CHAPTER 3

Church and School Buildings
CHURCHES

In Wigtownshire, as in the rest of Scotland, there was a period of decline in church building when conditions after the Reformation were at first unfavourable to the maintenance of church buildings...¹ but with some re-building of parish kirks in the seventeenth century. This was followed by a time when repairs only were carried out on structures many of which, according to extant records of the eighteenth century in this region, appear to have been in a ruinous state. The main cause for the neglect of buildings appears to have been the lack of finance suffered by the heritors, who were responsible for the churches. Reports illustrate that in the early part of the century the money, which was available, was outlaid on the repair and restoration of walls, roofs and windows. Landowners shared the cost, and accounts for repairs, such as the following, are numerous. Alexander Murray of Broughton's proportion for repairs to the kirk at Whithorn was twelve shillings to the masons, and thirteen pounds and six shillings to the slater and glazier.² In the contract between the heritors and John Robison, Slater and glazier in Solburn, he was to receive six pounds for maintaining the kirk at Leswalt, and the tenants were to carry the slate and lime.³ Although some kirks would possibly still be thatched in the late seventeenth century, the records of the early eighteenth century all

¹ Gordon Donaldson, op. cit., 273.
² SRO, Broughton and Cally Mun, GD 10/583 Ecclesiastical Papers: Kirk of Whithorn, 1734-1735.
³ SRO, Agnew of Lochnaw Papers CD 154/595 Leswalt Kirk, 1729.
refer to slated roofs. The earliest mention of roofing material in church building is in 1703 in the parish of 'Stephankirk', now called Stoneykirk. The church is noted as being slated, and the manse as thatched. As the century progressed many of these churches were considered beyond repair, and as the financial status of the landowners increased, the momentum of church building activity began, and was to reach its peak in the nineteenth century. In the kirk at Inch the west gable wall was reported on the 5th of May 1767 'as having an insufficient roof and being built with mud and standing off the perpendicular and a new kirk is necessary'.

The factor of the Stair Estates, Andrew Ross, notified various persons to draw out plans for the proposed kirk at Inch. From the estimates and plans, which were submitted, those of Thomas Hall, wright in Aird, were accepted. The kirk (see Plate 212) was erected at the cost of one hundred and fifty pounds, and was built by John McQuestine and Alexander McMeckine, masons in Glenluce.

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4 SRO, Stranraer Presbytery Records CH2/341/2 Visitation of the kirk and manse at Stephankirk, 6th October 1703.

5 Ibid, CH2/341/6 Visitation of the kirk at Inch, 20th May 1767.

6 Ibid, 5th August 1767.

7 Ibid, 4th November 1767.

8 Ibid, 4th July 1771.
PLATE 212 OLD PARISH KIRK Inch

PLATE 213 RUINS OF RECTANGULAR PARISH KIRK Leswalt
Detail of walling
The ruins of this church reveal the simple rectangular plan of the early parish churches, whose 'principal requirement was a single-chambered building . . . ' for reformed worship. In the documents the stone is referred to as being 'roughcast' or harled. This has, as in the case of other ruins, been removed in the process of weathering. (see Plate 213) The details of the local uncoursed rubblestone are revealed. The quoins of windows and doorways are round-headed as was the early custom. Unfortunately this building, as in the case of many others, was no longer in good repair by the mid-nineteenth century and was considered to be too small for the increased congregation. 10

The plans of this abandoned kirk, and the other small, narrow aisleless rectangular buildings, originate in the medieval nave. Several parishes record similar churches as being erected on or near early sites in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Some of these were later abandoned when new churches were built in the nineteenth century. Others were, however, able to be altered in order to accommodate extra seating, heritors lofts and burial vaults. These were usually incorporated in transeptal aisles, which were added to the rectangular plans, and from which the T-plan evolved.

Four parishes have retained the earlier kirks within the later adaptations in Old Luce, Kirkmaiden, Glasserton and Mochrum.


10 NSA, iv, 92-93.
The kirk at Glenluce, dating from 1636, was rebuilt in 1741, and in the later part of the century it was considered 'too small, but tolerably well finished' and altered to a T-plan in 1814 with three external forestairs. In Kirkmaiden 'there was an old parish church, dedicated to St. Medan, from which the parish derives its name, and a new parish church was commenced in 1638 in the centre of the parish. This building received the addition of a projecting northern transeptal aisle with the McDouall of Logan's burial vault and loft. Access to the latter is gained by a northern external forestair. (see Plate 214)

The church at Glasserton (see Plates 215, 216) was inspected by masons and wrights in 1732, and it was their unanimous opinion that the church had to be rebuilt:

The heritors retiring to consider the dimensions of the church, necessary to accommodate the congregation, returning report that they judge the fabrick of the church of 60 foot in length, 20 in wideness, within the walls will accommodate the congregation, and they propose at the same time that the several heritors shall have the

11 SRO, Stair Papers GD 135, Box 35, No. 34 Factors’ Accounts, Earl of Stair’s proportions for the building of the kirk of Old Luce, and of building a new schoolhouse. 1741.

12 OSA, xiv, 497.

13 NSA, iv, 439.

14 Ibid, 205.

15 OSO, OSNB 82, Kirkmaiden Parish Church.
PLATE 214  RECTANGULAR CHURCH OF 17th CENTURY ORIGIN
altered to T-plan. Parish Church, Kirkmaiden

PLATE 215  CLASSERTON PARISH CHURCH  with West gable belfry
PLATE 216
RECTANGULAR CHURCH OF
17th CENTURY ORIGIN
altered to T-plan.
Classerton
liberty of doors convenient to their seats with a convenient door in each gavel, and that 10 foot on the south side be reserved for the pulpit and the ministers seat'. 16

This building was considered to be in the mid nineteenth century:

... exactly in the same style in which all country churches were built about that period. It is still strong and substantial, both in walls and roof, but it is too small for the increasing population; for at present it contains only about 270 sittings in the under part of the church. The galleries are private property, belonging to the families of Physgill and Classerton ... The heritors, however, have agreed to make an addition by adding an aisle to the old church, and at the end of the aisle is to be erected a handsome tower 68 feet in height. The work is contracted for, materials provided, and on the 19th May 1836 the tradesmen commenced building ... The church now contains 400 sittings'. 17

David Hendry reported on Classerton Church on the 26th August 1891 and recorded:

16 SRO, Wigtown Presbytery Minutes CH 2/373/2 Church of Classerton 11th May 1732.

17 NSA, iv, 48.
The older part of the church is a simple parallelogram of about 60 feet by 20 feet inside measurement. The newer part consists of a transept and tower, built according to a table thereon in 1837. The transept is about 17 feet deep by 20 feet wide, and is projected from about the centre of the old church on the north side. There are galleries on the ends of the church of unequal depth and approached by outside stairs...

The early eighteenth century plans and notes of the kirk at Mochrum (see Plate 217) show the typical type of narrow rectangular kirk. This building measured 74 feet by 25 feet inside and gradually was developed into the T-plan structure of the nineteenth century. The Old Statistical Account of the parish in 1795 states that 'the excellent new church was completed four months ago'. The church records, however, show that there was an early church which was 'in a ruinous condition in 1701' and was rebuilt by 1708, and at this date was about to be altered.

In Mochrum Church (PLAN A) shows the original plan which was rectangular. The notes state that this was the scheme for the church as it was last decided by the heritors in February 1703. The two doors in the south and the north side

18 SRO, Classerton Heritors' Records HR 319/5, Report on Classerton Church by David Hendry, 26th August 1891.

19 OSA, xvii, 592.

20 SRO, Wigtown Presbytery Records CH 2/373/1 Certification of the ruinous condition of Mochrum kirk and manse 11th May 1701.
walls were to be built up, and two large doors opened in the centres of the two gables for the area of 6 feet throughout the church, and there was to be a door behind the pulpit for the minister's use. A large window was to be made in the west gable and another large window upon the top of the wall on the south side, above the south door that was to be shut up, which two doors were for the use of Sir James' and Sir William's lofts. The division signed in the session book declared the respective seats that were to be under the respective lofts. The two external east forestairs as proposed and drawn on (PLAN B) were not carried out. The central east external forestair to the lofted area (PLAN C) was, however, embodied (see Plates 218, 219, 220). At a later date in the nineteenth century a northern transeptal aisle was added and formed a T-plan church. (see Plate 221)

The other early seventeenth and eighteenth century kirk was, however, abandoned in the nineteenth century, when it was decided more economical to build new rectangular or T-plan churches in the following places, with the exception of Portpatrick, which takes the form of a Greek Cross.

21 Francis Croome, Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland (London 1895) v, 37.
PLATE 219  BELFRY ON WEST GABLE  Mochrum Parish Church

PLATE 220  INTERIOR  Mochrum Parish Church
PLATE 221  LATER NORTH TRANSEPT  Mochrum Parish Church

PLATE 222  ARCHED WINDOWS OF RECTANGULAR CHURCH  New Luce
New Luce 1816 22 (see Plate 222)
Whithorn 1822 23 (see Plates 223, 224, 225)
Kirkcolm 1824 24 (see Plate 226)
Stoneykirk 1827 25 (see Plate 227)
Kirkinner 1828 26 (see Plate 228)
Lewalt 1828 27 (see Plate 229)
Kirkcowan 1834 28 (see Plate 230)
Penninghame 1840 29 Architect William Burn
Stranraer 1841 30
Fortpatrick 1843 31
Wigtown 1853 32 (see Plate 231)
Inch 1862 33 Rebuilt 1896
Sortie 1862 33 Repaired 1826
Closed 1877 and new church built at Millisle 34

22 NSA, iv, 77.
23 Ibid, 58.
24 Ibid, 111.
26 Ibid, 12.
27 Ibid, 12.
28 Francis Groome, op. cit., iv, 418.
29 NSA, iv, 176.
30 Ibid, 98.
31 TSA, 487.
32 Francis Groome, op. cit., vi, 492.
33 Ibid, iv, 281.
34 TSA, 418.
PLATE 223 RUINS OF OLD KIRK Whithorn

PLATE 224 RECTANGULAR PARISH CHURCH WITH TOWER AND NEO-GOTHIC WINDOWS Whithorn
PLATE 227  RECTANGULAR CHURCH WITH EAST TOWER  Stoneykirk

PLATE 226  RECTANGULAR CHURCH WITH WEST TOWER  Kirkinner
PLATE 229
T-PLAN CHURCH
WITH EXTERNAL
FORESTAIRS
Leswalt

PLATE 230  T-PLAN CHURCH WITH EXTERNAL FORESTAIRS.
North transeptal aisle, tower and neo-gothic
windows. Kirkcowan
FLATK

232 PQHT PATRICK PARISH CHURCH AND MANSE. Ruins of 17th century cross-plan church with four storey circular bell-tower
Many of the reports on the churches are similar to those on Wigtown Church, which brought about the decision that it was unwise to make any repairs as the whole was a complete wreck. Rights were claimed to the materials of the old church, except a portion of the walls to be preserved and painted. In Henderson's report it was stated that the only sound couples in the roofing material consisted of the old oak couples, which belonged to an older church, and which had been pieced up with imported red pine.

Portpatrick Church is exceptional amongst the early churches in this region, with its unusual cross plan and four-storey circular bell tower. This kirk was built in 1629, and repaired in the eighteenth century. In the nineteenth century it was in a state of indifferent repair, and the heritors decided to have a new one built, and once more a cross plan was chosen.

