

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area:

2. Strathpeffer



Photo ©Margaret Spark

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 Strathpeffer, including Kinellan. 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: March 2016.



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Strathpeffer: a spa resort

Strathpeffer before the Spa

People have lived in the Strathpeffer valley for over 5,000 years, as shown by Neolithic burial chambers and axes, and Bronze Age burials and round houses. From about 800BC, the Knockferrel hillfort to the east was defended, and perhaps lived in. Remains of the vitrified rock, melted during what must have been a catastrophic fire, can still be seen. The crannog, an artificial island, on Loch Kinellan to the west also probably dates to this period.

In Strathpeffer itself, the first surviving evidence is the Eagle Stone. In the Medieval period Castle Lead to the east of Strathpeffer, was built, and the Loch Kinellan crannog re-used by another branch of the Mackenzies. In the 17th or 18th century the crannog probably became a hunting lodge. Until the 19th century there was no Strathpeffer, just four main farms: Kinellan, Park, Kinnettas and Ardival. The growth of the village was due to the conscious development of the area into a spa resort.

Strathpeffer Spa

The benefits of the sulphur and chalybeate (iron-rich) wells in the area began to be exploited in the late 1700s. A wooden pump room was erected in 1819. This was replaced in 1829, and extended in 1871. A second pump room was built c. 1860 and still survives. After 1861 the Cromartie estate invested more in the Spa, encouraging building of much needed accommodation and expanding facilities. The coming of the railway in 1870 helped, although due to opposition by a local landowner the village was bypassed. The nearest station was Achterneed until the branch line to the Spa opened in 1885. Sleeper trains went from London to Strathpeffer.



The Lower Pump Room, before 1910. Photo ©Margaret Spark

Many hotels and large villas were built. The Spa Hotel advertised itself as the earliest. It burned down in 1942 while in use as a wartime hospital. Its rival, the Ben Wyvis Hotel, was built in 1879. Many of the villas were designed to be let to visitors during the season, and in some cases the family moved out to a small building in the grounds during the season. Many of the houses you pass on the trail date from the last two decades of the 1800s and into the early 1900s.

Many doctors consulted in the village. Visitors came from as far afield as the Continent and included royalty and famous people of the day such as Sir Ernest Shackleton and Robert Louis Stevenson. The poor were allowed free water, and later a hospital was built for poor invalids (no. 14). The bathing rooms had the most advanced facilities. There were concerts, excursions and sporting pursuits.

20th century Strathpeffer

During WWI many buildings in Strathpeffer were taken over, including by the US Navy. After the war, the fortunes of the Spa declined. WWII brought another brief, and changed focus. After WWII the Spa never revived, but coach tours now bring many visitors to the surviving hotels. The Pavilion continued to hold concerts and attracted coach loads of music fans until it gradually fell into disrepair. Now fortunately restored, it again offers a range of entertainment events.

The Remembering the Strathpeffer Area project produced a Strathpeffer walk leaflet available locally and on the ARCH website, focussing on selected buildings. The order of this listing reflects the walk, and can be used for those who want more detailed information.

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------|---|-----------|--|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Spa Buildings, The Square | NH 48352 58205 |  | Surviving | <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 1st and 2nd 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). 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 Tobacconist', 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>In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Mrs Maxwell let out 2 bedrooms and 1 parlour.</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> | HER: 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. & 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 & 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 & 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.</p> <p>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. In a sales prospectus for the Strathpeffer Estate, dated 1949, 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</p> | | |

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| | | | | | <p>(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> | | |
| 10 | The Shieling | NH 4838 5823 |   | Surviving | <p>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 2nd 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 1st edition map (1876), this area is 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</p> | HER: MHG22633 Canmore: 109024 | <p>Duncan Finlayson; Margaret Newton; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |

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| | | | | | Hope's Hotel. Mrs Littlejohn, who followed Miss McKeon, sold tweeds and other woollen goods. Mrs Littlejohn was followed by Mrs Cherret. This building should not be confused with the now-destroyed Shieling (Site 11). The Shieling is currently (2015) unused. | | |
| 36 | Shop (original Highland Home Industries premises) | NH 483 573 |  | Demolished | 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 part of 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 nd edition map (1906), as well as in a photograph by Mr Wellwood Maxwell, c. 1900, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark. | HER: MHG55588 | Duncan Finlayson Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 70 | Electricity Company Offices | NH 4838 5823 | | Demolished | Duncan Finlayson remembers this building as being situated beside the Sheiling (Site 10, MHG22633). | HER: MHG55617 | Duncan Finlayson |
| 38 | The Cottage | NH 4833 5820 |  | Surviving | 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 st 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. | HER: MHG22690 Canmore: 108836 | Duncan Finlayson Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 7 | Urinal | NH 4832 5821 | | Destroyed | Shown on the OS 1 st edition map (1876), but not on the 2 nd edition map (1906). See also Site 24. | HER: MHG55603 | |

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| 235 | White Lodge | NH 4831 5818 |  | Surviving | <p>This property was said to have been owned by the Pavilion, and the gardener lived there. At some times in its history it has been divided into two properties. There was a Bavarian style summerhouse, partly with a well under it, at NH 48330 58164. 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.</p> <p>The date of the building still remains unclear; a previous owner thought it dated to 1770s. A surveyor who was working on the building thought it might be late 18th century based on the design of the stairs and the tread depth. The rafters are formed in places by half trees.</p> <p>On the 2nd edition OS map it is called Ivy Cottage, and is remembered as this in the 1960s. One story is that the ivy was considered to be damaging the property, and after it was removed, the name was changed, probably in the early 1970s.</p> <p>The building was divided into two properties, with two different families within living memory. In the early 70s it was bought by the Camerons who joined them together, and made it a B&B.</p> <p>There was a fire in Oct 2014 which fortunately did not do damage to the structure. But cleaning up afterwards has led to the discovery of different doorways which had been boarded up, probably in the 1970s renovations.</p> | HER: MHG16481 Canmore: 109128 Listed Building: (B) 10949 | Sandra and Walter Fleming, Betty Ramsay, Isabel MacMaster, Margaret Spark, Betty MacKenzie |
| 46 | White Cottage | NH 48298 58174 |  | Surviving | <p>On the OS 2nd edition map (1906), a very small building is depicted in this location in the garden of White Lodge, known on the OS 1st edition map as Ivy Cottage (MHG16481). It had three shops, with three bays, although one no longer survives.</p> <p>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</p> | HER: MHG55596 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark; Duncan Finlayson, Isabel MacMaster Walter & Sandra Fleming |

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| | | | | | <p>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.</p> <p>In a 1949 sales prospectus for part of 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).</p> <p>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’. More recently it was a holiday cottage.</p> <p>In the 1950s, Ken McMaster had a carpenters shop at NH 48293 58162, behind the two surviving shops comprising White Cottage, but the carpenter’s shop no longer survives. An old photo shows a fire engine parked near this site, and there is a metal pump in the yard at NH 48292 58164. There was said to be a well here.</p> | | <p>Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson – Shops <i>The Book of Ross</i> by Donald MacDonald and Alexander Poulson (1932), p. 80</p> |
| 12 | Heatherlie | NH 4828 5821 |  | Surviving | <p>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 2nd edition map (1906). Mrs Bremner lived there.</p> | <p>HER: MHG16372 Canmore: 108908</p> | <p>Murray 1985 Betty Mackenzie</p> |
| 23 | Well | NH 4833 5814 | | Now covered | <p>There was an open well in the middle of square, now under the modern building in the centre of the square (previously used as a modern pump room, but currently (2015) used by the nearby bicycle shop.)</p> | HER: MHG55607 | Margaret Spark |
| 301 | Generator House | NH 48320 58201 | | Surviving | <p>A generator house existed behind the westernmost shop at the square opposite White Lodge. The sextagonal building is depicted on the 2nd edition OS map but not the 1st. It is now used as a garden shed.</p> | | Walter & Sandra Fleming |
| 24 | Urinal | NH 4832 5811 | | Destroyed | <p>Shown on the OS 1st edition map (1876), but not on the 2nd edition map (1906). See also Site 7.</p> | HER: MHG55608 | |
| 5 | (Lower) Pump Room | NH 4830 5810 |  | Destroyed | <p>The Pump Room appears on the OS 1st edition map (1876), but had become a much larger complex by the time the map was revised in 1906 for the 2nd edition. The Pump Room also housed a bath house</p> | <p>HER: MHG22712 Canmore: 108983</p> | <p>Fiona Newton; Duncan Finlayson; Neil</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>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.</p> <p>A wooden pump room was built in 1819 (Finlayson 1979, p. 74), and a new one was constructed at this location in 1829 on the advice of Dr Morrison of Elsie House (Richards and Clough 1989, p. 181).</p> | | Macdonald; Margaret Scott Other sources cited: Murray 1985 Richards and Clough 1989. Finlayson 1979. |
| 359 | Spa Cottage | NH 4833 5813 |  | Surviving | This is an early building in Strathpeffer, said to date to c. 1820. It is sometimes known locally as 'The Doll's House' because a previous owner, Mrs Kelly, had a doll collection which she housed there and opened as a museum; her collection later formed the basis of the Museum of Childhood in Strathpeffer. | HER: MHG6293 Canmore: 12459 Listed Building: (B) 7835 | Fiona Newton, Sandra Fleming |
| 30 | Craigvar | NH 4840 5815 |  | Surviving | Murray thought that this villa dates back to the 1860s (Murray 1985), but it was built in 1839 (Margaret Scott). On the OS 1 st edition map (1876), Craigvar is named as Park House. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Mr Macewan who had 11 bedrooms and 3 parlours to let. 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. | HER: MHG16224 Canmore: 108887 Listed Building: (C(S)) 7853 | Duncan Finlayson; Margaret Scott Other sources cited: Murray 1985 |
| 16 | Bank of Scotland | NH 4840 5813 |  | Surviving | 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 | MHG22700 | Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark Other sources |

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| | | | | 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. | | cited: Murray 1985 |
| 15 | Highland Home Industries Shop | NH 4840 5818 | 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. | HER: MHG41168 Canmore: 109097 | Kitty Campbell; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark; Duncan Finlayson |
| 14 | SHOP AND RESTAURANT | NH 4833 5809 | Surviving | <p>This building, though now only one property, was originally four separate premises. It is present on the OS 2nd 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"> 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. 2. A vegetable and fruit shop (before the coming of Adams in the Square). 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. 4. A small useful grocery run by Miss Jean Graham, daughter of the stationmaster. <p>When put up for sale in 1949, two of the shops were occupied by a furnisher and upholsterer (Messrs Fraser & Co.), with the other two let to a butcher (Representatives of Murdo MacGregor) and a grocer (Miss Jean Graham).</p> | HER: MHG22291 Canmore: 108969 | <p>Duncan Finlayson; Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton; Yves Pattyn; Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources cited: Sale Catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |

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| | | | | | <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.</p> <p>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> | | |
| 47 | Former Police Station | NH 4831 5807 |  | Surviving | The plot boundaries shown on the OS 2 nd edition map (1906) suggest that the police station was built on 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. | HER: MHG22289 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton |
| 337 | Upper Pump Room | NH 4835 5806 |  | Surviving | The upper pump room was built c. 1860 and enlarged c. 1890 and 1909 (Listed building report). The pump room is currently (2015) an exhibition centre, shop and tourist information. | HER: MHG16431 Canmore: 12416 | Listed Building report: (B) 7833 |
| 230 | Spa Pavilion | NH 4840 5810 |  | 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. | HER: MHG7887 Canmore: 12417 Listed Building (B) 7836 | Hamish Poulson, Jennifer Haslam Kitty Campbell |
| 52 | Pavilion Gardens, bowling greens | centred NH 4845 5806 | | Now gardens | 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 nd 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. | HER: MHG55599 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam |

