		Sandra MacDonald
441	Well	NH 47722 56403		Surviving	On the 1 st and 2 nd ed. OS maps a well is also noted on the right of way which links the two north-south lanes in Jamestown. The well still survives, although covered in ivy. It is thought to have served several cottages in the vicinity.		Sandra MacDonald
424	Building	NH 47730 56394		Destroyed	A building straddling the parish boundary is depicted on the 1 st edition OS map, but in the 2 nd edition map has been divided into two with a gap between them.		

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

425	Cottages	NH 47724 56312		Ruinous	<p>Several buildings are depicted on the 1st and 2nd edition maps at this location. On the 1st edition there are two at different orientations, with one oriented roughly E-W having the eastern building slightly smaller, and not tinted. This building is split by the parish boundary. In the 2nd edition OS map the E-W building is depicted, but is now two separate buildings with a gap between them, and the N-S one is now only half the size. Currently part of the E-W building survives as a ruin, with one gable still standing.</p> <p>Jessie (Janet) Grant lived here in the late 1800s/early 1900s with her sister Lexie. Jessie's son Archibald (McQueen) was born there. He later worked at Scatwell and bought Coul Mains Farm c. 1933. There were people living in the cottage until at least the 1950s.</p>		Robert Williams 
426	Blodwen	NH 47754 56628		Surviving	<p>The sectional building next to the church originally came from Wick, probably just post war. It appears to be made of two buildings assembled as one cottage. This was previously known as 'The Bungalow'. Mrs Grant ran a bed and breakfast here in the 1970s.</p>		Margaret Urquhart, Vivien Samet
440	Morvich	NH 47747 56657		Surviving	<p>This is one of three sectional buildings erected in this field. The house was taken from Glasgow on the back of a lorry c. 60 years ago.</p>		Margaret Urquhart, Kay MacAllister
427	Druim Chat	NH 47739 56681		Surviving	<p>The original house on this plot, like Blodwen, was also a pre-fabricated building. It was owned by Mr Murray from the west coast. There is a story that Willie Logan helped to set out the foundations one Sunday. The current house is a modern replacement of the pre-fab building.</p>		Neil MacDonald
428	Channel of Burn	NH 47766 56594		Surviving	<p>The burn went into a culvert at NH 47766 56594 from at least the time of the 1st edition OS map, although the grill is much more recent. It emerges to the south of the church at NH 47776 56550, and then is channelled down the hill next to the lane, going into a culvert again just before Burnside.</p>		Neil MacDonald


Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

429	Lazy Corner	NH 47704 56699			This part of the village where the road to the church joins the main road, was known as 'Lazy Corner'. People used to gather to exchange news and gossip.		Betty Ramsay
430	Hawthorne Cottage	NH 47706 56963		Surviving	This area between Jamestown and Strathpeffer was known as Eastwood (1870s) and Coulwood (1904). On the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps there is an L-shaped structure, and cultivated fields between the road and the building. The fields around the croft were later sold to Elsick Farm. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909- 1910), it was a lodging house run by Miss Mackenzie who let four rooms.		Betty Ramsay
431	Laurel Cottage	NH 47680 57049		Surviving	This area between Jamestown and Strathpeffer was known as Eastwood (1870s) and Coulwood (1904). On the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps there are two buildings: a long rectangular structure running north-south, and a smaller structure with extension to the east running east-west. Cultivated fields lie between the road and the long structure. The fields around the croft were later sold to Elsick Farm. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating before 1909-1910), it is a lodging house run by Mrs Mackintosh who let three rooms.		Betty Ramsay
432	Elsick Farm	NH 47697 57169		Surviving	This area between Jamestown and Strathpeffer was known as Eastwood (1870s) and Coulwood (1904). In 1871 Elsick Farm was an L-shaped structure with a separate building. By 1904 it has been substantially rebuilt, with five buildings. The building to the north was the dairy. It also had fields across the road.		Betty Ramsay, Neil MacDonald