Apart from the parish churches, which contributed considerably to the vernacular of the region, there are other places of worship, which have certain similarities to these, which were erected by other denominations in the nineteenth century. There are fine rectangular churches with towers of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Stranraer (see Plate 233) and Portpatrick (see Plate 234).

35 SRO, Wigtown Heritors' Records HR 355/4 Report by W. McCowan 1850.
37 OSA, iii, 42.
38 NSA, iv, 156.
PLATE 233
STRANRAER SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PLATE 234
PORTPATRICK
SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
The Free Church in particular had a strong position in this region from the eighteenth century and many plain churches were built in the early to mid nineteenth century. These usually consisted of simple traditional rectangular plans with neo-Gothic features. The former United Free Church, now the parish kirk, in the Isle of Whithorn (see Plate 235) is built into the stone wall of the harbour. This harled rectangular building has lancet windows with painted surrounds and a gable belfry. The Free Church, Drumore, Kirkmaiden, has two adjacent rectangular harled buildings, forming an M-shaped roof in the church, school complex (see Plate 236). The Free Church at Stoneykirk consists of rectangular harled buildings which form a T-plan. (see Plate 237) Some of these small churches are now used as the parish kirk, or as stores.

The pressures of economy resulted in the parish kirks, which were enlarged or replaced in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, remaining traditional simple well proportioned buildings of rectangular or T-plan.

Internally the majority of them are galleried on three sides, and the pulpit is situated in the centre of the south wall. In the smaller churches, galleries are reached by internal stairs, and in the larger ones by external forestairs.

In materials these churches may be compared to the large farm-houses. The most superior of the local stone is used in the main walling, which is sometimes harled with exposed quoins. Similar also to the larger farmhouses, they are roofed with local and imported timber and slates, according to their availability.
PLATE 235
U.F. CHURCH
Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn

PLATE 236 U.F. CHURCH, SCHOOL AND SCHOOLHOUSE COMPLEX, Drumore, Kirkmaiden
Stylistically the kirks have many characteristic features combined with the masonry traditions. The smaller buildings have west gable belfries and the larger ones are enhanced with square towers, which are usually situated at the west end. Pinnacled towers and spires are very little in evidence and are unusual in the country. (see Plates 231, 238) It is mainly in the masonry details of windows and doorways that the Gothic style is displayed, rather than in ornamental belfries and towers. Even when it became more fashionable to engage architects in the nineteenth century, Gothic elements are subdued, when observed in the form of the lancet windows and doors of the restrained church architecture in this rural area.
Manses

The provision and building of manses is contemporaneous to the period of church building in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Every minister was entitled by law to a manse, a glebe and grass for a horse and two cows to be set apart by the presbytery. The manse included a dwelling house, in some instances costing above one thousand pounds sterling, stable, barn and byre with a garden, for which half an acre was allowed. Manses and offices are fairly well documented for Wigtownshire in the church records from the late seventeenth century. Similar to the churches it is evident that at the end of this century, and until the beginning of the next, the parish manses were mainly in a ruinous condition as at Mochrum and Kirkinner and Portpatrick, and fell far short of their legal requirements. In 1697 there were 'no manses' at all in Wigtown or in Whithorn. In the latter parish 'the heritors engaged to build a new house with four rooms at least, and office houses, convenient for performing to it if made'. From this last

40 SRO, Wigtown Presbytery Minutes CH 2/373/1 Mochrum Kirk and Manse, 11th May 1701.
41 Ibid, Kirkinner Manse, 13th June 1704.
42 SRO, Stranraer Presbytery Minutes CH 2/341/3 Portpatrick Manse, 2nd April 1719.
43 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/1 Wigtown Manse, 3rd August 1697.
45 Ibid,
extract it appears that some of the earlier manses consisted of only one storey. This is confirmed by the report on Leswalt Manse in 1724 which refers to it as a building with 'one storey and loft with windows, five in number'. In all records from this period, however, which refer to rebuilt or new manses, these buildings are described as plain rectangular structures with two storeys. The principal rooms are situated on the ground floor with two to the front and two to the rear, flanking an entrance hall and central staircase, which led to bedrooms on the first floor. The kitchen was regarded as one of the manse offices and was usually provided in an attached wing, and occasionally 'the kitchen house had an upper and lower floor'. The early styles were restricted by the maximum sum allowed of one thousand pounds, and also by the Window Taxes on houses with more than five lights:

46 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/3 Leswalt Manse, 4th February 1724.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Houses of Parochial Clergy</th>
<th>Windows</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Penninghame</td>
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</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>-.6. -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkmaiden</td>
<td>11</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Kirk</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>-.11. =</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portpatrick</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leswalt</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-.6. -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inch</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-.8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Luce</td>
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<td>-.11. =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkowan</td>
<td>11</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkcolm</td>
<td>uninhabited</td>
<td>48</td>
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</table>

By the early eighteenth century ventilation by opening lights was common in the manses, and there are references to both sash and casement windows with iron frames, although the latter is more usual:

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48 SKO, Window Tax Records for Wigtownshire 1797-1798 E/326/1/124.
Twelve sash windows five per window £3. - -

Item for glass lead and oyl and putting in £3.10. - , 49

Twenty eight pair of bands for windows at half a merk the pair

Item for glassing the manse and binding the glass with sufficient iron bands, being two bands at every window and being one hundred and eight foot of glass £36. - - , 50

Many of the structures in the early to mid eighteenth century were repaired or enlarged, rather than newly built. Extracts from the records show typical examples, which illustrate various aspects of the buildings and their materials in this period and in the main rebuilding phase of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Clay has been observed in other pre-improvement buildings as a walling material and also as a mortar with stones. It has been noted in the references to early manses in the latter function as at New Luce in the back walls of the manse. 51

49 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/4 Portpatrick Manse, 3rd February 1728.

50 Ibid, CH 2/341/3 Kirkmaiden Manse, 25th February 1718.

51 Ibid, CH 2/341/7 New Luce Manse, 3rd October 1792.
It was dug and drawn in the parishes, as at Inch in 1729, where it was decided 'to make a chimney either of clay or stone at the cost of ten shillings'. The charge for the digging and the drawing of the material was also 'ten shillings'.

The local stone walling material is usually referred to as 'pinned and roughcast with lime and whitewashed, and plaister within.' In 1729 John McMurray, mason and thatcher gave his opinion that the reparation of the manse and office houses at Soulseat would require:

To pin and cast the main house nine bolls of lime at two shillings and six pence the boll.

To build the kitchen new in the form it is now a thirty pearch wall at one shilling and eight pence the pearch.'

As in the latter instance not only the type and cost of the walling is revealed, but also the length of a particular building in many of the estimates and accounts. The building of the walls of stable and barn 33 feet long at Portpatrick in 1719 was to

52 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/4 Inch Manse, 16th October 1729.
53 Ibid.
54 Ibid, CH 2/341/3 Portpatrick Manse, 7th May 1719.
55 Ibid, CH 2/341/4 Soulseat Manse, Inch, 16th October 1729.
In 1729 the walls of the barn were to be rebuilt in the form they are in now, a twenty six perch wall at one shilling and eight pence the perch. The cost of a perch of mason work had increased by the 1740s in Leswalt to '49 perch of work at four shillings per perch.' In this manse the walls of the office houses of kitchen and stable are referred to as being 'of one house'. The new stable at Old Luce in 1779 was to be '22 feet long and 14 feet wide, within the walls and 7 feet high. The side walls to be 22 inches thick and all gavels to be in proportion.'

As in other structures in the region the roofs of pre and post improvement manses and offices are of simple construction. In the early buildings they consisted of bound couples with nailed beams and rafters. It was considered necessary in the repairing of the manse at Portpatrick in 1719 to have:

56 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/3 Portpatrick Manse, 7th May 1719.
57 Ibid, CH 2/341/4 Inch Manse, 16th October 1729.
58 Ibid, CH 2/341/5 Leswalt Manse, 6th August 1740.
59 Ibid,
60 Ibid, CH 2/341/6 Old Luce Manse, 29th April 1779.
Four new couples of timber and to bind and put up the old couples £24. - -  

Four hundred double plensions for nailing rafters

Sixteen garret nails for nailing the baulks to the couples

In the 'downcasting' and building up of barn and kitchen, three couples of new timber were required at Kirkmaiden. In the proposed new manse at Portpatrick it was estimated that for binding the kipples and putting on the rafters for thatch, reckoning five kipples; fifteen shillings and eight pence.

Threaves of heather or straw laid on turfs were pinned or roped to the timbers according to the various methods used. At Soulseat in 1707 heather, bent and straw cost eighteen pounds, scobs were one pound ten shillings, and the work of thatching the manse was six pounds. In the manse at Portpatrick it required:

Five hundred threaves of heather for thatching at four pounds per hundred £20. - -

Casting of the scraas and five hundred pins

Item for putting on the above heather scraas and pins £27. - -  

61 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/3 Portpatrick Manse, 2nd April 1719.  
63 Ibid, CH 2/341/4 Portpatrick Manse, 3rd February 1728.  
64 Ibid, CH 2/341/2 Soulseat Manse, Inch, 2nd July 1707.  
65 Ibid, CH 2/341/5 Portpatrick Manse, 7th May 1719.
The earliest reference to the roofing materials of a kirk and manse is at Stoneykirk in 1703 where it is noted that the kirk is slated. The manse, however, was thatched and 'thirty turfs of bent and two thousand scobs' were used in the repair of the roof. Amongst the workmen, who were summoned in 1712 for the renovation of the kirk and manse, are the names of three thatchers, who carried out the work:

James McComb, mason and wright
John Kelly, mason and wright
Matthew Torbrand, wright
John Baird, glazier
Andrew Corkean, thatcher
John Auld, thatcher
Matthew Torbrand, thatcher

'Threeave heather and scraws' are also noted in the thatching of the manse at Inch and in Leswalt the materials and their cost is listed:

One hundred and a half thrive heather for the mansion house, pulling, leading and putting it on £21. -- . --
Scraws £2. -- . --
Pins . . . . . . . . . . 12

66 'See above p. 125'
67 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/2 Stoneykirk Kirk and Manse, 3rd January 1712.
68 Ibid, CH 2/341/4 Inch Manse, 16th October 1729.
69 Ibid, Leswalt Manse, 3rd September 1730.
It is usually common to find that the threaves of heather were used on the manse and the threaves of straw was the thatching material on the office houses.

At Kirkmaiden in 1718 the thatch of the office houses of barn, kitchen and stable required 'fifty threaves of straw, thirty turfs of heather and one thousand scollops'. A particularly well preserved early estimate of repairs and alterations, which were required at Kirkcowan in 1701, illustrates the type of buildings and materials and the methods used, and their cost:

1. That the building, wright work and thatching of the kitchen will cost three score pounds £60. --

2. For two couples and their furniture to the said kitchen twentie pound £20. --

3. For a clay brace and a partition wall to the said kitchen twentie pound £20. --

4. For service of masons and thatchers twentie pound £20. --

5. For four window casements, a door and lock twelve pound £12. --

6. For lofting, ceiling, partition walls, staircase and window broad to the high house, thirteen score of dails at twelve pound per score, which together with the workmanship, which will cost seventie three pound thirteen shillings, also twelve small jests for the said ceiling, and two for the partition walls at eight pence the piece amounting to five pound twelve shillings £235. 5. --

70 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/3 Kirkmaiden Manse, 25th February 1718.
7. Fourteen hundred nails at eight shillings per cent £5.12.