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| 53 | Pavilion Gardens, bandstand | c. NH 4835 5800 | | Demolished | Within Pavilion Gardens (Site 59), a building shown on the OS 2 nd 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. | HER: MHG55600 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam |
| 59 | Pavilion Gardens | centred NH 4828 5794 | | Surviving | On the OS 1 st 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 nd 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. | HER: MHG55612 | |
| 40 | Pavilion Gardens, curling pond | NH 48379 58013 | | Buried | By the time of the 2 nd 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 th century - and is shown as such on the map contained in a 1949 prospectus for the sale of part of the Strathpeffer Estate. Later it reverted to a curling pond, and it is again tennis courts. | HER: MHG55590 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam; Margaret Spark Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 8 | Studdingsail Hall | NH 4824 5812 | | Demolished | Prior to the building of the Highland Hotel in 1910 (Site 20, MHG16401), the site was occupied by Studdingsail Hall. Studdingsail Hall appears on both the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, comprised of two buildings, a substantial U-shaped structure to the east, and a rectangular building to the west, perhaps a large carriage house. It was reputedly very similar in appearance to Kinnettas House (MHG16416) and so may be of similar date. It was advertised to let in 1833. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910) Miss Fraser let out 13 bedrooms and 3 parlours. | HER: MHG55604 | Margaret Spark; Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton |
| 20 | Highland Hotel | NH 4824 5812 |  | Surviving | 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 | HER: MHG16401 Canmore: 108916 Listed Building (B) 7861 | Jennifer Haslam, Elma O'Rourke, Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Fiona Newton, |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---|--------------------|--|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | <p>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. Norwegians soldiers may also have been housed there. 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 the hotel, and so many children that they had to be split between Fodderty and Contin schools. In 1948 there was a NAAFI at the back of the hotel in a separate hut, as well as a small sawmill where Displaced Persons from Brahan camp cut wood for heating. A mobile cinema used to come to show films. A shooting range and jail was in the basement. After the war it was owned by someone (possibly a Mr Watson) 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.</p> | | <p>Margaret Spark, Thomas Houston, Sandy Ross</p> <p>David Ross 2005. <i>The Highland Railway</i></p> |
| 13 | Former Post Office; Telephone Exchange | NH 4817 5812 |  | | <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 2nd 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>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</p> | HER: MHG22706 Canmore: 108975 | <p>Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Jennifer Haslam; Kitty Campbell; Margaret Spark</p> <p>Other sources: Duncan Finlayson - Shops</p> |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | <p>day). In the summer, because of all the visitors to the Spa, a second telegraph boy was required.</p> <p>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). 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.</p> | | |
| 362 | Old Fire Engine Shed | NH 48182 58112 |  | Surviving | To the south of the former post office and telephone exchange is a cast iron Fire engine shed, still with the sign Highlands & Islands Fire Brigade. | | |
| 39 | Kinnettas Square Tennis Courts | NH 4803 5805 |  | 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. | HER: MHG55589 | Hamish (P7 at Primary School); Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam |
| 211 | Swimming Pool | c. NH 4803 5805 | | Gone | There was an outdoor swimming pool for soldiers near Kinnettas Square beside the tennis courts during the WWII. No locals were allowed to use it. It was dismantled after the war, gone by 1948. Exact location not known. | | Betty MacKenzie, Thomas Houston |
| 4 | 'Tank' | NH 48243 58075 | | Demolished | Depicted on the OS 2 nd 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 st edition map (1876) and this may also be related. | HER: MHG55628 | Margaret Spark; Iain Davidson |
| 25 | Hamilton House | NH 4826 5805 | | In use | Hamilton House appears on both the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Miss Mackenze and had 4 bedrooms to let. This Georgian style house is now divided into two separate dwellings. | HER: MHG16358 Canmore: 108907 Listed building (C(S)) 7859 | Iain Davidson |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------|---|--|--|
| 88 | Kinnettas House | NH 4818 5805 |  | Surviving | According to the Listed Building report, the house was built 1826-31. Murray (1985) however describes this as 'a particularly fine example of early Scottish Georgian, built around 1785...' In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), it is a lodging house run by Mrs Anderson, with 6 bedrooms and 2 parlours to let. Kinnettas House is described and illustrated in the 1949 Sales Prospectus of the Cromartie Strathpeffer estate. It is described as a substantial detached residence, approached by a carriage sweep from a quiet road, built of stone with a slate roof and white-washed walls. The Pleasure Gardens lay to the south and east and included fine ornamental trees, flower garden and kitchen garden. | HER: MHG16416 Canmore: 108942 Listed Building (B) 7863 | Murray 1985; Sale Catalogue 1949 |
| 342 | Victoria House | NH 4822 5804 | | Surviving | The house was built c. 1886 (Murray 1985). In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Miss Davidson who lets out 11 bedrooms and 3 parlours. After WWII it was lived in by Hugh Ryan, a Canadian golfer who was the accountant at the distillery in Invergordon. He built a large bar in the house for entertaining. After him Mr Ross, the Chief Constable from Dingwall lived there, and then Peter MacCutchen in the 1970s. | HER: MHG7878 Canmore: 12426 | Betty MacKenzie, Thomas Houston |
| 334 | Rosslyn Lodge | NH 4825 5800 | | Surviving | The large house is not on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition, probably built c. 1886 (Murray 1985). In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Mrs Harrow and has 14 bedrooms and 5 parlours. Later it was run by Cathy Grant and Jim Abbot. It is currently (2015) used as staff accommodation for Shearings. | HER: MHG7877 Canmore: 12427 | Duncan Finlayson, Val Moffat Murray 1985 |
| 64 | Strathpeffer Parish Church, chamber | NH 4820 5799 | | 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. | HER: MHG16425 Canmore: 12441 Listed building (B) 7832 | Neil Macdonald |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| 19 | Spa Motors, (Kinnettass Steading) | NH 4813 5799 |  | In use | This was originally the steading for Kinnettass House (MHG16416). It appears as a large complex of buildings on the OS 1 st 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 part 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. After the war the building was also used for films, possibly organised by Mr Mackenzie-Gillanders as part of the Highlands & Islands Film Guild. Sandy Anderson who owned the Quarry garage in Dingwall was involved in showing the films – they brought the equipment, and a screen was already there. | HER: MHG32482 | Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald; Margaret Spark Other sources cited: Sale Catalogue 1949 |
| 71 | Drill Hall | NH 48094 57993 |  | Demolished | This wooden building was situated across the little road from the Victory Hall (site 58), next to Macgregor's tattie store (no. 18). Army cadets was held there, and Neil MacDonald and Sandy Ross remember being taught to box there by Jimmy MacJimsey. It was a low, long wooden building, rectangular in shape, probably with a corrugated iron roof. It is not on the 1 st or 2 nd edition OS maps, but its date of construction is unknown. It burnt down in the early 1960s, around the same time as Victory Hall and the Chalet on Knockfarrel. | HER: MHG55618 | Neil MacDonald, Sandy Ross Valerie MacGregor |
| 58 | Victory Hall | NH 48094 57983 |  | 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 Pavilion 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. Sandy Ross looked after it. It is now (2015) a cleared area used as additional parking for Strathpeffer Community Centre. The hall burnt down in the early 1960s. The Boys Brigade also met there. | HER: MHG55611 | Duncan Finlayson; Jennifer Haslam; Kitty Campbell, Neil MacDonald, Sandy Ross, Avril MacPhee, Thomas Houston, Valerie MacGregor |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| 74 | First Community Centre | NH 4811 5799 | | Demolished | This was built to the side of Victory Hall (site 58), in the 1960s or 1970s, and was in use until the 1990s. It is remembered as unattractive portacabins. | HER: MHG55621 | Neil MacDonald, Avril MacPhee |
| 18 | Grain and Potato Store | NH 4808 5802 |  | Demolished | This is located where Nicolson Court now is. It was originally a garage, said to have housed cars and chauffeurs from the Highland Hotel (the drivers sleeping above). It was then Robertson and Porters. Mr MacGregor of Achterneed and Ardival farms bought it when the Cromartie estate sold many properties in Strathpeffer. After that it was fitted with a drier for barley. The new flats were built at this location in 1999. | HER: MHG19888 | Neil MacDonald, Ann Bruley, Valerie MacGregor |
| 335 | Caravan Park | NH 4797 5787 | | Gone | A caravan park was situated where the school and community centre are. It was a busy site, in use in the 1960s until at least the 1970s, run by Duncan MacGregor from Achterneed. | | Neil MacDonald |
| 200 | Jock's Garage | NH 48070 58045 |  | Surviving | Corrugated iron garage in long use, probably before World War II. The date of construction not known, but it was there in 1949. John MacKenzie, who lived at Glenoran owned the garage. John MacKenzie sold the garage to Jock and Sandy Campbell in 1952 when he went to Australia. Jock and his brother Sandy worked there. Jock Campbell was known as a man who could do anything. It worked all hours – Kenny Stewart remembers getting his trucks serviced there many a time during the night. It is still (2015) a garage, although not known as Jock's Garage. | | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Lori Williams, Elma O'Rourke Kenny Stewart Margaret Stewart, Jemmy Campbell |
| 76 | The Haven | NH480 580 |  | Surviving | 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, Betty Ramsay |
| 48 | Nicolson Mackenzie Memorial Hospital | NH 4803 5806 |  | Now private home | 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. During WWI it was a Red Cross auxiliary hospital for the military. Later 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 | HER: MHG7883 Canmore: 12421 Listed building (B) 13238 | Fiona Newton; Kitty Campbell; Jemmy Campbell |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | private home, known as Mackenzie House. Fiona Newton has compiled a history of the hospital. | | |
| 89 | Highfield House | NH 4807 5811 |  | Surviving | A house appears here on the 2nd edition OS map, but not the 1st when this area is a field. In the Manual of Strathpeffer Spa published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Highfield Villa is a lodging house run by Mrs Campbell who let six bedrooms and two parlours. | HER: MHG7884 Canmore: 12420 | |
| 21 | Fife Lodge | NH 4822 5820 |  | Surviving | 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Fraser. 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. After Dr Dick, the doctor's surgery later moved to Birch Lodge (Site 6, MHG22711); previously Dr. Dick had used Greenside (now Inver Lodge, MHG22728). | HER: MHG22734 Canmore: 108899 | Val Moffat; Fiona Newton; Margaret Newton; Margaret Spark; Jennifer Haslam |
| 231 | Cnocan | NH 47979 58089 |  | Surviving | The house is depicted on the 2nd edition OS map, but not the first. It 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 |
| 56 | The Orchard | centred NH 4798 5814 | | 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 sale of part of 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 Kinnettass Cottages. | HER: MHG55610 | Duncan Finlayson Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| 222 | Kinnettass Cottages | No. 3&4 NH 48028 58128 |  | Surviving | These cottages are thought to be quite old, and appear on the 1st edition OS map. There used to be four cottages: 1&2 to the east, and 3&4 to the west. When doing renovations to no 4, newspapers dating to the 1860s were found. In the Manual of Strathpeffer Spa published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), no. 1 was let by Mr Finlayson (2 bedrooms and 1 parlour), no. 3 by Mrs Macaskill (2 bedrooms and 1 parlour) and no. 4 by Mrs Macdonald (2 bedrooms). Now there are three cottages, as the two to the west have been converted into one. | HER: MHG22730 Canmore: 108941 | Betty Ramsay, Betty MacKenzie, Margaret Spark, Jennifer Haslam, Current resident |
| 223 | Francisville | NH 4805 5816 |  | Surviving | Francisville appears on the 2nd edition OS map, but not the 1st edition. The house is situated to the east of Kinnettass cottages, and sometimes spelt Francis Villa. The manse had this. When the Munns lived there it had an aviary. It was also a bed and breakfast in the 1980s. The finials are wooden. | HER: MHG7872, Canmore: 12432 | Jennifer Haslam, Kitty Campbell |
| 343 | Dochcairn | NH 4806 5818 |  | Surviving | A rectangular house appears on this site on the 2 nd edition OS house, but the current house appears to be a different alignment. However its general style and finials fit in with other houses on the street. In the mid 1900s Miss MacDonald took in lodgers here. | HER: MHG7885 Canmore: 12419 | Betty MacKenzie |
| 344 | Ord | NH 4810 5822 |  | Surviving | In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910 Ord House) was run by Mrs Campbell who had 8 bedrooms and 1 parlour to let. | HER: MHG7882 Canmore: 12422 | |
| 27 | Kinnettass Graveyard | NH 4803 5818 |  | 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; a spreadsheet is at Highland Family History Centre. | HER: MHG7897, MHG41436 Canmore 12405 | Jennifer Haslam; Margaret Spark |
| 6 | Birch Lodge | NH 4810 5817 |  | In use | This was 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) and prior to that at Greenside (now Inver Lodge). After 1975 Kitty Campbell owned the surgery part of Birch Lodge, until the early 2000s | HER: MHG22711 Canmore: 108981 | Fiona Newton; Margaret Newton; Kitty Campbell |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-------------------|----------------------|---|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 347 | Maybank | NH 4813 5818 |  | Surviving | This house appears on the 2 nd edition OS map, with a narrow rectangular building to the north, possibly a stables. The current house now incorporates the narrow building. A man lived there who had Shire horses in the second half of the 1900s. After that there was an old woman, and then Mr Ashmore who was an engineer with the Hydro Board. | HER: MHG22733 Canmore: 108954 | Thomas Houston, Margaret Stewart |
| 234 | Summerhill / Tara | NH 4816 5821 |  | Surviving | The house was built in 1886 (Murray 1985). In the In the Manual of Strathpeffer Spa published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Gollan who let out 10 bedrooms and 4 parlours. Some of the walls reputedly have holes in them, said to have been caused by billeted troops playing darts. During the war it was also the army dentist surgery. In 1948 Mr Adams, the grocer stayed there. This house was converted into two houses after the war by Sandy Porter. | HER: MHG22616 Canmore: 109120 | Val Moffat, Thomas Houston |
| 217 | Strathbran | NH 48149 58245 |  | Surviving | The house was built in 1882 (Murray 1985). It was used as a boarding house at least in the 1920s/1930s. During the war it was taken over for officers. Later, Margaret Spark's mother lived here for c. 10 years. Later the Cherrits bought it. 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. | HER: MHG7881 Canmore: 12423 | Margaret Spark, Sally Dovey, Sheila Fletcher, Thomas Houston Murray 1985 |
| 216 | Woodlands | NH 48177 58276 |  | Surviving | There is a datestone marked 1886 over the door. 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. | HER: MHG7880 Canmore: 12424 | |
| 215 | Craigroyston | NH 48215 58290 |  | Surviving | Murray 1985 notes that Craigroyston was built around 1890, in a style with its tower and turreted roof harking back to fortified houses. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Miss Macleod. Later Miss Menzies lived there with her maid Janet who later lived in Kinnettas Cottage. | HER: MHG22721 Canmore: 108888 | Kitty Campbell, Betty Ramsay, Betty MacKenzie Murray 1985 |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|-----------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 345 | Richmond Hotel | NH 4824 5823 |  | Surviving | In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Beaton who let 13 bedrooms and 4 parlours. During the war it was an officer's mess, and used by the A.T.S. Corp. | HER: MHG22630 Canmore: 109010 | Thomas Houston |
| 214 | Salisbury and The Cliff | NH 48259 58319 |  | 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Munro who had 11 bedrooms and 4 parlous to let. An advert in the manual notes that there is also servant's accommodation, fruit and flower gardens. Salisbury Cliff is advertised separately as having three bedrooms, parlour and kitchen. 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. | HER: MHG22632 Canmore: 109021 | Betty Ramsay, Christine Briggs Kitty Campbell Murray 1985 |
| 244 | Tarbat | NH 4828 5826 |  | Surviving | This large complex is on the 2nd edition OS map, but not the 1st. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Tarbat House was run by the Misses Muir who let out 16 bedrooms and 5 parlours, the largest lodging house in Strathpeffer at the time. 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. It has now been divided into separate residences. A smaller single-storey building at the rear is now called Tarbat Cottage. The Ambaile Web website has a postcard of the hotel http://www.ambaile.org.uk/en/item/item_photograph.jsp?item_id=38410 . | HER: MHG22283 Canmore: 108830 | Isabel MacMaster <i>The Book of Ross</i> by Donald MacDonald and Alexander Poulson (1932), p. 82 |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|-----------|---|---|---|
| 360 | Former Free Church | NH 4831 5829 |  | Surviving | The Free Church dominated the Strathpeffer landscape with its tall tower. It is no longer in use, currently (2015) for sale. | HER: MHG16337 Canmore: 108937 Listed building (B) 7858 | |
| 72 | Beechlea | NH 4833 5831 | | 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. | HER: MHG55619 | Jennifer Haslam; Margaret Scott |
| 210 | Seafield House | NH 48318 58357 |  | 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 <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Miss Mackenzie who let out 14 bedrooms and 4 parlours. 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, Fiona Newton, Kitty Campbell |
| 238 | Balmoral, now Strathallan | NH 4826 5837 |  | Surviving | This large house was built according to Murray c. 1890 with the west wing appearing to be a later extension, but in a similar in style (Murray 1985). However, it appears in an advert in the Aberdeen Weekly Journal for June 1, 1888, listing dining and drawing rooms, private parlours, large airy bedrooms, bathrooms and lavatories, and tricycles for hire. The proprietor was R. Bonner. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the property is listed as a Boarding House (as distinct from a Lodging House) and was run by Mrs Dunnet. During WWII it was used as army quarters. After the war until the | HER: MHG22699 Canmore: 108806 | Jennifer Haslam, Betty Ramsay, Thomas Houston, Fiona Newton Murray 1985 |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------|----------------------|---|-----------|---|---|--|
| | | | | | 1970s or 1980s it was a holiday Fellowship home. They ran Scottish country dance holidays. It is now known as Strathallan, and is currently an old folk's home. | | |
| 37 | Holly Lodge | NH 4828 5841 |  | Surviving | 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 built as an investment by Mr Henderson who was the major ironmonger and agricultural merchant over three sites in Dingwall. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the property is listed as a Boarding House (as distinct from a Lodging house), run by Mrs Mackintosh. It was later run as a boarding house by Mrs Finlayson from 1928 until 1939. Dr Napier and then Dr Murray also were at Holly Lodge. Dr Murray took over from Dr Dick when he was in the forces. Later (in the 1970s) it was run as a hotel with 'The Blue Room' being very popular for dining. | HER: MHG16410 Canmore: 12415 Listed building (B) 7862 | Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Kenny Stewart, Sandy Ross, George Tait Murray 1985 |
| 218 | Brunstane Lodge | NH 48178 58323 |  | Surviving | This building was known as Midhope in the 1960s, until it was bought in the 1960s by Mr Baine who changed the name. The Lodge is not on the 1 st edition OS map, but does appear on the 2 nd , situated outside the outlined edges of the village. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Walker. During WWII it was taken over as an officer's mess. 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. In the 1960s it was on sale for around £3000 including the field behind. The Williamsons (who had the West End grocery shop in Dingwall) had it then. They had boxed in a range in the kitchen, floor to ceiling. There were very few electric points at the time. Norman Roxburgh was told that a family from Edinburgh who came and used it as the hotel changed its name from Midhope to Burnstate Lodge. No one remembers many exterior changes, although there have been a number of internal ones. It is unusual in having a flat roof. | | Betty Ramsay, Margaret Spark, Elma O'Rourke, Doris Junor, Thomas Houston, Betty Mackenzie, Norman Roxburgh |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------|---|--|---|
| 54 | Cairngorm | NH 4818 5837 |  | Surviving | Before Dr Douglas Hanton built Birch Lodge in the late 1970s (Site 6, MHG22711), he consulted in Cairngorm. The house is not on the 2 nd edition OS map. | HER: MHG55601 | Kitty Campbell |
| 348 | Ulladale | NH 4822 5845 |  | Surviving | The house was built in 1901 (Murray 1985); Murray describes it as 'an assymetrical design typical of the period'. Mrs Johnstone lived there after the war; her family was connect with courts. | HER: MHG22609 Canmore: 109124 | Thomas Houston |
| 349 | Duart | NH 4821 5841 |  | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 2 nd edition OS map, and is smaller than many of the other nearby villas. The Cherrits moved there after leaving Strathbran. | HER: MHG22723 Canmore: 108891 | Thomas Houston |
| 61 | Glenesk | NH 4820 5842 |  | Surviving | 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. | HER: MHG22724 Canmore: 108892 | Duncan Finlayson; Margaret Spark |
| 226 | Dunraven Lodge | NH 4818 5850 |  | Surviving | This building was a Church of Scotland old folks's home after the war and into the 1970s, and later a hotel. The building is currently (2015) for sale, and the brochure says that the house was built in 1901, but the listed building report says c. 1895. There was a fire around 2010 at the back. | HER: MHG16277 Canmore: 108895 Listed building (B) 7855 | Fiona Newton |
| 63 | Strathpeffer Golf Course and Club House | NH 4804 5858 (club-house) |  | In use | Most of the lands of Kinnettas Farm are now part of the golf course. There is still ridge and furrow visible. 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.). The clubhouse (MHG22719) and adjacent open fronted caddies shelter, roughly where the present (2015) shop is situated, are present on the OS 2 nd edition map (1906). The clubhouse appears in one of Mr Wellwood Maxwell's photographs, in the possession of Mrs M. Spark. The greenkeeper and his wife (who ran the bar and did the catering) lived in it (the Duncans and before that the Gillespies). In the 1950s there was a well outside used for the mens toilets. The current clubhouse was rebuilt by members in the 1980s, with Philip Bannerman overseeing the works. The original veranda from the clubhouse was incorporated in future rebuildings. | HER: MHG22719 Canmore: 108905 | Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald; Thomas Houston; Margaret Spark Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979 |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 316 | Curling Pond | NH 4787 5873 | | Surviving | A pond in the golf course is still used for curling when conditions permit (last remembered use is around 2007). It is one of four curling ponds remembered in Strathpeffer. The pond does not appear on the 2 nd edition OS map, so may have been created for the golf course. | | Sandra Fleming |
| 62 | Ord Wood | Ord Wood centred at NH 4778 5818 |  | Track gone, Flagstaff damaged | 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. Only the stump of the flagstaff remains. | HER: MHG55613 | Duncan Finlayson Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979; Murray 1985 |
| 75 | Strathview (Kildonan) | NH 4832 5844 |   | Surviving | Museum of Childhood display panel: 'Strathview was built in 1890 on land bought by a Mr Skinner from the Countess of Cromartie. 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.' It is also thought that some army personnel were housed here during the war. An advert in <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), calls it Ross's Kildonan Hotel, saying it is the nearest hotel to the golf course (a claim which could be disputed). An undated guide, probably also from before WWI, advertises it as a Temperance Hotel, with Miss Forbes the proprietress. | HER: MHG16456 Canmore: 109119 Listed building (C(S)) 7838 | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009) Thomas Houston |
| 233 | Free Church Manse | NH 4825 5851 |  | 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. | HER: MHG22729 Canmore: 108938 | |
| 350 | Gypsy Lodge | NH 48231 58477 |  | Surviving | A house is on this site on the 2nd edition OS map. A house on the site burnt down in the 1950s and was rebuilt on a slightly different alignment. | | Thomas Houston, Betty Mackenzie |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--|--|---|
| 227 | The Craig | NH 4831 5850 |  | Surviving | The house was built in 1889, designed by W.C. Joass, a Dingwall architect who was responsible for a number of houses in Strathpeffer. (Murray 1985). An annotation on the back of an old photo says that it was a Girl's school in 1918. Dr Thompson lived here later. It is now divided into two houses, with the western one called Broomside. | HER: MHG22701 Canmore: 108837 | Jennifer Haslam |
| 351 | Dunnichen | NH 4827 5846 |  | Surviving | The listed building report states that the house was built by Mr Fraser in 1897, but Murray lists it as 1902 (Murray 1985). Mr Fraser was a South African who made his money ostrich farming, and originally called the house Rondeboch or Rhondesbosch. Shortly after completion it was destroyed by fire, then rebuilt to the same design (Murray 1985). The dormer with its cast iron roundal is as advertised in MacFarlane's of Glasgow catalogue; other cast-iron goods probably from same firm. In the 1980s it was divided into two dwellings (Listed building report), but it is back to one house again. Mr Arnott of the Dingwall solicitor's firm lived there for many years. | HER: MHG16249 Canmore: 108894 Listed building (B) 7854 | Thomas Houston |
| 17 | Windsor Lodge | NH 4836 5850 |   | 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Macrae and had 13 bedrooms and 5 parlours to let. The boarding house was run by Helen MacLennan until the 1950s. During WWII first officers and batsmen of the 2 nd Seaforth's were billeted there, followed by A.T.S. women. After Mrs MacLennan's death, Windsor Lodge was divided into flats in which members of the family lived. Their former housekeeper, Jean (Shine) MacLean was given Windsor Cottage and the entrance between the house with flats and the cottage was sealed up. | HER: MHG22612 Canmore: 109129 | Fiona Newton; Thomas Houston; Letter to P7 class from Mrs Margaret Keenleyside Other sources cited: Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009); Murray 1985 |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--|---|---|
| 237 | Dunbeath | NH 4838 5842 |  | 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. | HER: MHG22725 Canmore: 108893 | Mrs Radin Isabel MacMaster |
| 361 | Overdale | NH 4835 5839 |  | Surviving | The house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition, with a small building behind to the north. This was owned by Murdo MacGregor's widow and her son. During WWII Mr Miller, the Chairman of the Local Invasion Committee for Strathpeffer, lived here. | HER: MHG22726 Canmore: 108963 | Betty Ramsay |
| 65 | Eaglestone House | NH 4842 5848 |   | In use | This house, with its separate coach house to the rear, is present on the OS 1 st 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 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 part 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. The singer/songwriter Gerry Rafferty owned it for a short time. | HER: MHG16305 Canmore: 108896 Listed building (B) 7856 | Information from display at Victorian Day ; Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949; Murray 1985 |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------|----------------------|---|-----------|--|--|---|
| 220 | Eagle Stone | NH 4848 5851 |  | Surviving | The Eagle stone was in its current location by the time of the 1 st 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. | HER: MHG43542 Canmore: 12458 Scheduled Monument 1676 | Kitty Campbell |
| 77 | Nutwood Cottage | NH 483 586 | | Moved | This house was a tin (corrugated iron) structure situated behind Nutwood House. In the 1950s the house was moved to Achterneed (NH 48858 59653), and became known as Sunnybrae (see no. 393). Jennifer Haslam has a picture of her mother and grandparents at this cottage. | HER: MHG55622 | Jennifer Haslam; Fiona Newton; John and Valerie MacGregor |
| 78 | Nutwood House | NH 48445 58598 | | In use | On the 1st edition OS map, there are two buildings, one which appears to be a large house to the east, and the other a more regular L-shaped building to the east. On the 2nd edition OS map, the eastern building has been extended, and there are now two much larger and irregular buildings to the west, part of a large steading (see listed building report). On both maps they are labelled Nutwood Cottage, though at present the eastern building is called Nutwood House, the middle building Nutwood Steading (MHG16421), and the western building Nutwood Cottage. Parts of the old steading are still visible. This was the factor's house for the Cromartie estate. It also housed an office. | HER: MHG55623 | Duncan Finlayson, Neil MacDonald |
| 202 | Newton Villa | NH 48585 58475 |  | Surviving | Stone built house at the entrance of the village coming from Dingwall. It does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is there in the 2 nd edition of 1906. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Miss Matheson, and had 7 bedrooms and 1 parlour to let. 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 Gramisons (exact name and spelling unknown) lived there in the 1930s, and later Mike Shaw (school dentist) and his wife. After the | | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Sally Dovey, Betty MacKenzie, Sandy Ross, Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart, Jemmy Campbell |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | war it had three families living in the house, one named Mr Elliot, a Newfoundlander who worked for the coal company, but had earlier worked with Kenny Stewart cutting trees at Bottacks (and perhaps before that in Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit, which had camps nearby including at Aultgowrie). Also there after the war was the Guss or Gess 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. He also delivered coal from the station, and there are still hooks for the sacks. Recently it has been a gallery. | | |
| 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 |
| 356 | Ulva | NH 4855 5844 |  | Surviving | The house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map but is there on the 2 nd edition. It is said to have been built for the stationmaster (the station opened in 1885). Later inhabitants also worked in the railway, including the MacQuarries who lived there for years from before the 1950s; he was a foreman with the railways. | HER: MHG22610 Canmore: 109126 | Neil MacDonald, Jemmy Campbell Murray 1985 |
| 355 | Red House | NH 4852 5845 |  | Surviving | Red House does not appear on the 1 st edition map, but is there on the 2 nd . 'The brick-coloured tiles to roof and first floor walling and the maroon of the ground floor joinery are set off against the grey whin stone in a style, very unusual in the Highlands, of the Arts and Crafts Movement, which was to the fore during the latter part of the 19 th century. It is interesting to recall that George Devey, who was an architect employed by the [Castle Leod] Estate to prepare an overall development plan for the Village, was deeply involved in the Arts and Crafts Movement in the South...' (Murray 1985). The house is said to have been the home of doctors in the past. In the mid 1900s the Macintoshes lived there. | HER: MHG16470 Canmore: 109008 Listed Building (B) 7839 | Margaret Stewart, Jemmy Campbell Murray 1985 |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------|---|------------|--|--|--|
| 73 | Station gates | NH 485 584 |  | 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. | HER: MHG55620 | Neil MacDonald |
| 34 | Station goods yard | NH 4863 5841 | | 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 – Willie Kennedy and then Roy Munro (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. | HER: MHG55586 | Kitty Campbell; Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald |
| 50 | Strathpeffer Station | NH 4860 5839 |  | In use | <p>Though the station closed to regular passenger traffic on 2nd 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:</p> <p>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. The original station buildings were said to have been used as a cinema after it closed as a station.</p> <p>The middle section of the station, currently (2011) housing a gift shop, was constructed in the 1970s/1980s.</p> <p>The 2010 extension to the Museum of Childhood lies to the east. See also Site 34 and 73.</p> | HER: MHG6292 Canmore: 12460 Listed building (B) 7834 | Duncan Finlayson; Margaret Spark; Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Maxwell, Alison Boyle Duncan Finlayson - Shops |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|----------|--------------------|---|-----------|---|---|--|
| 241 | Timuka | NH 4847 5847 |  | 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 (probably 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 (Murray 1985). | HER: MHG7865 Canmore: 12439 Listed building (C(S)) 7841 | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009 Margaret Spark Murray 1985 |
| 28 | Timaru | NH 4846 5844 |  | 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, 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. On the 2 nd edition OS map a long rectangular building to the northwest is depicted connected to the house, and further narrow buildings against the road, perhaps stables, which are linked to the long rectangular building. The buildings along the road no longer survive. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs MacLennan and had 13 bedrooms and 5 parlours to let. 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. | HER: MHG7886 Canmore: 12418 Listed building (B) 7840 | Margaret Spark; Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009); Murray 1985 |
| 240 | Murroona | NH 4843 5839 |  | 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 | HER: MHG22710 Canmore: 108955 | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009 Murray 1985 |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | labelled Tarbet Lodge on the 1 st 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.' In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Oamaru was run by Miss MacLennan who had 8 bedrooms and 2 parlours to let. | | Margaret Spark, Isabel MacMaster. |
| 239 | Camuserrochd | NH 4840 5838 |  | Surviving | The house was possibly 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 in WWII. This building was called Te Anau. It was made into two flats in 1954, but then back to a house in 1995. | HER: MHG22286 Canmore: 108834 | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea, 2009 Margaret Spark, Isabel MacMaster Thomas Houston |
| 57 | Raven Cottage | NH 4842 5836 |  | Surviving | '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 st 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 part of the Strathpeffer Estate it is also known as 'Tigh na Fhitheach' and had a wooden shingle roof. The roof is now tiled (2011). | HER: MHG22716 Canmore: 109006 | Margaret Spark, Kitty Campbell Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 29 | Burnhill | NH 4850 5839 |  | Surviving | 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, | MHG22284 Canmore: 108831 | Fiona Newton; information from Sasine abridgements supplied by descendent of Daniel Scott to |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---|----------------------|---|------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | | jeweller of Inverness. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the Breadalbane House was run by Mrs Newsam, and had 11 bedrooms and 4 parlours. 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. | | Fiona Newton. |
| 11 | The Shieling | NH 48496 58395 | | 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.</p> <p>In the 1920s-1930s, it was run by Miss Macdonald and Miss Fraser, who sold good quality woollen ladies wear. This was a 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.</p> | HER: MHG55606 | Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark Other sources cited: Sale catalogue 1949; Duncan Finlayson - Shops |
| 3 | Ardival Steading / Ben Wyvis Motors / The Depot | NH 48502 58331 |  | Demolished | <p>On the OS 1st 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 2nd 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. During WWI it appears to have been called The County Garage. 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</p> | HER: MHG55627 | Kitty Campbell; Duncan Finlayson; Neil Macdonald; Fiona Newton; Peggy Macdonald; participant at Open Day 2014 Other sources |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------|----------------------|---|------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | | 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 part of 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 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 no. 26. | | cited: Sales Catalogue 1949 |
| 26 | Ardival Mill | NH 48471 58359 | | Demolished | The pond and sluice which served Ardival Mill are shown on the OS 1 st edition map (1876), but are not visible on the 2 nd edition map (1906). The mill was still present on the 2 nd edition map, but no longer survives. 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 generally known 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. | HER: MHG55609 | Watson 1904; Finlayson 1979 |
| 9 | Ardival House | NH 48550 58334 |  | Surviving | 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 st 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 | HER: MHG55605 | Duncan Finlayson; Highland Museum of Childhood |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Mrs Macmaster. | | exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009) Finlayson 1979 |
| 69 | Glenorchy | NH 48613 58343 |  | Surviving | 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Matheson who let out 4 bedrooms and 1 parlour. The cottage built onto the back was built for one of the sons of the original owners. | HER: MHG55616 | Kitty Campbell |
| 49 | Old Police House | NH 48679 58363 |  | Surviving | 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. | HER: MHG55597 | Kitty Campbell; information from local resident at Open Day |
| 245 | Railway Cottage | NH 48661 58380 |  | Surviving | The stone built cottage appears on the 2 nd edition but not the 1 st edition OS map. Its name and position suggest it was built for railway personnel. | HER: MHG53264 Canmore: 299245 | |
| 346 | Viewfield | NH 48699 58362 |  | Surviving | Viewfield appears on the 2 nd edition OS map. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Mrs MacDonald who has 5 bedrooms and 1 parlour to let. The MacDonalds built it. Mr MacDonald was postmaster in the Strath and had four sons. In the 1940s a minister lived there. Like elsewhere in the Strath, including Glenorchy next door, the family lived in the small building in the garden during the season so they could let out the house. | | Sandy Ross, Kenny Stewart |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| 358 | The Cottage | NH 48707 58193 |  | Surviving | This small cottage appears on both the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps. It has been in the same family for a long time. | | Sandy Ross |
| 224 | Ardival Farm | NH 4873 5808 |  | Surviving | This house is situated up the hill from Ardival House, and now is sometimes called Ardival. The house and U-shaped steading to the north appear on the 1st edition OS map. On the 2nd edition map the steading has been filled in. The farmhouse 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. An Italian POW made a painting of the picture before it was enlarged. The nearby steading to the north is stone built with an outside staircase, but is in a poor state of repair. | HER: MHG22697 Canmore: 108804 | Margaret Spark, Kitty Campbell, Fiona Newton, Valerie MacGregor |
| 55 | 'Back Roadie' of 'Back Lane' | SEE TEXT | | Surviving | 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). NH 4839 5834 - NH 4836 5835 - NH 4831 5829 | HER: MHG55602 | Duncan Finlayson; Kitty Campbell |
| 22 | Cromartie Buildings / Cromartie House | NH 4841 5831 |   | Surviving | This three storey block dates to 1885 (Murray 1985). In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Mrs Asher had lodgings of 5 bedrooms and 2 parlours. It also describes a boarding house at Cromartie House, where Mrs Cross had 12 bedrooms and 5 parlours to let. Cromartie House is the rear part of the building, with an entrance on the side. Behind Cromartie Buildings, there was a long row of garages, where the delivery van was kept and, behind that again, the bakery itself. On the OS 2 nd 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 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 - | HER: MHG22709 Canmore: 108978 | Duncan Finlayson; Fiona Newton; Margaret Spark; Jennifer Haslam; Kenny Stewart; Jemmy Campbell; Betty Mackenzie Other sources cited: Murray 1985; Duncan Finlayson - Shops |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| | | | | <p>delivered around Strathconon, the Heights and Garve. Burnett's continued in business until the 1980. After Burnetts, the property was a supermarket which also sold fishing permits and had accountancy. It was also a fishing tackle shop for a bit in the 1970s, run by Mr Burr. Frasers drapery shop was succeeded in the late 1950s by George MacKenzie, ('Gentleman George') and his sister Mary, when it was known locally as 'The Toffs'. Mary MacKenzie sold it to Eric Simpson in the 1970s, and he sold it to Retta and Brian Taylor. The shop closed in 1998-1999.</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; these included Kenny Stewart's mother and father. There has been a large turnover of people living in this building.</p> | | |
| 225 | Ben Wyvis Hotel | NH 4859 5825 | Surviving | <p>The listed building report describes it as built in 1879 with additions in 1884 and 1990-1. An advert in the Aberdeen Weekly Journal for June 1, 1888 lists it as the 'Principal Hotel' in Strathpeffer with its own bowling and tennis greens, a billiard room and a new dining hall just added. The 1930 aerial photograph shows an extensive market garden behind the hotel. Jennifer Haslam has a photograph from 1961 showing its extent then. There was a separate swimming pool and laundry. Within the hotel was a cinema room with raked floor. During WWII the top floor of the Ben Wyvis Hotel was a jankers (jail). Kate MacPherson later met someone who had been a jailor there. People remember that the hotel was taken over by soldiers during WWII, including Seaforth Highlanders, but more information is needed. There were trenches dug to the east of the hotel in the war. Military families were still there in 1953-4. The listed building report describes it as built in 1879 with additions in 1884 and 1990-1. An advert in the Aberdeen Weekly Journal for June 1, 1888 lists it as the 'Principal</p> | HER: MHG7864 Canmore: 12440 Listed building (C(S)) | <p>Jennifer Haslam, Sally Dovey, Doris Junor, Val Moffat, Andy Moffat, Fiona Newton, Jemmy Campbell</p> <p>Jock Watt, Kate MacPherson, Kenny Stewart</p> |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------|----------------------|--|-----------|--|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | | <p>Hotel' in Strathpeffer with its own bowling and tennis greens, a billiard room and a new dining hall just added. The Manual of Strathpeffer Spa published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910) has an advert extolling its spacious dining hall, magnificent drawing rooms, public and private apartments, billiard, reading, lounge and music rooms, all with a 'perfect sanitary system'. Outdoors there were bowling, croquet and tennis greens and a private walk to the wells, baths, and Pavilion and Spa gardens ' in which a splendid Orchestra of 24 performers plays daily.' The spacious garage had two inspection pits and all necessary accessories. The 1930 aerial photograph shows an extensive market garden behind the hotel. Jennifer Haslam has a photograph from 1961 showing its extent then. There was a separate swimming pool and laundry. Within the hotel was a cinema room with raked floor. During WWII the top floor of the Ben Wyvis Hotel was a jankers (jail). Kate MacPherson later met someone who had been a jailor there. People remember that the hotel was taken over by soldiers during WWII, including Seaforth Highlanders, but more information is needed. There were trenches dug to the east of the hotel in the war. Military families were still there in 1953-4.</p> | | |
| 205 | Laundry | NH 48521 58222 | | Gone | <p>The laundry for the Ben Wyvis hotel was situated near the footpath towards the pavilion. A building depicted on the 2nd 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.</p> | | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Christine Briggs |
| 204 | Swimming pool | NH 48478 58205 | | Gone | <p>There was a swimming pool for the Ben Wyvis hotel near the footpath between the Ben Wyvis hotel and the Pavilion, near the laundry. Doris Junor remembers it there in the 1950s, but it was gone by the time</p> | | Sally Dovey, Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | Jennifer Haslam worked in the hotel in the early 1960s. | | Jennifer Haslam, Doris Junor |
| 353 | Strathpeffer Hotel | NH 4837 5828 |  | Surviving | The hotel dates to the early 19 th century with later additions and alterations by Ross and Macbeth in 1889 and 1898. An advert in the Aberdeen Weekly Journal for June 1, 1888 describes it as an old established hotel, recently redecorated and refurbished; details are referred to JNO. MURRAY MUNRO. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910) an advert calls Munro's Strathpeffer Hotel, a first class hotel providing billiards and hot and cold baths. | HER: MHG16449 Canmore: 109115 Listed building (C(S)) 7837 | Fiona Newton |
| 60 | Clisham | NH 4837 5826 |  | 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). In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mr D Ross and had 7 bedrooms and 1 parlour. As Brookside, it is recorded in a 1949 sales prospectus for part of the Strathpeffer Estate, when it had a builders yard, office, workshops, and a store at the rear. Mr Robertson, a joiner who had the workshops at the Depot (see no. 3, MHG55627) lived here and renovated it. | HER: MHG22692 Canmore: 108835 | Neil Macdonald; Margaret Spark; Thomas Houston Other sources cited: Sales Catalogue 1949; Murray 1985 |
| 352 | Crancil Brae | NH 4833 5826 |  | Surviving | On the 2 nd edition map a house and four smaller buildings appear on this plot. T. Wellwood Maxwell, the Strathpeffer pharmacist and photographer from the late 1800s/early 1900s, lived here. | HER: MHG22722 Canmore: 108889 | Duncan Finlayson, Fiona Newton, |
| 31 | Athole House | NH 4845 5824 |  | In use | This villa dates to c.1874 (Murray 1985). On the OS 1 st edition map (1876), Athole House is named as Lairg House. | HER: MHG22698 Canmore: 108805 | Murray 1985. |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| 33 | Spa Lodge Hotel or Caberfeidh House | NH 4843 5823 |  | In use | On the OS 1 st 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house is run by Miss Mackenzie who lets out 12 bedrooms and 3 parlours. 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. There was also a small house behind. | HER: MHG22285 Canmore: 108832 | Jennifer Haslam; Duncan Finlayson; Betty Ramsay |
| 32 | Mackays Hotel | NH 4842 5819 |  | In use | This was originally MacGregor's Hotel and dates back to the late 1860s (Murray 1985). At the time of the 1st edition OS map, it was a relatively modest building, with two extensions towards the rear (east). But by the 2nd edition survey of 2004 there had been extensive extensions at the rear, and some outbuildings. Over the years it has grown still larger, and today comprises a complex of buildings. From August 1941 the military headquarters of the Sutherland Sub Area (which stretched from Caithness to Badenoch) was based at MacKay's Hotel. | HER: MHG22732 Canmore: 108950 | Murray 1985. |
| 398 | Glengarry | NH 48430 58099 |  | Surviving | An L-shaped house is depicted on the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps, with a well to the southeast marked on the 1 st edition map. | | |
| 236 | Inver Lodge | NH 4847 5813 |  | 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 the house 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. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Thistle Bank was run by Miss Ross who had 5 bedrooms and 2 parlours to let. The property is described and illustrated in the 1949 Sales Prospectus of the Cromartie Strathpeffer estate. At the time it was let to Dr Dick. | HER: MHG22728 Canmore: 108906 | Margaret Spark Isabel MacMaster |