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

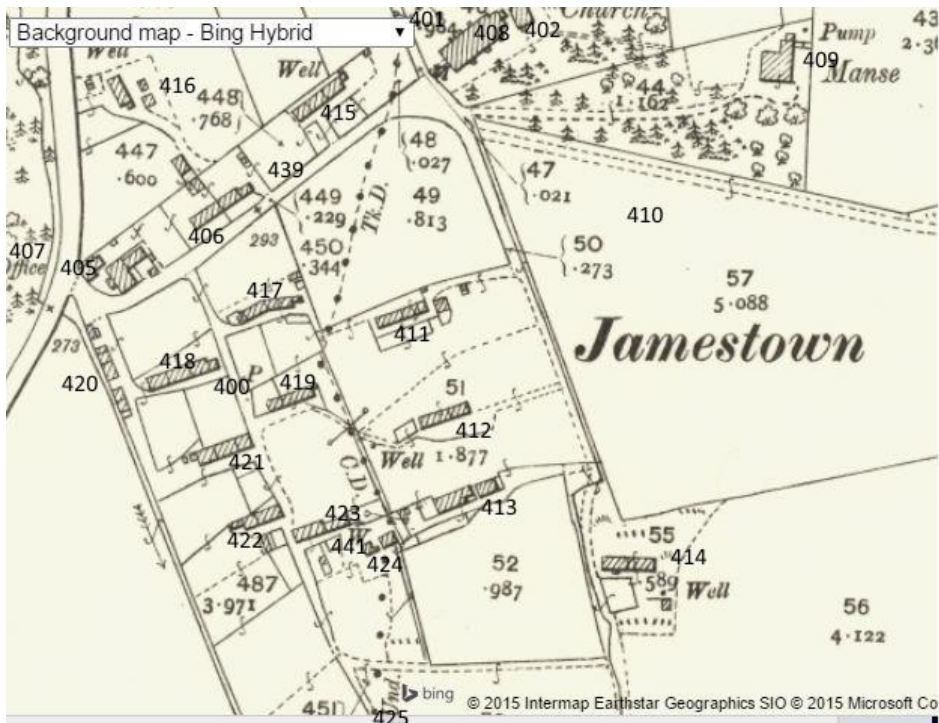
433	Coulwood	NH 47755 57335		Surviving	There were two cottages known as Coulwood. This one was situated opposite the drive to Kinellan. On the 1 st edition OS map it is an L-shaped building, with a cultivated area between the road and building. In the 2 nd edition OS map, the eastern section is no longer there. Frasers lived there. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating before 1909-1910), it is a lodging house is run by Mrs Fraser who let 4 bedrooms and 1 parlour.		Betty Ramsay Neil MacDonald
434	Beallach Farm	NH 48482 56494		Surviving, but recently renovated and enlarged	This settlement is quite old, and was previously known as Beallachnacor (census records) or Beallachnacore (OS maps), which Watson took to refer to mean 'Crane's pass'. However it is also locally known as Beallachnagore (which might suggest the Gaelic 'pass of the goat'). In 1841 three families lived there, while in 1851 one family lived at the present Beallach farm and two lived at Beallachnacor. On the 1 st edition OS map there is a U-shaped building, and an unroofed rectangular one abutting to the west. A track runs to the south of the buildings, linking Jamestown and Brahan. To the east are extensive woods. By the time of the 2 nd edition OS map a farmhouse has been built to the south.		Betty Ramsay, Susan Pucci Sandra MacDonald W.J.Watson 1904, <i>Place-names of Ross and Cromarty.</i>
435	Jamestown Farmstead	NH 4812 5639		Ruinous	The unnamed farmstead depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps between Beallach and Jamestown was divided into four units by 1904. In the 1871 Urray census there is a family living at 'Teanacosnich' which is the name of the burn running beside the farmstead (Allt Tigh a' Chosuaich).	MHG24733	Betty Ramsay, Susan Pucci
437	Gorse Hill, Jamestown	NH 47992 56489		Surviving	This was built in the late 1960s by the firm 'Doran' for Colonel and Hester MacLeod who founded the Strathpeffer Opera Society.		Vivien Samet

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: JAMESTOWN

438	Axehead, Beallachnacore	NH 484 565			A Neolithic polished stone axehead in Inverness Museum has 'Beallachnacore Strathpeffer Oct. 1944' written in black ink on one face. No further details are kept in the museum, and thus far no further information about the find is known. Its exact findspot is not known, but damage to the axehead suggests it may be a plough find.		Susan Kruse
245	Coul House	NH 4625 5641		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. During World War II there were also Norwegians at Coul House and Brahan Castle, with the latter their headquarters. The officers were in the house, and the bases for the Norwegian huts are still said to be visible in the grounds. At Coul was a Mountain Brigade, with mules and ponies; in 1944 this consisted of 5 officers and 75 other ranks. King Haakon visited during the war, inspecting the Norwegian troops on the Castle Leod shinty field. The ponies were kept part of the time at Fairburn, where Jimmy Pirie took hay to them. A Norwegian surgeon also worked at Ross Memorial Hospital in Dingwall – and saved Kenny Stewart's finger.	HER: MHG1411 0 Canmore: 105490	Isabel MacMaster Hamish Poulson, Neil MacDonald
354	Bobbin Mill Contin	NH 4506 5671			There was a bobbin mill in Contin, behind where the Achilty Hotel is located, run by water power. There was a sluice on the Blackwater. Some people remember it as also being a saw mill, though others only as a bobbin mill. John MacKenzie remembers the miller being Willie Ross. Later it was run by John Rose, timber merchant. Mr Rose delivered firewood in Strathpeffer, which sometimes included reject bobbins. Neil MacDonald's father worked there. The mill does not appear on the 2 nd edition OS map, so must be later. It is also not known when it ceased production.		Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart, Alasdair Cameron, John Mackenzie (via Neil MacDonald)

Other Notes

- OS maps: 1st edition surveyed 1876, published 1881; 2nd edition surveyed 1904, published 1906.
- Local pronunciation is James-ton, not James-town
- Rev. W.S. McDougall recorded in his book *Memorial Sermons of the Rev. W.S. McDougall of Fodderty and Contin* (1897) several events concerning Jamestown, including American evangelists preaching in Jamestown in 1874, and a narrow escape Rev MacDougall had in 1882. He was going to a meeting in Dingwall with three people. While adjusting the bit, the pony bolted and two were thrown off, leaving only his young daughter in the trap. The pony rushed to Dingwall, but fortunately she was safe, and a telegram was sent to Rev Dougall from Dingwall to inform him of her safety (pp. 23-4).
- Susan Pucci (from Australia!) has investigated census information for Jamestown, and sent the project detailed spreadsheets.



2nd edition OS map, surveyed 1904. ©National Library of Scotland