8. For breaking out two windows and enlarging other two with casementes broads and bands fifteen pound £15. - -

9. For twenty four bolls of lime for rough casting without and plaistering within, sixtie seven pound four shillings. For casting and plaistering with the said lime providing the parish lead both lime and sand, twentie pound £87. 4. -

10. For thatching and rigging the high house and stable, providing the parish afford scobs and straw ten pounds £10. - -

11. For building a barn, two couple rick out of ground, and for building a gate with leaf and bands to the entrie of the house sixteen pounds £16. - - , 71

Kirkcowan was viewed again in 1719 and as was customary at this period it was decided to lengthen the manse and it cost 'for the workmanship for making the manse a deal length longer; timber and stonework seventie five pounds, and the winning and drawing of stone, twentie five pounds'. 72

With the advent of slates as the roofing material, which was increasingly used for manses from the 1720s, deal was used as sarking and laths to which slates were attached by nails and rendered with hair plaster. Similar to the farmsteadings' office houses, those of the manses were not usually slated until from the

71 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/1 Kirkcowan Manse, 10th September 1701.
72 Ibid, CH 2/373/2 Kirkcowan Manse, 1st September 1719.
end of the eighteenth century. In parishes such as Leswalt and Inch heather thatch which had previously been used as the thatching material for manses was applied to office houses, which were formerly thatched with straw. In the latter manse 'the roof was repaired with seven thousand five hundred Irish slates at the cost of seven pounds, and the old wood from the manse roof made into bound couples for the kitchen'. The office houses, when finally slated, appear to have been clad initially in most cases by old slates, as at Kirkinner in 1806 when 'the stable and byre were covered with old slates from the church'.

When walls and roofs were found to be beyond repair new manses and office houses were built. The earliest detailed reference to new buildings is in 1728 at Portpatrick when it was decided:

To pay Thomas Elder one thousand pounds to build and make a legal and sufficient manse and give him the old manse, he being obliged to put a slate roof on the new manse instead of the thatched roof in the above account. The within information of this manse is to be in length 37 foot within, the breadth within being 15 foot, and the height of the side walls 15 foot.

73 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/5 Leswalt Manse, 6th August 1740.
74 Ibid, Soulseat Manse, Inch, 5th August 1740.
75 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/5 Kirkinner Manse, 11th April 1806.
76 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/4 Portpatrick Manse, 3rd February 1728.
Another typical early eighteenth century manse was built at Kirkmaiden when:

The heritors gave over the old manse for the building of a new manse, costing one thousand pounds, being in length within the walls 36 foot and 16 or 17 foot broad also within the walls. The side walls is to be 16 foot high with a slate roof with a door out of one of the gavels for a kitchen to be 12 foot square and a stable and a barn with a cellar". 77

The names of the local masons, who provided the plans for the manses are sometimes supplied as in the case of Archibald Paterson, who appears to have been responsible for several late eighteenth century manses and offices. At New Luce the factor William Legrat showed that in 1772 the manse and office houses had been repaired, but in 1787 they were in a ruinous state. 78 It was, however, not until 1794 'that he produced a plan and estimate for a manse at New Luce, subscribed by Archibald Paterson, mason and an estimate for said office houses for said manse, subscribed by him at Stranraer, which plans and estimates were endorsed by the presbytery.' 79

77 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/5 Kirkmaiden Manse, 12th December 1730.
78 Ibid, CH 2/341/7 New Luce Manse, 1st November 1787.
79 Ibid, Soulseat Manse, Inch, 2nd February 1794.
Office houses were increased in length, breadth and height when they were erected or rebuilt, compared to the pre-improved structures, and were also built with more durable materials. Work was carried out on most of the manse office buildings from the late eighteenth century, and the following extracts are typical of the types of buildings, which were built or altered and their layout. At Stoneykirk in 1786:

The heritors agreed that the barn should be rebuilt with 2 feet of additional length and that the stable and the byre should be built at the north end of the barn, 25 feet in length within the walls, and the same breadth as the barn. The medium height of the side walls of the stable and byre should be 7 feet in height and the partition between the stable and byre to be sidewall high and the whole to be roofed and slated.\(^\text{80}\)

The extract about the proposed new barn and the rebuilding of the stable and byre at Leswalt in 1801 gives details about layout, walling, roof construction and materials and also about the layout of the offices of barn, stable and byre in relationship to the manse:

\(^{80}\text{SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/7 Stoneykirk Manse, 10th July 1786.}\)
The barn to be 28 feet over the walls in length by 18 feet over the walls in breadth with two doors. The side walls 7 feet in height by 22 inches thick built with stone and lime mortar, all the sand from the shore. The roof to have twelve couples 6 inches by 3, baulks on each 6 inches by 2½ inches, with a wall plate on the wall heads with slates to be hung on laths and rendered with hair plaister. Doors to be hung with batts and bands and lock. The front door to have four iron batts, and the door in two halves to be hung accordingly and the barn be built on the same line as the other office houses lying on the road side leading to the manse. The old stable and byre; the old gable to be taken down and the side walls to be made 2 feet longer and built with stone and lime mortar; the side walls to be pinned and roughcast outside and inside with lime mortar with two doors broke out to answer stable and byre and new doors hung with batts and bands and lock. The door which is at present to answer for the other doors, and a middle partition put through 3 feet high to divide the stable from the byre. The roof to have eleven couples, 6 inches by 2½ inches and baulks on each couple the same size and to be roofed with slates hung on laths and rendered with hair plaister. The wood that is in the stable and byre, at present, if found good, to be wrought up in the new roof. The old barn to be the tradesman’s property and to have liberty to quarry stones, where most convenient without injuring any dyke or fence,
but the common road to lead them. The roofs of both houses to be covered with sufficient rigging stones. If the barn should be joined to the other house, presently occupied as a stable and cowhouse, then a certain deduction shall be made."

The new built barn was given the additional length of 4 inches and breadth 6 inches and height 6 inches more than in the estimate. The other features were as stated with special reference being made to materials used such as 'blue slates', 'freestone rigging' and that 'all the wood used was foreign fir'.

Ministers from the late eighteenth century complained to the presbytery that the manses were too small and alterations were carried out on the repairable manses to increase accommodation at Inch (see Plate 239) Kirkcowan, Old Luce, Mochrum (see Plate 240) Portpatrick (see Plate 232) Sorbie (see Plate 241) Stony Kirk (see Plate 242) Glasserton (see Plate 243) and Kirkmaiden (see Plate 244). Typical of the alterations carried out are seen at Kirkcowan in 1812 when two rooms and a kitchen were considered necessary additions to make the house comfortable and at Glasserton in 1816 when it was decided not to build a new manse:

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81 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/7 Leswalt Manse, 1st April 1801.
82 Ibid, 1st November 1801.
83 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/5 Kirkcowan Manse, 28th April 1812.
PLATE 241 SORIE MANSE

PLATE 242 STONEYKIRK MANSE
As the manse was not more than forty years old
the presbytery approved of the necessary repairs and
the addition of 24 feet by 19 feet two storeys high
at the back of the present manse to be finished at
Whitsunday 1818.' 84

It also became the common practice 'to make a porch before the
door of the manse'. 85 In the other parishes manses were ruinous
in the nineteenth century and new ones were built at Kirkcolm,
Leswalt (see Plate 245) New Luce (see Plate 246) Penninghame,
Whithorn (see Plate 247) Wigtown, Kirkinner and Stranraer, Inch.
The NSA verify the other records as to the date, or approximate
date, of the rebuilding of repairable seventeenth and eighteenth
century manses, or the building of new structures to replace those,
which were ruinous in the early nineteenth century:

Sorbie rebuilt 1813 86
Classerton rebuilt 1818 87
Portpatrick rebuilt 1824 or 1838 88
Mochrum rebuilt 1822 89
Old Luce rebuilt 1830 90

84 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/5 Glasserton Manse, 25th November 1816.
85 Ibid, Kirkinner Manse, 11th April 1806.
86 NSA, iv, 34.
87 Ibid, 49.
88 Ibid, 156.
89 Ibid, 572.
90 Ibid, 74.
PLATE 245  LESWALT MANSE

PLATE 246  NEW LUCE MANSE
Kirkmaiden rebuilt 1837

Soulseat, Inch, rebuilt 1838

Stoney Kirk repairs and additions at the beginning of the century

New Luce built 1803

Leswalt built 1811 burnt, rebuilt 1864

Kirkinner built 1820

Penninghame built 1828

Kirkcolm built about the beginning of the century

Whithorn built about the beginning of the century.

When the NSA recorded the above state of the manses, the mid-eighteenth century manse at Kirkcowan was uninhabited and the minister received a money stipend and there were 'no manses' any longer at Stranraer, Inch or Wigtown which had new manses built later.

91 NSA, iv, 215.
92 Ibid, 92.
94 Ibid, 77.
95 Ibid, 127.
96 Ibid, 12.
97 Ibid, 189.
98 Ibid, 120.
99 Ibid, 58.
100 Ibid, 198.
101 Ibid, 98.
102 Ibid, 7.
Several manses were erected by other denominations, which have already been discussed in the previous section on churches. As with these latter buildings, the manses of the Free Church are most prevalent and closely follow the style of the Established Church (see Plates 248, 249, 250, 251). There is a most unusual single storey building, which was the manse attached to St. Agnes' Church, Kirkmaiden, which was originally the Episcopal chapel to Logan House. (see Plate 252)

The parish manses, which were studied in field work have a great similarity in plan, design and materials and there are none of ornate style. This substantiates the evidence supplied by the archives of symmetrical rectangular two-storeyed structures with three windowed fronts, usually with porches. Main rectangular buildings together with additions, based on the traditional wings of the kitchen offices, form L-plan or T-plan structures. These are usually harled in white on the local greywacke with granite or freestone quoins and slated roofs. These are larger and improved versions of the earlier manses as has been noted in particular at Portpatrick, Kirkmaiden and Soulseat, Inch. When later additions were made in the nineteenth or twentieth century, as at Mochrum, the original style is rarely obscured, as in this manse where 'the old portions are of stone and the more recent additions are of brick'. ¹⁰³ (see Plates 240, 253)

¹⁰³ SRO, Heritors Records HR 24/5 Mochrum Manse Report, 1925.
PLATE 253  LATER ADDITIONS TO MOCHRUM MANSE

PLATE 255  OLD SCHOOLHOUSE AS PART OF CHURCHYARD WALL
           Kirkmaiden
Soulseat, Inch (see Plates 254, 239) is a typical manse. The outside measurements are 46 feet by 30 feet in the main rectangle, which with the addition of a wing 22 feet by 16 feet forms an L-plan structure. The ground floor plan shows a central lobby with a well lit staircase. To the right is a front dining room and a rear bedroom, and to the left, a front library and kitchen to the rear with a doorway to the rear wing addition of scullery, cellar and milk house. A staircase in the scullery leads to the laundry and servants' apartments. The main staircase on the ground floor gives access to the first floor, which contains a drawing room above the dining room and three bedrooms and dressing room/bedroom above the vestibule.