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| 206 | Telephone Exchange | NH 48467 58191 |  | 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. 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, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Sally Dovey, Christine Briggs, Margaret Spark, Fiona Newton |
| 203 | Glendale | NH 48492 58182 |  | Surviving | <p>Formerly the United Free Church, the building does not appear on the 2nd edition OS map, so must be later than 1904. The Scottish Architects website www.scottisharchitects.org.uk 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, when Mr Reid preached to the joint congregation in June 1948 in the Church of Scotland premises. The church was not used after this time. Old photographs, sketches and aerial photos from 1930 show that it had a steeple.</p> <p>It was bought by Donald John Ross (Cash) and Victor Shepherd in the 1960s. They took down the bell and made a division in the building and shared it as homes for a few years. They named it Glendale. It was later sold to Calum and Wilma Scally. 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.</p> <p>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 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</p> | | <p>Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Margaret Spark, Betty MacKenzie, Doris Junor, Andy Puls, Jemmy Campbell</p> <p>Finlayson, Clarence 1979. <i>The Strath. The Biography of Strathpeffer</i>, p. 67</p> |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | 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.' | | |
| 232 | Manse | NH 48525 58167 |  | 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. Although the union of the United Free Church and Church of Scotland was in 1929, the congregations did not join until 1947, when Mr Reid preached to the joint congregation in June 1948 in the Church of Scotland premises. After that the church was not used and later was converted to a private home, but the manse continued to be used by the joint congregation. | | Finlayson 1979 p. 67 |
| 207 | Council Houses, Upper Ardival Terrace | NH 48556 58106 |  | 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, postman in the village. He collected clocks, and his nearby garage was filled with them, all going off on the hour. | | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Hamish Poulson, Jemmy Campbell |
| 208 | Council Houses, Lower Ardival Terrace | NH 48538 58140 |  | Surviving | There are two rows of council houses to the north east of the Pavilion gardens. The lower row (to the north) was built in the late 1950s, with the first tenants moving in 1959-1960. When the sawmill closed, people were moved to the houses. Sandy and Jemmy Campbell (of Jock's garage) were among the first occupants of lower Ardival Terrace when it was built. | | Betty Ramsay, Kitty Campbell, Jennifer Haslam, Jemmy Campbell |
| 357 | Lower Park Farmhouse | NH 4838 5788 | | Surviving | On the 1 st edition map, a rectangular house and parallel steading are depicted. On the 2 nd edition map, the northern building is gone, the southern building is a steading with a threshing circle, and a new | | |