In some later manses, as at Leswalt 104 (see Plate 245) there is more spacious accommodation as shown on the plan. The ground floor contains drawing room and dining room each 22 feet 8 inches by 14 feet 6 inches, running the full depth of the house, and flanking the entrance lobby and staircase. The rear wing contains kitchen 16 feet 2 inches by 14 feet 4 inches and pantry 8 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 2 inches. On the first floor the use of partitions afford two bedrooms above the drawing room, and a bedroom and study above the dining room. A small dressing room 9 feet 3 inches by 7 feet 2 inches is centrally situated between the front bedrooms and above the entrance lobby. A servant's bedroom with W.C. and napery is above the kitchen. The garret has two bedrooms each 15 feet 8 inches by 14 feet 7½ inches with small closet area, between, each lit by skylights.

104 SRO, RHP 12276 Architectural Plan of Leswalt Manse, 1864.
SOULSEAT MANSE, INCH
MAP REF. NX 105589

Drawn from RHP 4530

Second Floor

Ground Floor

PLATE 254
The similarity in design, layout and building materials of the manses and the larger farmhouses is most evident. In the use of building materials, they are also compared to and complement their churches to which they are usually closely situated. Several of the manses have now been sold by the church authorities and are in the possession of private individuals, and the office houses of barn, stable and byre have either fallen into a ruinous condition or are rebuilt as garages and sheds. Since the glebes have ceased to be worked and harvested by the minister and his family, they are used mainly by neighbouring farmers for rough grazing, as at Kirkmaiden where the office houses of barn and byre, which are floored with Terally paving bricks are in a particularly well preserved condition, compared to most others.

\[105\] Information supplied by the Rev. Andrews, Kirkmaiden Manse, Kirkmaiden.
School-houses and Schoolmasters' Houses

The Education Act of 1696 for settling schools reinforced earlier legislation, which had attempted to set up a school in every parish and the schoolmaster's salary to be provided by the heritors. The new power given to the presbyteries of calling in the county commissioners of supply ensured that the act could be rendered far more effective. In the burghs the magistrates and town councils exercised control over schoolbuildings, which were 'upheld erected or extended at the expense of the common good when there was any'.

By the end of the seventeenth century 'Wigtownshire had schools only at Wigtown, Stranraer and possibly Whithorn'. The earliest reference to an actual school-house, which was to be newly built comes from the Wigtown Town Council Minutes of the 27th June, 1712:

The whilk day, the magistrates and toun counsell of the burgh of Wigtown ordaines each inhabitant, within the sd burgh that has a horse, and has not a visible excuse that they cannot travell, to goe to the wood of Caldones and bring home ane draught of timber for building ane school-house in the sd burgh . . .

106 Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland x, 63-4.
108 James Grant, History of the Burgh Schools of Scotland (Glasgow 1876) 517.
110 Gordon Fraser, Lowland Lore or The Wigtownshire of Long Ago (Wigtown 1880) 35-4.
On the 22nd of February 1717 there was a further entry by the magistrates and town council who considered that the school-house would fall into complete disrepair if certain requirements were not met. The following extract shows that the school-house was a straw thatched building, probably of one long room originally, which was most likely being partitioned into a 'but and ben' layout and lofted to provide for the accommodation of school and schoolmaster:

... the new school-house w'tout the freir vennald is like to become rowenous for want of thack and other necessaries, doe therefore appoynt the thesaurer with all expeditions to buy strae and scobs and cause thatch the said house sufficiently; and lykeways to provide dealls for lofting and ane partitione wall to the said house.

Robinson described 'the miserable hovel called the parish school at Barglass', which he considered represented in a general way most of the early school-houses and schoolmaster's houses of the eighteenth century in this region. The building consisted of a one room school and a two room house:

111 Gordon Fraser, Lowland Lore or The Wigtownshire of Long Ago (Wigtown 1880) 35.
The walls were of the rudest kind of rubble work, it would never do to call it mason work, say 30 feet in length by 15 feet wide and perhaps 8 feet high; one small window in each gable 18 inches square; one small door on two windows in the back wall, east side, the road side, no window; 2 feet 6 inches by 1 foot 8 inches; roofed with oak poles stript of the bark, which glittered like polished ebony from the smoke of many years and thatched with straw; a lum right in the centre of the roof of large dimensions also of straw; the surface dug off the floor, raked tolerably smooth and you have the schoolroom. A round spot on the centre of the floor right under the lum was paved with small stones for the fireplace in winter. The teacher's house consisted of a but and a ben, and altogether superior to the schoolroom . . . 112

The church of the parish was usually considered to be the most convenient place to hold classes until a school-house could be built, although in several parishes the heritors felt that this destroyed the fabric of the kirk. The next stage in the procedure would be to decide on a location for a school in a piece of ground in the churchyard. Masons submitted plans of simple buildings. The smaller structures contained only one room for the purpose of holding a school. Several of these rubble and thatch school-houses which formed part of the boundary walls were built and projected into the churchyards as in the following parishes. In New Luce in 1751

112 Robinson, op. cit., 20-1.
'the session agreed that a school-house be built after the stones are gathered of eleven feet wide and thirteen feet long and six feet high, and the session allowed the same to be payed off the stock'. 113 Seven years later they 'considered the building of the school-house. The expenses, together with the doors, windows and thatching, amounting in whole to two pounds six shillings was payed and discharged by Michael McKierly'. 114 Part of this building and its fireplace still form a portion of the churchyard wall. (see Plate 222) In Leswalt 'the heritors agreed to build a school-house not exceeding ten pounds somewhere on the north east side of the churchyard in 1776'. 115 The remains of a building, which contained school-house and schoolmaster's house, which was formerly thatched, 116 was measured at Kirkmaiden, where it is situated in the usual position in the churchyard. (see Plate 255) The outside measurements of the 2 feet thick rubble walled structure are 34 feet in length by 18 feet 6 inches in breadth and 6 feet in the eaves. The north gable has a central window 3 feet wide and the south gable has two windows of similar width. The front wall to the west has an offset door 3 feet in width and a window 2 feet 7 inches in width. The east wall has a stone fireplace 6 feet 6 inches in width and 2 feet 8 inches in depth.

113 In the possession of John McQuaker, Shieladaig, Leswalt. Extracts from the Minutes of the Kirk Session of New Luce from 1694 to 1848, by Robert Lupton Session Clerk.
114 Ibid.
115 SRO, Stranraer Presbytery Minutes CH 2/341/6 Kirk of Leswalt, 19th June 1776.
116 Ibid, Kirkmaiden Kirk, 1st May 1765.
An early eighteenth century detailed account of a visitation at Mochrum Kirk by the presbytery and workmen shows the typical location of the building of a school-house and schoolmaster's house, layout, building materials and cost:

The presbytery were come here this day in order to settle a school in terms of law and ordered them (the workmen) to view some convenient piece of ground nigh the church, and give a distinct amount of the charge of building a house thereon for the school and schoolmaster. The house being in length thirty five foot, of a convenient breadth with three gabells, and a chimney on one end for the schoolmaster's use. The walls of both houses to be seven foot high with two windows in the schoolmaster's house and three in the school-house ...

The building was to be built of stone and lime and thatched with heather, divots and scobs. The total cost was estimated at one hundred and ninety three pounds and eighteen shillings'. 117

At Penninghame Kirk the ground was valued as the South Kirkstile in 1721 by workmen, who estimated that a similar house, for the school and schoolmaster, which was to be designed on a slightly smaller scale

117 SRO, Wigtown Presbytery Minutes. CH 2/373/2 Mochrum Kirk visitation for school, 3rd January 1722.
measuring 30 feet long with three stone gavels and with two doors and six windows would cost eighty pounds for the materials and workmanship. The heritors of the various parishes were often indecisive about the location and cost of many of the proposed buildings, and some which were planned were delayed until later in the century, as at Mochrum, which was not erected at the church until 1793 for seven or ten scholars. At Inch, it is observed that there was no school-house until the late eighteenth century. In 1771 the heritors admitted that there was no school-house but as was also quite usual they considered that 'the fabric of the kirk would be hurt by keeping a school in it'. The presbytery, however, ordained that they were to build a convenient school-house for the parish. The building was a much improved structure compared to those erected in the earlier part of the century. The plan of this building was submitted by William McIntire, mason, and was unanimously approved by the presbytery in 1777. It consisted of the following dimensions and materials:

- 24 feet long within the walls and 13 feet wide;
- the side walls to be 7 feet high with four windows on the south side each 2 feet wide by 2 feet 8 inches high, with a chimney vent 5 feet wide. The house is to be sufficiently roofed and slated; the roof to have eleven couples and joists;

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118 SRO, Wigtown Presbytery Minutes CH 2/373/2 Penninghame Kirk, 21st January 1721.

119 OSA, xvii, 571.

120 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/6 School-house of Inch, 4th July 1771.
the joists to be 6 inches deep and 3 inches thick; the spars to be of the same dimensions; the baulks 4 inches deep and 2 inches thick; the masonry to be half dale and a freestone rigging. The door to be on the north side; each side wall to be 1 foot eight inches thick; the west gavel 2 feet thick; the east gavel 1 foot ten inches; the door and windows to be painted and the whole mason work to be of stone and lime. The whole inside to be plastered with sand and lime and the outside to be roughcast; the house to be furnished with writing tables and forms as in the plan. 121 Later in the same year there was 'a window added in the north-west corner for light to the desk of the schoolmaster'. 122

Buildings, which had been erected in an earlier period, were continually requiring to be repaired in walling and roofing. Some of the early school-houses, which had nothing but an earth floor, were dependent upon the generosity of the heritors giving paving stones, which had previously been reserved for the flooring of the schoolmaster's house only. These aspects may be seen in the extract concerning the school-houses at Kirkcowan, which was repaired in 1749:

121 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/6 School-house of Inch, 26th January 1777.
122 Ibid, 2nd December 1777.
Seven bolls of lime for pinning and roughcasting the house - 17: 6

Working the same and preparing the sand and paving the floor and thatching the roof 1: 2: 6 ' 123

Other buildings, which were in reasonable condition were enlarged in the late century as at Glenluce School-house, which was erected in 1741 124 and had a room added in 1791. 125

Schoolmasters' houses improved after the Schoolmasters' Act of 1802, which stipulated that they were to be provided by the heritors with a house, which need not contain more than two rooms, including the kitchen, and with ground for a garden of not less than a quarter of a Scots acre or two bolls of meal as its equivalent. At the beginning of the nineteenth century many of the older buildings, which were beyond repair, were therefore replaced with improved accommodation, for the ever growing numbers of children in certain thriving parishes and for the schoolmaster. At Kirkcolm for instance 'the original parish building was replaced in 1819 albeit in the usual parochial style'. 126 (see Plate 256) In 1845 the single storey building contained in the linear layout, the schoolmaster's residence

123 SRO, Wigtown CH 2/373/3 Kirkcowan School-house, 15th August 1749.

124 SRO, Stair Papers GD 135 Box 35 no. 34 Earl of Stair's proportion of the building the Kirk of Old Luce and of the building a new school-house, 1741.

125 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/7 Petition that the School-house of Glenluce may be enlarged and a room built for the accommodation of the minister between sermons, 30th March 1791.

126 NSA, iv, 121.
PLATE 256  SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
Kirkcolm

PLATE 257  CLACHANMORE SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
with crowstepped gabled fronts. Stonykirk
and the parochial school. The latter was divided into male and female departments. In this single storey structure as in the others, which were altered or built in the nineteenth century, porches were usually added later and the houses enlarged. (see Plates 257, 258)

It also became the custom that when it was possible to repair a single room school-house building it was enlarged and a dwelling-house built adjacent to it for the schoolmaster, who before the nineteenth century had no proper dwelling-house in several parishes as at Leswalt in 1804 when the presbytery met and then proceeded:

To mark off and design a garden and ground to build a dwelling-house for the schoolmaster. The school-house appearing to them at present commodious tho' it may perhaps require to be enlarged and furnished with table and seats and Mr McCrachan having pointed out the ground for that purpose in the immediate neighbourhood of the school-house and agreed that Sir Agnew shall fill up the gravels pit therein . . . .

An original single storey rectangular building 35 feet in length by 20 feet in breadth by 9 feet in height is shown on the plan of Cardrain, Kirkmaiden. (see Plates 259, 260) It contained the typical three gabled building as noted in the archives.

127 OSO, OSNE 2, Kirkcolm Parish School.

128 SRO, Stranraer CH 2/341/7 Leswalt School-house, 30th January 1804.
PLATE 258  SORIEE SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE

PLATE 260  CARDRAIN SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
            Kirkmaiden
CARDRAIN SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
AND SCHOOLHOUSE KIRKMAIDEN
MAP REF. NX129323
Drawn from RHP 4940/1

PLATE 259
The middle gable or central partition was only 15 inches thick and the end gables, which contained fireplaces, were 2 feet 3 inches thick. The building was divided into school-house 17 feet in length by 16 feet 6 inches in breadth and the schoolmaster's house/kitchen 12 feet 2 inches in length by 16 feet 6 inches in width. The central entrance door led directly into the school-house, which had one front and two rear windows each 4 feet 6 inches square. Entrance to the schoolmaster's room was by a door in the gable wall. The kitchen had a front and rear window each 4 feet 6 inches square. The plan shows the proposed addition of a room 13 feet 8 inches by 16 feet 6 inches to the schoolmaster's accommodation and a porch at the school-house entrance. Field study revealed that an additional room was built, but only with a lean-to roof and the porch was not embodied. The building is now used as a dwelling-house and the school-house room has been partitioned into a small entrance lobby and two bedrooms. The archives, concerning this building, show the usual materials and methods, which were employed in the nineteenth century, in the construction of these traditional plain buildings:

Rubble Building. Foundations to be laid with flat bedded stones as large as the quarry will provide ... The whole of the walls to be of good rubble work built in regular courses of 16 or 18 inches deep and solidly packed with small stones and mortar to be bound with a thorough-band stone in each square yard of wall ... The tenants in the neighbourhood to cart the stones.

Whinstone. All the whinstone to be good sound blue stone clear of chunks, and of as good quality as can be got in the neighbourhood.
Mortar. The mortar to be made of good Irish lime and sharp sand clear, having two barrels of sand to one barrel of lime well mixed together.

Corners. All the corners to be blue stone or granite, neatly hammer-dressed ...

Doors and Window Seats. To be built with blue stone or granite ...

Lintels. The outside doors and windows to have blue stone or granite lintels ...

Window Sills. To be Whitehaven freestone ...

Skewblocks, Skews and Ridges. To be Whitehaven freestone ...

Slaters. Roof to be covered in Lancashire Blue Peggy.

All the walls, ceilings, partitions, scuncheons, soffets and breasts of doors and windows etc. to have a hard finish with three coats of good hair plaster.

An excellent example of a T-plan school-house and schoolmaster's house was approved by the heritors in Glasserton and built in 1825, (see Plates 261, 262, 263, 264) The school consisted of one room 44 feet in length by 20 feet in breadth and 9 feet 6 inches in height, adjacent to the double pile one storey and attic dwelling-house, 38 feet in length by 25 feet in breadth and 11 feet in height.

129 SRO, KHP 4940/2 Specifications of Schoolmaster’s House at Cardrain, Kirkmalden, 11th March 1869.
GLASSERTON SCHOOLHOUSE AND
SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
MAP REF. NX403393
NLS. MONREITH PAPERS, DEPOSIT 231

PLATE 261
PLATE 262 Glasserton Schoolhouse and Schoolmaster's House

PLATE 263 Later Wing and Window Detail Glasserton Schoolhouse
PLATE 264  DETAIL OF TERRALLY TILED FORECOURT  
Classerton Schoolhouse

PLATE 265  KNOCK SCHOOLHOUSE  Classerton
This contained central lobby and staircase flanked by two front rooms each 19 feet in length by 12 feet in breadth and two rear rooms each 19 feet in length by 9 feet in breadth. The heritors made certain modifications to the original plan and decided on the elevation with three front windows 6 feet in width and 4 feet in height, each with a central stone mullion and hood moulding. They also altered the door position to point A. Each end wall was to have only one window of similar dimensions. The local rubble walling was to have a coping of freestone projecting 6 inches from the wall face and passing round the entire building. Quoines and chimney heads were to be of Ayrshire white freestone and the slates were Lancashire seconds. 130

Single storey school-houses and their associated schoolmasters' houses were erected as detached buildings in some parishes. The dwelling-houses were usually increased to one and a half or two storeys when alterations were carried out at a later period. The later school-house at Knock in Glasserton, (see Plate 265) however, still has an original single storey complex, which was used as the schoolmaster's house, to the rear of this building when it was built. At New Luce the old school-house was examined in 1864, and was found to be insufficient in accommodation. 131 The factor was directed to prepare a plan and specifications for a suitable three room school-house. The lowest offer was submitted by James McMillan, mason, Stranmaer, at an estimated one hundred and forty five pounds. 132

130 NLS, Maxwell of Monreith Papers Deposit 231, Specifications and plan of new dwelling-house and school at Glasserton, 3rd June 1824.
131 SRO, Heritors Records for New Luce, Minutes HR/606 New Luce Schoolhouse, 27th June 1864.
132 Ibid, 18th March 1865.
The school, built in 1870, has since been altered from this archival photograph. (see Plate 266) A typical one and a half storey house was also built in the same materials of local greywacke, freestone and granite quoins.

Ravenstone School-house at Classerton (see Plate 267) illustrates the development from the single rectangular building to the T-plan created by the addition of a wing. The NSA records that there was another school in the N.W. end of the parish of Classerton at Ravenstone in the year 1838 when the heritors erected a school-house and schoolmaster's house. The Earl of Stair granted the ground rent free for the purpose. It was originally a long narrow building consisting of one room 30 feet in length by 18 feet 2 inches in breadth. It had one door in the gable next to the road. The other gable had a fireplace in which peat was used and had an adjacent lean-to stable. In the 1870s a classroom wing 20 feet 6 inches in length by 17 feet 9 inches in breadth with fireplaces in the gable wall was hipped on to the N.E. side of the original building to form a T-plan. The old schoolroom was divided into two sections and larger windows 4 feet 2 inches wide and 6 feet in height were installed. The usual addition of a porch was carried out at the same time as the new entrance was made.

133 NSA, iv, 50.
134 Information supplied by Miss Jessie Kirk, West Drumrae, Classerton.
PLATE 266  NEW LUCE SCHOOLHOUSE

PLATE 267  RAVENSTONE SCHOOLHOUSE  Glasserton
Similar to the medium farmhouses the most prevalent type of layout of the parish school buildings is L-plan, which contains a one and a half or two storey dwelling-house and a single storey school wing. (see Plates 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273) The NSA denotes the increasing numbers of schools in the parishes. These consisted, along with the parish school or schools, various other types of adventure schools and others, belonging in the nineteenth century to religious groups outwith the Established Church. These schools were, however, mostly held in private houses and except for a few buildings erected by the Free Church (see Plate 236) they did not accord with the tradition of the parish school-houses and schoolmasters' houses.

An excellent example of an L-plan school complex is noted at Larbrax, Leswalt. (see Plates 274, 275) Sir Andrew Agnew of Lochnaw in 1842 considered that an additional school was much needed in the parish of Leswalt for the upper district. He and other heritors aided by a grant from the Rt. Hon. the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education resolved to establish a school in the said district to be called "The School of Larbrax". The cost of building the school-house and schoolmaster's house was one hundred and ninety nine pounds and five shillings, of which the government paid ninety pounds towards erecting the school.

135 NSA, iv, 75; 65; 190; 157; 20; 120; 215; 198; 128; 35; 166; 99; 7.

136 SRO, Agnew of Lochnaw Papers CD 154/606/1. Papers relating to the conveyance of the site of the School of Larbrax, 'Feu charter by Sir Andrew Agnew to the Trustees 28th November 1844'.
PLATE 268  ELDRIG SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
            Mochrum

PLATE 269  KIRKLAUCHLINE SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE
            Stoneykirk
PLATE 270  MULL SCHOOLHOUSE AND SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE  Kirkmaiden

PLATE 271  MALZIE SCHOOL COMPLEX  Kirkinner
LARBRAX SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE AND
SCHOOLHOUSE, LESWALT.
MAP REF. NX 976 605
RHP 3770

GROUND PLAN

ELEVATION

PLATE 274
PLATE 275  LATER TWO-STOREY SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE WITH ORIGIONAL SCHOOLHOUSE REAR WING  Larbrox, Leswalt

PLATE 280  18TH CENTURY SINGLE-STOREY HOUSES WITH DORMERS  St. John Street, Whithorn
John Fulton received twelve pounds five shillings and sixpence for quarrying the stones, and Andrew McCrea fifty six pounds thirteen shillings and sixpence for carrying out the building. The slate and the ridge stone received from Sir Andrew Agnew was seventeen pounds fifteen shillings and ninepence. 137

The plan of the school shows a porch, in the angle of the L-plan, which gives access to both school-house and schoolmaster's house. The school-house is 29 feet in length by 19 feet in breadth and 10 feet in height. It has the usual large fireplace in the gable wall. Two front windows and two rear windows are each 4 feet square with a central stone mullion, similar to Classerton. The schoolmaster's house is 30 feet in length by 20 feet in breadth and 10 feet in height. The house is equally divided by a partition wall 3 feet wide with three fireplaces. The entrance door leads directly into the parlour 16 feet in length by 12 feet in breadth. It has two windows and the one in the gable wall is a bay. A thin partition wall divides the other half into a bedroom 12 feet in length by 6 feet in breadth and a kitchen 12 feet by 10 feet, each lit by a window. A gable wall door in the kitchen leads to a wing containing scullery, W.C. and an extension with the offices of ash-pit and piggery.

As with most of the other single storey dwelling-houses, this has been altered at a later date. This particular building has been extended to two storeys and increased by 5 feet 9 inches in length by the addition of two gabletted fronts. The ground floor now contains entrance lobby and staircase, flanked by a through

parlour on the right, and living room and kitchen on the left. The first floor consists of three bedrooms, a storeroom and a
bathroom.