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| | | | | house has been built. In the 1949 prospectus for the sale of part of the Strathpeffer Estate, it is lot 39 comprising the house, a byre for four, a two-horse stable and a granary, with 21 acres. It was at that time let to John Finlayson. | | |
| 399 | Park Farm | NH 48405 57696 | Surviving | On the 1 st edition OS map two rectangular buildings are shown, both oriented roughly northeast-southwest, with a well to the east. On the 2 nd edition map the house to the north has been replaced, and there is a threshing circle to the northeast of the steading. This belonged to the Mackenzies. | | Betty Ramsay, Neil MacDonald |
| 242 | Upper Park Farm | NH 48662 57655 | Surviving | A longhouse with what appears to be an unroofed one parallel to the east is depicted on the 1 st edition OS map. On the 2 nd edition map, the northern end of the longhouse is unroofed, and a new parallel building is to the west, with a threshing circle between them. This belonged to the MacDonalds. Within memory Jockan collected rubbish with his horse and cart, walking through the village. Betty Ramsey's grandmother was widowed in 1911, and Jockan ploughed her fields after that. | HER: MHG24738 Canmore: 103412 | Betty Ramsay, Neil MacDonald |
| 201 | Farmstead | NH 48401 57584 | Gone | A farmstead with two buildings and enclosed yard is depicted on the 1 st edition map, but not on the 2 nd , although the area where the farm had been is shaded differently than the arable fields around. Two wells are shown. Low remains may be visible in the aerial photo. | | |
| 209 | Croft | NH 48465 57457 | Gone | A small building with enclosed yard near the upper limit of the arable fields, north of Park Farm, appears on both the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps. Janet, who worked for Miss Menzies at Craigroyston, used to visit her father in a small cottage every week, remembered to have been situated near the border with the woods. It is possible that this is the cottage. It is now said to be a pile of stones, but the site was not checked. | | |
| 243 | The Garden House | NH 4823 5789 | Surviving | The Garden House appears on the 1 st edition map, but has been rebuilt and moved by the time of the 2 nd edition map, with another building to the northeast. The second building has been demolished. The Garden House was divided at one time, with the other part known as Garden Cottage. | HER: MHG23262 Canmore: 111611 | Jemmy Campbell |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| 320 | Parkhill | NH 48179 57902 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Parkhill Cottage was run by Miss Finlayson and had 2 bedrooms and 2 parlours to let. | | Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 321 | The Mount | NH 4816 5790 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition, where there are also two small buildings to the south which have been replaced. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Clark who had 6 bedrooms and 1 parlour to let. | HER: MHG7869 Canmore: 12435 | Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 322 | Glenoran | NH 4813 5789 |  | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition. Johnny Mackenzie stayed here with his wife and four daughters. See no. 200. | HER: MHG7871 Canmore: 12433 | Betty MacKenzie, Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 323 | Elm Bank | NH 4811 5787 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition. Jimmy Christie, the dentist, lived here for a time. It has a big elm tree in front; Kenny Stewart was told it is the wych elm, which is relatively rare in the north. | HER: MHG7873 Canmore: 12431 | Christine Conacher, Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 81 | New York Villa | NH 4809 5785 |  | Surviving | 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. One tradition is that he used stone from the quarry behind Castle Leod. Slater's Directory of 1911 notes that he had apartments to let, suggesting the property was run as a guest house. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Miss Mackenzie, and had 10 bedrooms and 2 parlours to let. Miss Rhoda Mackenzie was a longtime teacher at Fodderty, and her sister also taught in the area, probably Muir of Ord. Another sister, Mrs Barbour, came back from the south. After their brother's death, his widow and son came, but she left and Hamish stayed on. The sisters were known as 'the New Yorkers'. Mrs Barbour stayed in the back of | HER: MHG7867 Canmore: 12437 | Highland Museum of Childhood exhibition 'Hands across the Sea exhibition' (2009) Val Moffat, Betty Mackenzie, Avril MacPhee, Fiona Newton, Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart, |

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| | | | | | the house. The house was sold in 2004-5, having remained in the family until that time. When it went on the market, it was two apartments, but it is now is back as one residence. | | Thomas Houston, George Tait |
| 324 | Craigellachie | NH 4807 5782 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition. Craigellachie had the biggest plot of the houses built in this row, and on the 2 nd edition map also has two small buildings to the south, possibly cart sheds/garages, where Craigellachie Cottage currently is. During WWII the family moved into a cottage behind the house as Craigellachie was requisitioned by a senior officer in the army. | HER: MHG7874 Canmore: 12430 | Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 325 | Ravenscroft | NH 4803 5759 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition. It had a separate small building to the south, not against the back lane as other houses in this row. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the property is listed as a Boarding House (as distinct from a Lodging House), run by Mrs Anderson, and is said to have 9 bedrooms and 3 parlours. It was a restaurant in the 1970s, and in recent times it was an old folks home, but is now again a private residence, currently two apartments. All the houses on this row are reputed to have been built by Donald Mackenzie who built New York Villa in 1889, and probably using stone from the quarry behind Castle Leod. | HER: MHG7866 Canmore: 12438 | Avril MacPhee, Betty Mackenzie Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart, Betty Ramsay |
| 326 | Corry Vanie | NH 4802 5777 | | Surviving | This house does not appear on the 1 st edition OS map, but is on the 2 nd edition, where it had an enclosed courtyard to the southeast. After World War II it was converted into five flats. In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), the lodging house was run by Mrs Maclennan, and was said to have 14 bedrooms and 4 parlours. | HER: MHG7875 Canmore: 12429 | Sandy Ross, Jemmy Campbell, Kenny Stewart |
| 35 | The Anchorage | NH 47984 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 | HER: MHG55587 | Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam Other sources cited: Sale |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | on the plot where The Anchorage now is. On the OS 2 nd 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 st edition map (1876), there are no buildings near this spot. | | Catalogue 1949 |
| 327 | Lettoch | NH 47972 57705 | | Surviving | Unlike the other old houses along this row, this one does not appear on the 2 nd edition OS map. Dan MacLean (Dan the Pie), a baker from Dingwall stayed here, and later the Gordons. | | Sandy Ross, Fiona Newton |
| 328 | Lynmhor | NH 4791 5760 | | Surviving | Unlike the other old houses along this row, this one does not appear on the 2 nd edition OS map, so must date after 1904. In 1949 Donald Urquhart lived there. Later the Whytes (a dentist and his wife) lived there. | HER: MHG7870 Canmore: 12434 | Sale Catalogue 1949 |
| 45 | 'The Shoppie' | NH 4788 5758 | | 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. | HER: MHG55595 | Jennifer Haslam; Pat Justad; Fiona Newton; Kitty Campbell |
| 319 | Chalybeate Well | NH 47877 57593 | | Gone | A covered chalybeate well is marked on the 1st edition OS map, at the intersection of the main road and the track leading up towards Park Farm. This track has become a defined road on the 2 nd edition OS map, constructed to go around the well. | | |
| 213 | Park Terrace Council Houses | Centred NH 479 576 |  | Surviving | Council houses were built in this area of Strathpeffer from the 1950s to the late 1960s, in various waves of construction. Ten two-storey semi-detached houses were built of timber Swedish flat pack kits after the war, and still survive despite being seen as temporary. (nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 Park Terrace). Some have had stone and harling added. Other houses on Park Terrace are smaller, and later. Three timber bungalows on Park Road (nos. 1 – 3) were built in the late 1960s by a firm, remembered as Reed and Malik, for their workmen. There may have been as many as nine of these houses | | Betty MacKenzie, Jennifer Haslam, Betty Ramsay, Margaret Spark; Fiona Newton Margaret Stewart Christine Conacher |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | | known locally as 'the Reed and Malik houses.' The land for the houses belonged to Mr Mackenzie (Parky) of Park Farm, and was taken to make new housing. | | |
| 317 | Westpark Cottage | NH 47796 57501 | | Surviving | Westpark Cottage appears on the 1 st edition OS map, within a well defined area. It had been extended by the 2 nd edition map. There is a local story that doctors lived here, and did autopsies. Later John Whitelaw, and Freddie and Val Lloyd stayed here. | | Kenny Stewart, Fiona Newton |
| 318 | Cottages, Westpark, Strathpeffer | NH 47898 57452 |  | Two survive | A row of cottages is shown on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps. On the 2nd edition map, the western range has two buildings, one with two units, the other with six. In 1949 the western range still had two buildings, but the northern end of the larger building was gone. The smaller buildings to the east no longer survive, and there are no traces on the ground. The northern building is called 'Jubilee Cottage' – 'a charming detached cottage residence', let to Mr Kenneth Urquhart' (Sales prospectus 1949). Both father and son were postmen in Strathpeffer. Jubilee Cottage still survives, as does the southern cottage – Etive Cottage. It may have thatch still under the roof. | | Sales Prospectus 1949 Betty Ramsay |
| 319 | Woodside, Strathpeffer | NH 48001 57403 |  | Farmhouse survives, other buildings gone. | Three buildings and a cultivated area are shown at this location on the 1st edition map, increasing to four buildings on the 2nd edition map. By 1949 only three remain. The farmhouse building still survives. It has been in the same family for a long time. In the Manual of Strathpeffer Spa published by the Ross-shire Journal (18th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Woodside Cottage, possibly this property, was run by Mrs G. Munro and had 4 bedrooms to let. In a 1949 prospectus for the sale of part of the Strathpeffer Estate the croft was said to hold 29 acres, and was let to representatives of Mrs Margaret Munro. The house is said to be stone built house with slate roof, and had water from a spring. | | Kenny Stewart Sales Prospectus 1949 |
| 221 | Elsick House | NH 4778 5744 | | Surviving | This was a private home, built in the early 19th 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 | HER: MHG7863 Canmore: 12442 | Betty Ramsay, Fiona Newton Richards, Eric and Clough Monica |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|-------------------------|--|
| | | | | | through various owners. During WWI it was used for nurses' accommodation, and then as a hotel (Downie 2014 quoting Youth Hostel Association documents). 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 Elsie House, and it became a Fever home. The Youth Hostel Association bought it in 1945 and opened in 1947. They had a major refit in 1974. The hostel closed in 2002, and it was subsequently sold. It is now divided into four apartments. Andrew Downie has researched the history of the house. | | 1989. Cromartie: Highland Life 1650-1914 Downie, Andrew 2014. <i>Elsie House, Strathpeffer</i> |
| 41 | Jubilee Pond | NH 47981 57266 | | Pond: overgrown; 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. | HER: MHG55591 | Jennifer Haslam Other sources cited: Finlayson 1979 |
| 42 | Sawmill, Jubilee Pond | NH 47948 57321 | | Demolished | This sawmill ran from the early 1950s for at least 20 years. It was powered by electricity. It was owned by a Jewish man from Forres who operated under the name George W. Smith. It had two saws, a yankee and a Scotch saw, and a cross cut. The sawmiller was Willie MacKay ('The Buffalo') and his three sons Jimmy, Sandy and Walter. The sawdust was heaped to the northwest. | HER: MHG55592 | Kenny Stewart, Kitty Campbell; Jennifer Haslam; Neil Macdonald; Margaret Stewart, Sandy Ross |
| 43 | Timber huts, Jubilee Pond | c. NH 47966 57319 | | Demolished | A few timber huts housed the workers at the sawmill (Site 42). These were bothies built from sawn 'backs'. | HER: MHG55593 | Pat Justad; Sandy Ross, Kenny Stewart |
| 44 | Jubilee Drive | NH 47781 57496 - NH 5034 5838 | | Track | This was established to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. It ran from immediately north of Elsie 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. | HER: MHG55594 | Duncan Finlayson; Pat Justad |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------|--------------------|--|------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2 | Spa Hotel | NH 4768 5764 |   | Demolished | <p>The first edition OS map shows the Spa Hotel as a relatively modest building, but by the time of the 2nd 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. An advert in the Aberdeen Weekly Journal for June 1, 1888 describes the hotel as the oldest established and leading hotel in Strathpeffer, with magnificent dining and drawing rooms, conservatory, library, smoking and billiard rooms, ladies' and gentlemen's bathrooms, douche room, and 30 new bedrooms just built; A. Wallace was the proprietor. Betty Ramsay's uncle was a chauffeur employed at the hotel. During WWII it was used as a hospital. Trees were planted in the grounds by famous people, some commemorated with plaques. Kenny Stewart remembers two in particular: a California Redwood Cedar and a Monkey Puzzle tree; the latter was sawn up and used to build the post office on Heights of Achterneed (built by Francis Skelly for the MacLeods). 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 Elsick 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 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 last person remembered to live there is William MacLennan in the annex. Kenny Stewart took most of the remains away in the 1950s, to make Jubilee Road. When</p> | HER: MHG22637 Canmore: 109059 | Betty MacKenzie, Jennifer Haslam, Elma o'Rourke, Betty Ramsay, Margaret Spark, Doris Junor ; Kenny Stewart; Neil MacDonald Fiona Newton Finlayson 1979 |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---|--|---|------------------|--|--|---|
| | | | | | Neil MacDonald stayed in a caravan on the site in the 1960s no buildings remained. Lots of cream pots, etc said to have been found when digging foundations for the new houses of Kinellan Drive . | | |
| 212 | The Hollow | c. NH 47776 57585 | | 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 |
| 307 | Lane to Kinellan Farm | NH 47588 54403 to NH 47726 57363 | | | Isabel MacMaster was told in the past that the wood at the lane leading up to Kinellan Farm was not to be disturbed, because it was the location of where people were buried after the Battle of Park. However, the reputed site of the Battle of Park is some distance, and perhaps the tradition refers to the reputed site of the battle of Blar nan Ceann, thought to be just to the northeast. New houses have been built along here. | | Isabel MacMaster |
| 66 | Loch Kinellan, crannog | NH 4710 5759 |  | | 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). | HER: MHG6285 Canmore: 12467 Scheduled Monument: 3987 | |
| 67 | Loch Kinellan, crannog dugout canoe | NH 4710 5759 | | No longer extant | The dugout canoe discovered during excavations of the crannog was said to have been taken to Fort Augustus Abbey museum where it disintegrated, Duncan Finlayson remembered seeing this as a boy in Inverness Museum . | HER: MHG43472 Canmore: 12467 | Duncan Finlayson |