The centralisation policy for education was carried out in the
Machars and Rhinns from about 1935, and at the time this field
survey was carried out most of the rural school buildings had
ceased to function in their original role in the parishes. The
small single-teacher schools were of course the most vulnerable.
These parochial buildings have been allowed either to deteriorate
or to become private dwelling-houses or meeting halls. Larbrax
School, Leswalt, however, was occupied by the headmaster of
Kirkcolm School. New Luce School-house was still holding classes,
but was expecting closure in the near future. The feature of the
rural school is fast disappearing.

\[138\) TSA, 376.\]
CHAPTER 4

Towns and Villages
The principal function of the towns and villages in their peak period of vernacular building from the mid-eighteenth to mid-nineteenth century was to serve an agricultural area and to house people and the associated trades, chiefly engaged in agriculture. This role of the towns and villages is seen in the traditional buildings, which performed these necessary functions to varying degrees, in these predominantly residential areas and centres of communication. The population and their type of employment in the parish of Wigtown in the late eighteenth century is quoted to illustrate these points:
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<th>Category</th>
<th>1755</th>
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<th>Smiths</th>
<th>Masons</th>
<th>Carpenters</th>
<th>Weavers</th>
<th>Shoemakers</th>
<th>Tailors</th>
<th>Coopers</th>
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<th>Stocking weaver</th>
<th>Flax-dresser</th>
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N.B. Some of the above are not wholly employed in their own line, the fishermen only occasionally. 1

1 OSA, xiv, 486.
The traditional architecture is mainly found in houses, shops and inns and in some nineteenth century hotels and banks. The churches, manses and schools, in or near the towns and villages, have been surveyed in the previous chapter, and other buildings, which performed necessary services such as mills, smithies, tanneries and bridges are studied in the next chapter. The typical location and layout of these various buildings appropriate to the given examples of particular towns and villages may be noted on the accompanying Ordnance Survey 1:10560 Maps of the 1840s.

**Towns**

There is no large town or burgh in Wigtownshire and the growth and prosperity of the four small burghs of Whithorn, Wigtown, Stranraer and Newton Stewart are dependent upon the surrounding agricultural districts. These have governed the locations and layouts of the market towns, which held the weekly markets and annual fairs. In this section the origin, development, layout, architectural style and detail of the four settlements are surveyed. The early settlements of Whithorn, Wigtown and Stranraer grew around a combination of church/monastery, castle, harbour and river. In the two oldest burghs of Whithorn O.S. 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1849)\(^2\) (see Plate 276) and Wigtown O.S. 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1846/48)\(^3\) (see Plate 278) the layouts show the typical contained medieval town-plan with the irregular building line of the single-street system and its market area widening

\(^2\) NLS, Wigtownshire Sheet 34.

\(^3\) Ibid, Sheet 20.
at the Square and Tolbooth. This is flanked by strip-like plots extending backwards to the boundary. There are also subsidiary streets at right angles to the main thoroughfare and minor roads approaching the ports at each end. The layout of Stranraer O.S. 1:10560, 1849 (surveyed 1847) would indicate that this is a medieval settlement and market, similar, as is observed, in many aspects to Whithorn and Wigtown in its central single-street plan for holding the markets. It is, however, lacking the true features of containment and enclosure of boundaries and ports, which are the essence of the medieval market-town plans of the other two burghs. Newton Stewart was developed and laid out because of its position on the main lines of communication in the late eighteenth century and is therefore a much more recent market-town. It is also basically the one long thoroughfare with an irregular building line as is featured in its layout O.S. 1:10560, 1847 (surveyed 1846) (see Plate 277).

Whithorn

The town is mentioned by Ptolemy in the first half of the second century as a settlement of the Novantae and the site must have been occupied earlier. Christianity reached this area at a very early date, from the end of the fourth century. From the

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4 NLS, Wigtownshire Sheet 16.
5 Ibid, Sheet 13.
6 Groome, op. cit., vi, 495.
7 William C. Dickinson, A New History of Scotland (Edinburgh 1961) i, 43.
twelfth century pilgrimages were made to Whithorn in association with St. Ninian. Whithorn Priory was founded by Fergus, Lord of Galloway, and David I established the seat of an Episcopal See at Whithorn in 1138. The Act of 1581, however, put an end to pilgrimages and this caused a loss of prosperity to the town, which was constituted a Royal Burgh by James IV in 1511, and among the early burghs it is the only one, which can point to a surviving charter of erection in 1382. From the sixteenth century until the eighteenth it also appears to have declined in regard to its markets and fairs, in its capacity as the centre of the agricultural area of the Machers. For instance in the seventeenth century Symson records:

Their market day is on Saturday, but it is not at all frequented. It is a towne of little or no trade at present, although of old it was a towne of great trade and resort. They have a very advantageous port belonging to them called the Isle of Whitherne . . .

In the eighteenth century Bishop Pococke states that the town was comprised mostly of farmers and a few tradesmen and manufacturers of wool and linen for home consumption. In this period the Old Statistical Account describes the burgh as consisting:


9 Symson, op. cit., 45.

10 Pococke, op. cit., 17.
... chiefly of one street, running from north to south. From this street there are several alleys stretching to the east and to the west. About the centre of the town there is a good hall for public meetings, adorned with a spire and turrets and provided with a set of bells. A beautiful stream of water, over which there is a good bridge, runs across the main street, dividing it neatly into two equal parts. The houses are generally covered with slates, and made very commodious ...''

The main improvements and changes, however, were effected from the beginning of the nineteenth century according to the New Statistical Account:

The town house and gaol were removed about twenty years ago from the middle of the street, where they formerly stood and are now erected on the west side of the street, about the centre of the town and ornamented with a steeple. The dwelling houses have been much improved since the termination of the war with France, many old ones having been pulled down and new ones erected on the same site ...''

11 OSA, xvi, 276.
12 NSA, iv, 54.
Although there was still room for improvement in the later part of the century the progress of the town had already been and continued to be great in that direction. Fraser considered that the present dwellings 'contrasted very favourably with the low peat-smoked rooms, ill accommodation, thatched roofs, mud floors, and miniature windows of the habitations of former times'.

The early nineteenth century plan of the burgh of Whithorn (see Plate 276) shows the single thoroughfare running from north to south. Since this period the burgh has extended along this direction. The vernacular is, however, contained within the former area which is basically composed of three streets. At the north end is St. John Street in which the best of the traditional houses are of single storey, dating from the late eighteenth century. (see Plate 280) This street leads into George Street, the former 'Main Street' through the 'East Port'. At the south High Street is the road which comes up to the 'West Port' at the other end. The cross houses projecting at the two ports emphasise the width, varying in places, of George Street. The West Port is closed by the gable end of the 'Star Inn', which is built in the style of a two-storey town house, (see Plate 281) and the front of a single-storey cross house. There are mainly groups of single-storey houses on the west side of George Street at right angles to the cross house. (see Plate 282) These are probably of eighteenth century origin, as one of this group is dated 1786, as are the similar houses in High Street and St. John Street.

13 Gordon Fraser, Sketches and Anecdotes of Wigtown and Whithorn (Wigtown 1877) 87.
PLATE 281  TWO STOREY INN CLOSING WEST PORT  
George Street, Whithorn

PLATE 282  18th CENTURY SINGLE STOREY HOUSES  
George Street, Whithorn
It is most likely that the two-storey houses in these streets were constructed, however, in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. On the west side of the main street there are now mainly two-storey houses. (see Plates 283, 284) On field study it was discovered that, at the rear of these later houses, some earlier single-storey dwellings are still extant. The position of these houses illustrates that the street was even wider than at present. (see Plate 285) Behind the houses, at right angles to the street, are found the long 'rigs' observed on the plan of the original market-town and burgh.

The interesting aspect of the layout of George Street is that, although the groups of buildings or individual buildings may vary in height and detail, there is a sense of proportion maintained in the long street. The single-storey houses are similar to the cottages to be found in rows associated with the farmsteadings and in the rural villages with doorways flanked by windows on either side. The smaller units have often these irregularly shaped and asymmetrically positioned. The elevation of the two-storey houses is usually symmetrical with central door and two windows on the ground floor and three windows on the first floor.

The burgh is predominantly a residential area for local farm workers and therefore the buildings are primarily houses. The shops are mainly found on the west side of George Street. (see Plate 284) These and other buildings, such as the hotels, still preserve the traditional character of the street. An excellent group of two-storey buildings are noted at the Pend archway (see Plate 286) on the east side, and the road leading to the Priory has a two-storey structure dated 1730, which is now the Museum but was
PLATE 283 18th AND EARLY 19TH CENTURY TWO STOREY HOUSES
George Street, Whithorn

PLATE 284 18th AND EARLY 19TH CENTURY TRADITIONAL TWO STOREY
HOUSES AND SHOPS George Street, Whithorn
PLATE 285  EARLY SINGLE STOREY DWELLING AT REAR OF LATER HOUSES  George Street, Whithorn

PLATE 286  THE PEND ARCHWAY TO PRIORY WITH DWELLING HOUSES ABOVE  George Street, Whithorn
once the school. (see Plate 287) The Town Hall, built in 1814, is a two-storey building with symmetrical front and centre doorway with a rounded arch. The hall at the rear has a steeple.

In the town of Whithorn the traditional buildings, noted particularly in the main street, are in roughly coursed stone, either exposed or rendered in cement. Details such as window and door surrounds, quoins and string coursing are usually rendered, but are sometimes in stone or granite. The walling is emphasised by the variety and strength of colours such as red, blue and yellow ochre intermixed with natural stone, and white and cream. The colouring is applied to stone or plaster and in some instances slates are also covered. The aforementioned architectural details are picked out in a contrasting shade, and with exposed walling this characteristic feature is also embodied. Occasionally the two-storey buildings have the addition to the frontage of steps to their doorways and the classical embellishments of cornices and columns surrounding house doorways and also windows in other types of buildings.

Wigtown

This site of the burgh was used as a settlement in the period of the Vikings from the eighth to the eleventh century. The name is derived either from wic 'a village' and ton 'a hill'; or from wic 'a bay' and ton 'a town', derivations which are both supported by the actual position of the town. At Wigtown is the site of

14 Groome, op. cit., vi, 491.
PLATE 287  18th CENTURY SCHOOL NOW MUSEUM  Bruce Street,
Whithorn

PLATE 288  VICTOWN IN THE 19th CENTURY
a monastery founded in 1264 for Dominican Friars and a castle was also
built probably in the thirteenth century. The Royal Burgh was
originally a baronial burgh, whose emergence conforms to the normal
pattern of linked castle, burgh and sheriffdom, and it was created
a Royal Burgh probably about 1341 when the Shire was formed.

Symson writing the earliest detailed account of it in the seven¬
teenth century describes it:

... a toun of small tradeing; their market day
is Monday, but it is not frequented. However they have
four yearly faires, which are considerable ... 
The town is indifferently well built with pretty good
houses, three storey high toward the street, especially
on the north side. The street is very broad and large.
The parish kirk stands a little without the east part.
The Tolbooth standing near the middle of the town is
lately beautified with a pyrames erected upon a square
platforme, upon the top of the steiple set around with
pylasters ... . 16

In the late eighteenth century the Main Street contained the
original settlement, which is recounted by the contemporary writer
Robinson in the nineteenth century, during which Wigtown entered its
most prosperous period, when the population was at its peak:

15 T.D. C.N.H.A.S. Pryde 'The Burghs of Dumfriesshire and Galloway',
92.
16 Symson, op. cit., 35-6.
The marvellous transformation of the town must not be forgotten. When I became first acquainted with it in the last ten years of the last century, the greatest number of houses were of a homely character, thatched and one-storey high having a midden in front of the ample street. The main street was a parallelogram say in a roughway of 90 yards wide by 200 yards in length and 30 yards broad. It was paved with large land stones . . . at the east end stood the court and market house . . . 17

The burgh is presented in the pre-improvement period, therefore, as having many of the houses as low single-storey thatched buildings, although it is observed that there were some even in the seventeenth century as being from two to three storeys in height, which flanked the Square in the traditional medieval layout. In the beginning of the nineteenth century the town of Wigtown had by 1839 undergone great improvements within the last twenty years. 18 Many of the County Buildings and new houses had been built in the Square and a large space in the middle of this, which is wide in comparison with the original centres of Whithorn, was enclosed and planted. The road leading to the town from the north and Agnew Crescent were constructed. (see Plate 278) The former Ports were formed as in Whithorn and stretched across the main street from both sides.

17 Robinson, op. cit., 69-70.
18 NSA, iv, 6.
In the late nineteenth century one of these projecting houses still stood at the site of the West Port and was 'anything but ornamental'. The Town Council had taken down the actual Ports a hundred years before.  

The 'Square' now has three sides formed by the terrace of North Main Street, the original Tolbooth and now the County Buildings in the east side and the terrace of South Main Street. (see Plates 268, 269)  

The Square is mainly residential with a few shops, inns and hotels, which maintain the character of the houses and the street, as they have similar two or three storey elevations and are contained in the terraces with their sense of enclosure. The architectural style of the buildings is on an ampler scale than is presented in Whithorn and has a more definite Georgian Classical element found in window surrounds and in columned porticos. (see Plate 290)  

The buildings are constructed in local stone, which is either left exposed, painted or rendered with cement as noted in Whithorn, but when coloured it is not presented with such strength, nor is the elevational detailing carried out to such a degree in contrasting shades, although some facades are presented in the traditional manner.  

Vernacular buildings in other streets such as the High Street are mainly in a poor condition, but a few fine traditional single-storey and two-storey houses with steps to the doorways still remain, and as in this instance are pleasingly set in a group. (see Plate 291) Doorways to the street, which lead to feus at the rear are noted in these and other buildings. (see Plates 292, 293)  

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19 Fraser, op. cit., 'Sketches', 34.
PLATE 289  THE SQUARE, WIGTOWN IN THE 19th CENTURY

PLATE 290  GEORGIAN ELEMENTS IN FACADE OF TWO STOREY BUILDINGS
Main Street, Wigtown
PLATE 291  TRADITIONAL SINGLE AND TWO STOREY GROUP WITH STEPS  
High Street, Wigtown

PLATE 292  HOUSE WITH ENTRANCE GIVING ACCESS TO REAR FEU  
Bank Street, Wigtown
PLATE 293
HOUSE WITH PORTICO
ENTRANCE GIVING ACCESS
TO REAR FEU
Main Street, Wigtown

PLATE 294  TRADITIONAL 19th CENTURY HOUSES  Agnew Crescent, Wigtown
This feature is also noted in the nineteenth century houses of Agnew Crescent. (see Plates 294, 295) The inclusion of the archival photograph illustrates how well the vernacular elements have been maintained.

**Stranraer**

The street plan of the town centre (see Plate 279) gives an idea of the original settlement of which there is no record. The early inhabitants of Galloway, the Novantae did, however, have a settlement on Loch Ryan at Innemessan, which was according to Symson 'the most considerable place in the Rinds of Galloway and the greatest town thereabouts, till Stranraer was built'. The siting of the Chapel in 1484 on the south side of the main street and later the Castle adjoining is typical of an early settlement layout. In 1596 it was created a burgh of barony and in 1617 was granted a charter as a Royal Burgh. One interpretation of the place name, which is the row of houses divided by the Strand, might indicate that there were houses on one or two sides of the stream.

Pococke described Stranraer in the mid-eighteenth century as a small neat town with an old castle in it. The inhabitants lived chiefly by the herring fishery and used boats of deals. They also manufactured flannel blankets and frieze for their own use.

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20 Quoted in Pryde, op. cit., 94.

21 Pococke, op. cit., 11.
PLATE 295  TRADITIONAL 19th CENTURY HOUSES
Agnew Crescent, Wigtown

PLATE 296  18th CENTURY TOWN HALL  Stranraer
In the late eighteenth century the town was still divided by
the stream in South and North Strand Streets, over which there were
several stone bridges. Many new houses were built and the Town
Centre acquired the Town House (see Plate 296) and the Prison, which
was erected at the Castle. In 1839 the writer of the New
Statistical Account records that 'a great many new houses have been
built since the previous account'.

In the late nineteenth century, however, Stranraer still had
small clachans, on its outskirts, which contained houses, illustra-
tive of the earlier dwellings, of which this and other Wigtownshire
towns would be composed and these are described by McIlwraith:

Leaving Stranraer by way of Sun Street and Glebe
Street, we proceed in a southern direction through a
little clachan familiarly known as Foulford. Let it
be noted that though most of the houses are snug and
comfortable looking they are very literally 'auld clay
biggins'. Their walls are of clay mixed with a little
chopped straw and stones, while the roofs and chimneys
are of straw. There are, perhaps few burghs, which
like Stranraer can boast of having clay-built cots
among their tenements.'

22 OSA, i, 359.
23 NSA, iv, 101.
24 McIlwraith, op. cit., 123.
Stranraer is now the largest burgh and settlement in Wigtownshire and compared to the other burghs has grown greatly since it was surveyed and reported upon in 1847. Extracts from the reports, which describe the town streets and buildings of the map \(^{25}\) show the town, when vernacular building was reaching its peak in the thriving burgh, which owed its rise to its advantageous situation for communications and services, was becoming an integral part of the economy and social life of the farming community. In George Street on each side the houses were mainly two-storey and several were three-storey. There were five public houses besides the George Hotel, the Kings Hotel and the Commercial Inn. There were also several cloth shops, grocers' shops and provision shops. The owners of the premises occupied these types of houses in this and other streets such as King Street. In some streets such as the High Street, South Strand, Queen Street, Princes Street and Green Vale Street, there were mainly single and two-storey houses with a few shops. The single-storey dwellings were thatched at this period, and the two-storey were slated. In streets occupied mainly by labourers there were mostly single-storey thatched houses as in Mill Street, Little Ireland Street, Fisher's Street, Cowan's Close and Neptune Street. In Harbour Street there were but a few houses from one to two storeys in height, occupied by labourers and mechanics and an excellent two-storey Custom House. (see Plate 297) All types of buildings were constructed at this stage in development in Stranraer such as churches, manses, schools, smithies, tanneries and mills.

\(^{25}\) OSO, OSNB, 35, Stranraer 1847.
PLATE 297  ON THE SEAFRONT IN THE 19th CENTURY
Stranraer

PLATE 298  TWO STOREY SYMMETRICAL HOUSE WITH MOULDED DOORWAY  Stranraer
In those buildings, which are extant, the traditional materials, style and details are used in the individual structures or groups. The traditional greywacke is left natural or painted in strong colours with or without rendering. The elevational details have contrasting shades. The regional characteristic of porches for manses are reduced in the urban area to moulded doorways or porticos in the classical interpretation of local masons. (see Plates 298, 299) These features are also noted in rows of terraced houses of the cottage type built in the 1820s and occasionally in the rows in the town, in houses and shops. (see Plates 300, 301)

The vernacular style is predominant in the types of buildings and streets, which remain in this centre of Stranraer of the 1840s. The single and two-storey buildings with the narrow plots are evident in the irregular street layout. (see Plate 302) The houses which were described as being in the shopping centre of George Street and the main adjacent streets are placed above the shops, and this is a strong characteristic of Stranraer. (see Plate 303) As the commercial importance of the burgh has increased for the whole of Wigtownshire more houses are taken over and the residential character of the burgh centre is being eroded.

**Newton Stewart**

The foundation of Newton Stewart as a burgh is of much more recent origin compared to Whithorn, Wigtown and Stranraer. Pryde considers that it was the most successful of the consciously 'planned' new towns of south western history. This terminology of course refers
PLATE 299  TWO STOREY SYMMETRICAL HOUSE WITH PORTICO  Stranraer

PLATE 300  COTTAGE WITH PORTICO  Stranraer
PLATE 301  DOORWAY WITH ENTABLATURE AND PILASTERS
Church Street, Stranraer

PLATE 302  'DEPARTURE OF DRUMORE MAILCOACH'
Charlotte Street, Stranraer
PLATE 303
TRADITIONAL TWO
STOREY HOUSE AND
SHOP Stranraer

PLATE 304
EARLY 19th CENTURY
TOWN HALL AND
CLOCK TOWER
Newton Stewart
to 'plan' as an idea not in the sense of a regular planned town. It emerged in 1677:

On 1 July of that year William Stewart, fourth son of James Earl of Galloway had the barony of Kilcreuchie in Penninghame parish, Wigtownshire re-erected as his barony of Castlestewart, while the village, hitherto called Fordhouse of Cree became the burgh of barony of Newton Stewart with its Friday market and fully detailed privileges.'

The proprietor initially 'built a house or two at his own expense in order to begin it'. It was, however, not until after 1777 when the original church of Penninghame was built that the greater part of the town developed. The growth of the burgh was considered and described as 'ever increasing'. At the close of the eighteenth century all of the houses were thatched and most of them had only one storey, but by the nineteenth century, according to Groome, more than half of them were slated with two storeys. The increasing growth and importance of the town was due to its situation on the main lines of communication, which was reinforced by the building of the first bridge over the River Cree at Minnigaff in 1745. It was destroyed by flood in 1806. This was replaced

26 Quoted in Pryde, op. cit., 115.
27 OSA, iii, 341.
28 Ibid.
29 Croome, op. cit., v, 113.
by the five-arch bridge, designed by Rennie, constructed of local granite and erected in 1813. 

At the end of the eighteenth century the project for a cotton spinning factory failed as did other industries, which were attempted to be set up but fell into disuse. The traditional wool trade, however, took up the factory idea, which resulted in the establishment of the Cree Mills. The earlier buildings of the cotton factory were used as building material for cottages and farmhouses when the factory was purchased by Lord Carlies in 1826. The town is principally a market town and centre of communication, and ranks second only to Stranraer as a focal area.

The burgh consists mainly of one long thoroughfare, irregularly planned, running parallel to the River Cree in a north to south direction. From this principal roadway, streets and lanes lie to the west, and to the east a few lanes approach the river. Where the lie of the land permits, especially to the west, there are long narrow feus, reminiscent of the older burghs. (see Plate 277)

The sense of enclosure is present to a certain extent in Newton Stewart. At the north end the early nineteenth century Town Hall and clock tower, designed by Richard Park of Newton Stewart (see Plates 304, 305) projects into the main street, which is wider in the immediate area beyond it in comparison to the remainder of the thoroughfare. This is narrowed at the south end by the projection of a shop. The main vernacular as in the other towns is concerned with houses, shops, inns, hotels and banks. Some early eighteenth

30 Groome, op. cit., v,

31 Ibid, 112-3
PLATE 305  VICTORIA STREET IN THE EARLY 1900s
Newton Stewart

PLATE 306  SINGLE STOREY HOUSES  Newton Stewart
century houses, especially to the north of the principal street, have been removed as they were beyond repair. There are, however, a few excellent single-storey houses with one or two window fronts and doorways which still remain. (see Plate 306) The traditional two-storey frontage is observed in the main centre of the town, Victoria Street, which is the shopping centre. The residential character of the burghs is again in evidence here with houses, and shops. The former are noted to be traditionally situated above the shop, when seen as a unit. Inns, hotels and banks also present a two-storey frontage to the street. (see Plates 307, 308) At the south end of the thoroughfare is Queen Street, which contains single-storey houses and some two-storey house and shop units. In this section there are also some excellent traditional inns of early origin.