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| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|------------------------|----------------------|---|-----------|---|---|---|
| 80 | Loch Kinellan | NH 47 57 |  | | An old photograph of early 1900s in the possession of Mrs M Spark shows curling on the pond. Neil MacDonald remembers a bonspiel on the pond in the 1960s. | HER: MHG55625 | Neil MacDonald |
| 68 | Kinellan Drive pond | NH 475 573 | | | This whole area was always very peaty when ploughed. The formation of the pond is due to blocked field drains and now means that the water drains to the east (into the village) rather than to the west. | HER: MHG55615 | Neil MacDonald |
| 305 | Kinellan Farm steading | NH 47413 57615 | | GONE | There was a steading behind the farm house. On the 1 st edition OS map it is a U-shape, but by the time of the 2 nd edition OS map the central area has largely been filled in; within memory the central areas were used for cows. It was a dairy, mainly the SW side, and later used for battery hens, and much later a horse was kept there. When a dairy, a horse and trap delivered the milk – probably 1940s. It was destroyed when the new houses were built. There was a threshing mill in the steading, with water power from the loch. The lade can be seen on the 2 nd edition OS map. It is still visible in places, though now culverted as it approaches the area of the steading. Lead pipes were seen before in the lade. Later the mill was electric. | | Andy Willcox, Neil MacDonald, Betty Ramsay Fiona Newton, Isabel MacMaster Sandy Ross Margaret Stewart, Kenny Stewart |
| 306 | Kinellan Farm | NH 4749 5754 | | Surviving | In the <i>Manual of Strathpeffer Spa</i> published by the Ross-shire Journal (18 th edition, probably dating 1909/1910), Mrs Laidlaw had 6 bedrooms and 3 parlours to let. During the war Mr MacKay lived there, growing vegetables for locals and soldiers, and for the Canadian Timber Corp based near Loch Luichart. Later John and Cathy Ravenshear moved from the Heights and farmed at Kinellan. The ball on the gate mentioned in the listing building report was stolen. It has been replaced with a new one. | HER: MHG16161 Canmore: 107267 Listed building (C(S)) 1773 | Sandy Ross, Andy Willcox |
| 336 | Kinellan Lodge | NH 4715 5730 | | Surviving | Kinellan Lodge was newly constructed when Dr John Mackenzie moved there in the 1830s, as described in his memoirs <i>Pigeon Holes of Memory</i> . He rented land and farm from Sir George Mackenzie of Coul. ‘...when we landed at the door of the new, uninhabited house, there was a great pit at its front where building stones had come from.’ John Mackenzie added more rooms – and filled in the quarry pit in front. It was advertised to let in 1863. | HER: MHG7795 Canmore: 12453 | Mackenzie, John, ed. Christina Byam Shaw 1988. <i>Pigeon Holes of Memory. The life and Times of Dr John Mackenzie (1803-1886)</i> . |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------|---|----------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| 308 | Kinellan Cottage | NH 47359 57728 |  | Surviving | On the 1 st and 2 nd edition OS maps this building is three cottages. When Mary Ravenshear lived there it was combined to two cottages, and it is currently one. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. | | Fiona Newton Margaret Stewart |
| 332 | Pump and Tank, Kinellan | NH 47373 57753 |  | Surviving | There was a pump near the eastern end of Loch Kinellan which pumped water up to a tank behind Kinellan Cottage. Only the base for the pump remains near the loch at NH 47317 57703. The tank is well preserved at NH 47373 57753. It is of concrete with three chambers. The higher one was the first one the water was pumped to, and held gravel. This fed to a lower concrete one which had a roof which no longer exists, though the bolts still exist to hold it. This chamber was for settling the sediment. Holes towards the upper part lead to the third covered chamber from which pipes presumably led to nearby houses. A metal plate on the end of the second chamber has C.C. in the middle. | | Neil MacDonald |
| 333 | Quarry, Kinellan | NH 47331 57751 | | Surviving | 'Old Quarries' are depicted on the 2 nd edition OS map, but are not labelled on the 1 st edition map. It is not obvious what would have been quarried from here, because it is mainly 'rotten rock'. | | Neil MacDonald |
| 341 | Cedar Cottage, Kinellan | NH 47378 57771 |  | Surviving | This house was built in the 1960s, using cedar shingles on the roof and sides. The roofing shingles have been replaced, but cedar shingles are still on the west side of the house. It was built as a sectional building. | | Neil MacDonald |
| 309 | Crofthouse, Kinellan | NH 47407 57794 | | Gone | The 1 st and 2 nd edition OS map show a house in this location. Neil MacDonald remembers ruins here, and traces are visible on the aerial photograph, and perhaps in the field. Kenny Stewart remembers his sister keeping hens here. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. | | Margaret Stewart Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart |
| 310 | Crofthouse, Kinellan | NH 47428 57834 |  | New Building on site | The 1 st and 2 nd edition OS map show a house in this location. A new house is nearby. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. The new house on the site is called Kinloch. | | |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|-----------------------------|--|---|------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| 311 | Tanks and Channel, Kinellan | NH 47351 57886 NH 47436 58008 | | Tanks Gone | Two tanks are depicted on the 2 nd edition OS map just north of cottages at Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. They are linked by a straight channel, which then continues, with some culverts, into Loch Kinellan. The channel also goes to the northeast of the upper tank. The channel can still be seen in places in its northeast extension and towards the loch, but the area between the tanks has been landscaped to create ponds. Kenny Stewart says that trees do not grow well here, and there is a strange smell, perhaps from sulphur wells. There were several pipes running from here, one towards the old Spa Hotel, and other towards Jamestown. Were the tanks associated with the Spa Hotel? | | Fiona Newton, Kenny Stewart, Neil MacDonald |
| 329 | Croft house | NH 47135 57800 | | Gone? | Ruins of a croft house are remembered in this location, and it was locally known as the Dairy Maid's house. Neil MacDonald remembers when he was a boy an old woman coming to sit there and looking at the ruins. There was too much vegetation on a site visit to determine if anything remains. | | Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart |
| 312 | Croft house, Kinellan | NH 47274 57878 |  | Surviving | A farmstead with kaleyard is shown on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps north of the eastern end of Loch Kinellan. This house belonged to Jock MacLennan (Jock the Trapper) and after him his sister Bessie. There was an iron gate behind the house. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. Part of the original house is still visible, but there have been additions and alterations. | | Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart |
| 313 | Ord Cottage, Kinellan | NH 47564 57824 |  | Surviving | A farmstead is shown on the 1 st and 2 nd edition maps north of the eastern end of Loch Kinellan, just on the Fodderty parish side. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan.. Mary MacLaren [spelling?] and her husband lived there; he worked for the council. The old cottage survives, with extensions to the north. To the north of the house is a brick-lined well. | | Sandra Fleming, Kenny Stewart, Neil MacDonald |
| 314 | Croft house, Kinellan | NH 47573 57877 | | Gone | A farmstead with kaleyard is shown on the north of the eastern end of Loch Kinellan, just on the Fodderty parish side. It is unroofed on the 2 nd edition map, in an area of forestry. The area has recently been | | Kenny Stewart |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
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| | | | | felled, and there are no memories of ruins. This area is labelled Kinloch on old maps, and some people still refer to it as the Kinloch side of Loch Kinellan. | | |
| 315 | Croft house, Ulladale | NH 47319 58152 | Gone | A farmstead and well are depicted on the Fodderty side, at the southwest area of Ulladale (to the south of southern end of golf course). They are not shown on the 2 nd edition map. | HER: MHG24732 Canmore: 103406 | |
| 330 | Rifle Range and Target | NH 47052 58173 | Gone | The 2 nd edition shows a rifle range with length of 300 yards and target, running from NH 47067 58050 to the target at NH 47038 58305. Shells and old cartridges have been found from the area; in 2015 the bomb disposal unit was called and there was a controlled explosion. It is not known whether the firing range was for Coul Estate or perhaps the Territorials. | HER: MHG30256 | Kenny Stewart, Alistair Morton |
| 300 | Coal Mine | NH 48210 59888 | | Archival information about coal mines behind Castle Leod is lodged in the National Mining Museum and was sent to the Strathpeffer Community Centre. The first record of coal exploration dates to the late 18th century, while the estate was annexed. Later documents record analysis of samples undertaken in 1865 and 1866. This led to the estate appointing a well known mining engineer, whose report suggested that exploitation would not be profitable. Nevertheless, in 1867 the estate advertised for intimations of interest and bids by experienced contractors to open a mine. The National Mining Museum has copies of the bids, but no further details on whether they were taken up (information from Jim Henry, volunteer at National Mining Museum Scotland). Some remains can still be seen. A geocache has been placed there, and the listing contains a brief history of the coal mining: http://www.geocaching.com/geocache/GC53ECJ_an-aghaidh-guail . According to Watson 1924, p. 63 the coal was actually albertite, which looks somewhat like coal, burns readily but gives up lots of smoke. | | Susan Kruse, Trina Wombell Fiona Newton Watson, William J. 1924. Ross and Cromarty, Cambridge University Press NOSAS 2013. Report of an archaeological survey of features within the policies of Castle Leod... |

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER

| ARCH No. | Name | Where ? | | Condition | Description | HER and Canmore numbers | Name of contributors |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------|-----------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 331 | Firing Range, Castle Leod | Grid ref needed | | Unknown | A firing range with a steel target in the shape of a deer was behind Castle Leod. | | Neil MacDonald, Kenny Stewart |
| 338 | Quarry, Castle Leod | Grid ref needed ! | Quarry | | A large quarry behind Castle Leod is said to have been used to provide stones for many buildings in Strathpeffer, including the Ben Wyvis Hotel and the houses opposite the school. The army are said to have thrown bombs there during or after the war. | | Kenny Stewart |
| 303 | Water Tank | NH 46830 60574 | | | A water tank, said to be used to supply water to Strathpeffer, was situated to the east of Ravens Rock. Fiona Newton remembers it as a large concrete tank with a crinkly tin roof. A tank is labelled on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps south of the railway, as well as a covered reservoir to the north at NH 46807 60848 on the 2nd edition OS map. There is also some speculation that it might have been for Castle Leod; more research needed. | | Fiona Newton |

- OS maps: 1st edition surveyed 1876, published 1881; 2nd edition surveyed 1904, published 1906

Other notes in discussion

- Janet, Miss Menzie's maid at Craigoyston, 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)
- 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 Strathpeffer.
- 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.
- The wood behind Kinloch Kinellan was lovely, with pine and European larch. Kenny Stewart remembers a lumber jill taking out wood there with a white horse.
- Kenny Stewart cut the wood from behind Ben Wyvis to the Station in the 1940s: he remembers this as the most beautiful wood in the Strath.

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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.

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.

11A. **HIGHLAND HOME INDUSTRIES.**

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

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.

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).

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.

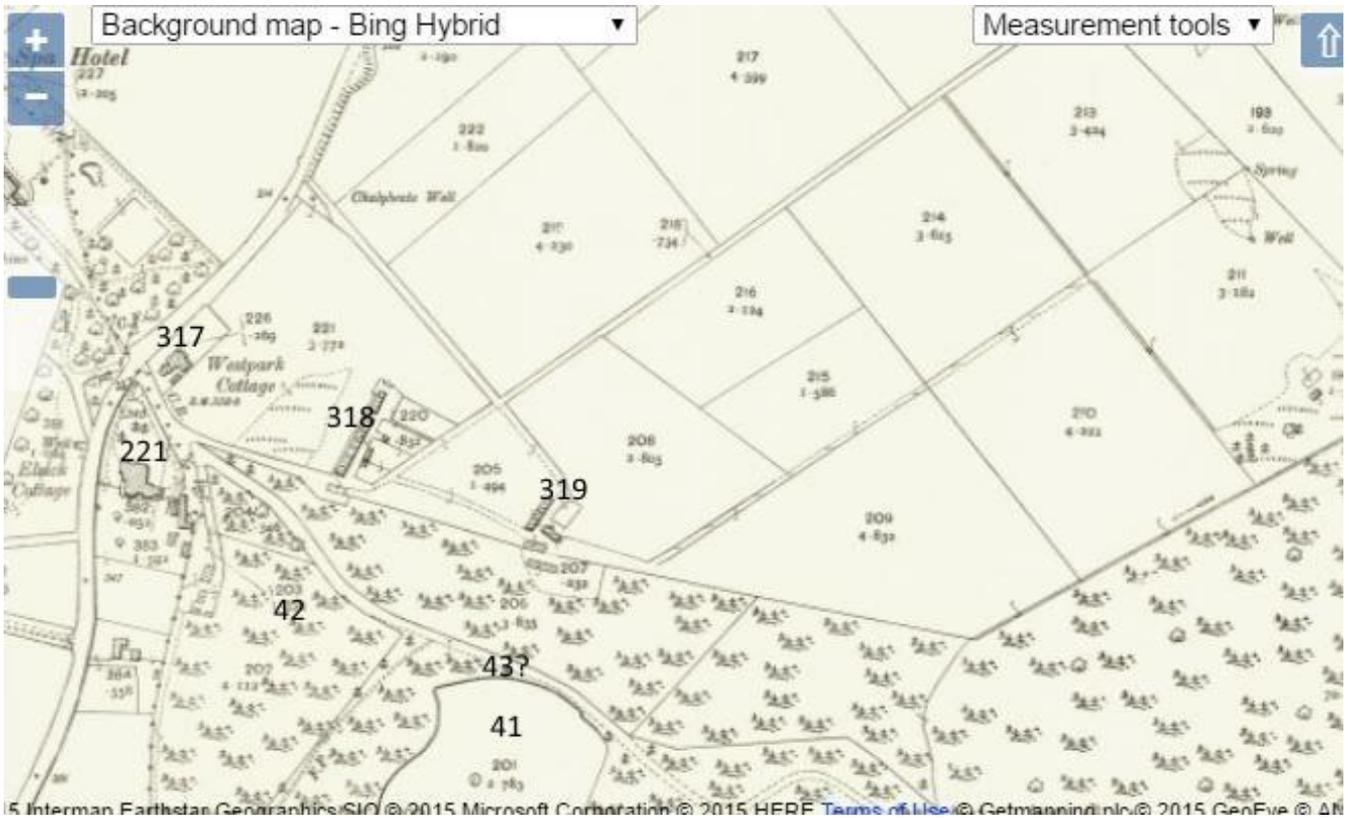
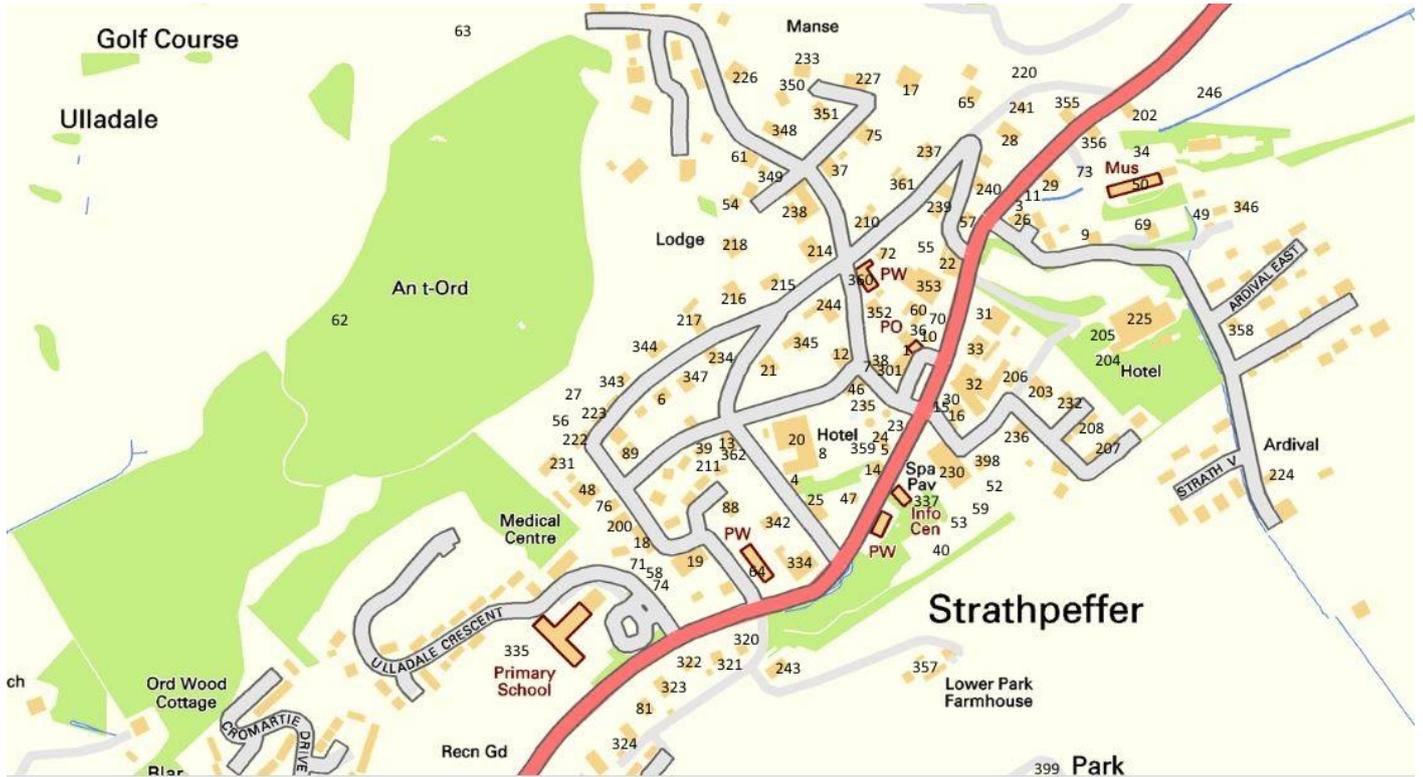
The postmaster was Major Wilkie in my time. He was a significant man in the community. His position and title of 'Postmaster' gave him an automatic status in those days. He was considerably involved in local affairs.

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

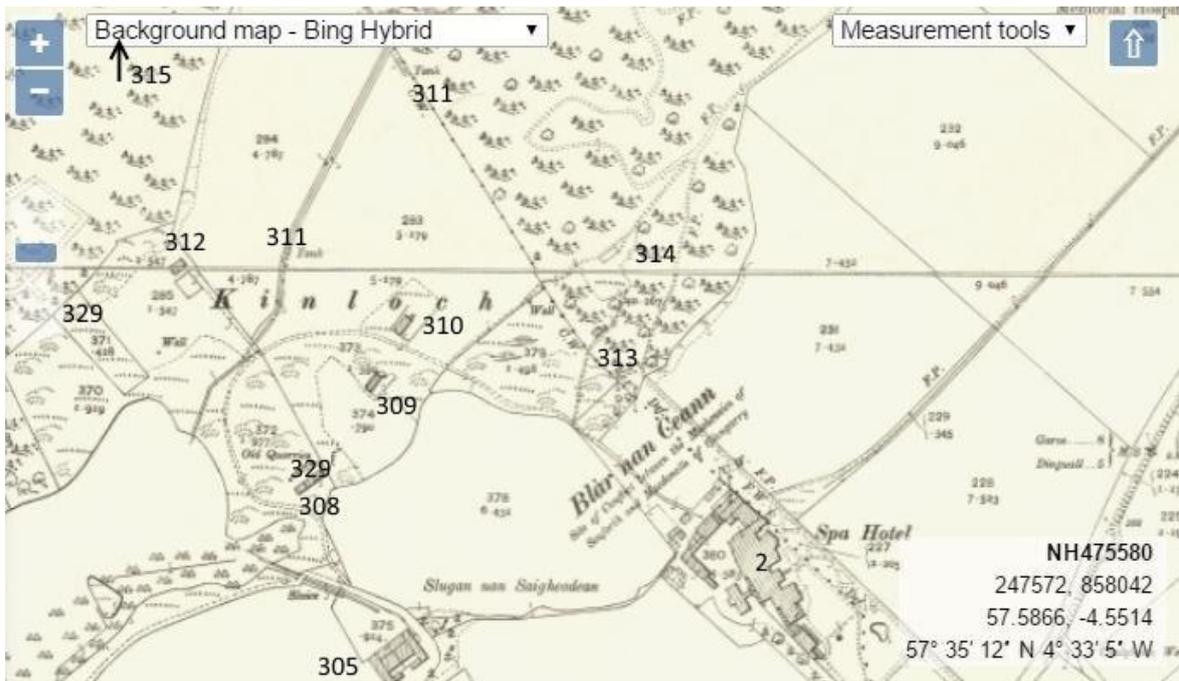
Andrew Campbell in Blairninich made bicycles elsewhere before coming to the area in the 1920s. He sold bicycles and did repairs from his large premises in Blairninich in the 1920s and 1930s, and knew a great deal about bicycles. He was known locally as Gahoochie (the Scots word for the kind of malleable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

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER



West Park and Jubilee Pond Area
2nd edition OS, surveyed 1904. Base map ©National Library of Scotland

Remembering the Strathpeffer Area: STRATHPEFFER



Loch Kinellan / Kinloch Area

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