The walling materials used in late eighteenth century vernacular buildings are the local greywacke and granite, which are treated in the method described in the first chapter. \(^{32}\) The exposed stone is noted in large blocks, which are roughly brought to courses and is snecked with irregular interstices. (see Plate 309) Granite is the principal walling material used in the later nineteenth century buildings. Here it is properly coursed with large squared blocks with the use of regular interstices for snecking. (see Plate 310) The traditional method of strong colours is also used directly painted on to the stonework or rendered with cement with the elevational details in contrasting shades. The use of classical mouldings with columned porticos are also occasionally observed on the frontages as in the other towns.

\(^{32}\) See above p. 6.
PLATE 307 TRADITIONAL TWO STOREY BUILDINGS
Newton Stewart

PLATE 308 TRADITIONAL TWO STOREY BUILDING with Georgian Classical details, Newton Stewart
PLATE 309 WALLING MATERIAL. Large blocks with irregular snecking. Newton Stewart

PLATE 310 WALLING MATERIAL. Large squared blocks with regular snecking. Newton Stewart
Villages

The paucity of villages was and still is one of the special features of Scottish land-use and Wigtownshire is no exception to the rule. It was not until after the mid-eighteenth century that villages in common with the rest of Scotland were developed or planned in this area by the landowners. Details in regard to development, layout and building of the villages in the mid-eighteenth to mid-nineteenth centuries, which was their peak period of construction, are found mainly in the OSA and NSA. These and other sources are substantiated by the aforementioned O.S. maps and reports of the 1840s. In this section the coastal and inland villages are surveyed in general and some particularly relevant examples are given.

Several coastal villages were developed around early fishing and/or trading settlements in sheltered bays. These were improved in this period with the building of quays, piers, stores and inns as were the coastal towns. The principal type of village, however, appears to have been reconstructed around rural kirkton settlements or clachans as in the following. Kirkcowan (see Plates 311, 312, 313) 'the population of a village at the church had considerably increased by the end of the eighteenth century'. With the setting up of rural industries, more houses were built when

33 Patrick Nuttgens, 'Settlements and Architecture of the North East Lowlands of Scotland' Ph.D. unpublished thesis (Edinburgh 1959); 'See above p. 15'

34 J.M. Houston, 'Village Planning in Scotland, 1745-1845' Advancement of Science, v (1948-49)

35 OSA, xx, 189.
PLATE 311 LARGE GRANITE BLOCKS IN WALLING STRUCTURE
Kirkcowan

PLATE 312 CRAICHLAW ARMS, EARLY 19th CENTURY INN
Kirkcowan
PLATE 313  AERIAL VIEW, KIRKCONAN

PLATE 314  MILLWORKERS' HOUSES  Eldrig, Mochrum
'the woollen mills were established near the village in 1822 and more houses were built and by 1838 the population had reached a total of 549'.

Leswalt is not mentioned as a village in either of the Statistical Accounts, but it did have an early clachan around the old parish kirk and the new church at Leswalt built in 1828 is referred to as 'being in a very convenient situation for the parishioners'.

The villages of Eldrig and Mochrum, in the parish of the latter name, are not mentioned as villages in the OSA, but both had been developed by 1839, and Mochrum most certainly had a clachan or kirktoun settlement around the church in an earlier period. It is possible that Eldrig arose around an earlier milltoun settlement, and with the aforementioned Kirkcowan it was one of the few villages, which had rural industries established on a somewhat larger scale than was customary in the region. (see Plates 314, 315)

Stoneykirk in 1839 is described as 'the little village beside the church with a population of 72' and Glenluce, Old Luce, was typical of the lapsed burghs around a kirk and main route which were revitalised in this period to village status. 'It contained only two or three families in 1732 and by 1795 grown to maintain forty families.'

The higher part of Main Street had traditional single-storey two-room thatched cottages in rows with the occasional one altered to one and a half storey. (see Plate 316)

36 NSA, iv, 198.
37 Ibid, 127.
38 Ibid, 121.
39 OSA, xiv, 496.
PLATE 315 MILLWORKERS' TWO STOREY HOUSES
Eldrig, Mochrum

PLATE 316 HIGH MAIN STREET Traditional houses.
Glenluce, Old Luce
The later lower part of Main Street has traditional two and three storey shops and houses. It has a few shop/house units with gables to the street and remains basically unaltered as in the archival photograph. (see Plates 317, 318)

The scattered layout of the single storey houses of the diverse settlements situated around focal points is seen from the plans to have altered to rows of one and/or two storey buildings usually facing each other along a meandering thoroughfare in an informal layout with subsidiary streets or lanes leading back from the main street.

The ground plans and elevation of the houses, shops and inns are similar to those in the towns. Doors open directly on to track or pavement as observed in the early photographs. The dwellings have no front gardens, unlike English village houses, except in villages which were built to house estate workers as noted in Ardwell, Stoney-kirk, (see Plate 319) Glasserton (see Plate 320) Castle Kennedy, Inch (see Plates 321, 322) and Erashead, Kirkinner (see Plate 323). There are normally long strips of garden to the rear as in the towns. Archival sources reveal that the landowners specified the type of houses that were to be built and the materials that were to be used as they did in the other building types over which they had control. Those who were encouraged by the feu and the generous 'rigs' of land to the rear of the houses, therefore, had to build the houses with the local material that was available. Special emphasis was laid on the slating of houses, which resulted in the rejection of local thatching and many of the reconstructed or newly built houses were slated. The village of Bladenoch, Wigtown (see Plate 324) in the late eighteenth century had:
PLATE 317  MAIN STREET  Traditional two and three storey Shop and House units.  Glenluce, Old Luce

PLATE 318  MODERN INTERPRETATION OF TRADITIONAL LOCAL STONWORK  Glenluce, Old Luce
PLATE 319 ARDWELL VILLAGE Stoneykirk

PLATE 320 GLASSERTON VILLAGE
PLATE 321  ESTATE WORKERS' HOUSES  Castle Kennedy, Inch

PLATE 322  ESTATE WORKERS' EARLIER HOUSES  with open porches.  Castle Kennedy, Inch
PLATE 323  TWO STOREY SYMMETRICAL WORKERS' HOUSES with angled chimney stacks through ridge, Braehead, Kirkinner

PLATE 324  BLADENOCH VILLAGE  Wigtown
... only 10 or 12 thatched houses on both sides of the road tenanted by the labouring classes. There was a public house at the south end of the Old Bridge...

By the end of the nineteenth century with the building of the Distillery the village was then described as 'a large village composed of one or two storey neat slated houses'.

Other villages were built where none had existed before as at Kirkcolm in 1790:

Till within these three years there was not a vestige of a village in the parish, but since about that time about 30 houses, contiguous to each other have been built.'

The following extract taken from the OSA of the parish of Leswalt is quoted to illustrate the point made that feuars were encouraged to take up residence in the developing settlements by the landowners:

In 1766 there were 18 houses in Clayhole and now (1792) there are about 50. There is a recent passion for taking feu in the village. (Man is still alive who built the first house in it) The other village is Hillhead... Mr Vans Agnew lets out in small lots.

40 Gordon Fraser Sketches, 240-1.
41 Ibid.
42 OSA, iii, 47.
for building houses on an easy feu duty at 3d a foot in front of a house and allows 100 feet behind the house for garden ground. Such as choose to slate their houses are exempted from feu duty for four years and this has encouraged many to make use of slate. The inhabitants of the village are generally tradesmen, sailors and labourers. 43

The village of New Luce, in the valley of the River Luce, is a typical example of the development, layout and buildings of the most prevalent type of inland rural clachan of the kirktoun type of settlement found in Wigtownshire, which was developed or planned as a village. It is mentioned in the OSA of about 1790 that 'the population of 72 live in the village adjoining to the church'. 44 'This has increased to 180 in 1839; some of the people being labourers and some tradesmen employed by the country people in the neighbourhood.' 45 The map of New Luce OS 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1848-9) 46 (see Plate 325) is supported by the evidence of a plan and index on the village carried out by a surveyor for the Stair Estates 47 which was responsible for the planning. These records refer to the typical early scattered layout of the former settlement

43 OSA, iii, 321.
44 OSA, xii, 584.
45 NSA, iv, 79.
46 NLS, Wigtownshire, Sheet 11.
47 SRO, RHP 4520/1 Plan of New Luce Village 1840 and RHP 4520/2 Index to Plan
noted in the vicinity of the kirk, manse and school as the 'Old Clachan' with 'the Clebe Lands' lying to the east of the clachan. The irregular linear layout of the 'New Clachan' lies to the north of the Cross Water. The long 'rigs' of the houses extend to the bank of the Main Water. The houses are numbered starting from the south and increase to the north. The occupations of the tenants are given. In the Old Clachan and the Clebe Lands the people were mainly employed as labourers and stonedykers. There were also a blacksmith, baker, grocer and tea dealer in the Old Clachan. In the New Clachan in addition to the tenants with the aforementioned occupations there was a shoemaker, a cattle dealer and three grocers and spirit dealers with their places of business. (see Plates 329, 330) The village has changed very little and the population as in many other villages of this type has either decreased or remained static and therefore many of the traditional buildings are basically unaltered in the New Clachan.

There are several interesting coastal villages in Wigtownshire. The Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn, was in existence in the seventeenth century. As is customary the layout of the village follows the natural line of the harbour area with one and two storey buildings erected on both sides of an axial main street. Traditional houses are built into the actual wall of the harbour. (see Plate 331) Facing these are other dwellings, some of which are in the process of alteration. The sea boulder stones, formerly used as the walling material in coastal regions, and the method of construction may therefore be studied. (see Plates 332, 333, 334)

47 'See above p. 176'
PLATE 351 COTTAGES BUILT IN HARBOUR WALL
Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn

PLATE 352 TWO STOREY COTTAGES with entrance to rear feus.
Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn
PLATE 333  ROW OF HOUSES ON HARBOUR FRONT  Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn

PLATE 334  SPLIT SEA BOULDERS AND BUILDING METHOD
Portpatrick was also functioning in the seventeenth century as it was the nearest point of communication to Ireland. About 1770 there were not more than ten or twelve houses, but Sir James Hunter Blair was responsible from that period for the building momentum and caused the almost entirely new town to be built of local stone. The original natural curvilinear layout of the village was extended northwards. More houses, shops and inns were required to accommodate villages and travellers. (see Plate 335) By the 1840s the village had developed an irregular grid layout with subsidiary streets:

Along the line of the turnpike road the newest street extends for about 350 yards down to the harbour opening nearly on the centre of the basin and passing on its right the church manse and churchyard. Another street nearly equally divided by the former and built with a slight curve looks on to the harbour. A few other small streets fill up the angles formed by these. The whole appearance of the place when it is viewed from the heights of the south side or from the sea suggests the idea of a town built in a large quarry, a considerable space of ground on the north side being occupied as a hewing field for the harbour works.'

49 Symson, op. cit., 92.
50 OSA, iii, 143.
51 OSO, OSNB 53, Portpatrick 1847.
52 NSA, iv, 132.
PLATE 335 PORTPATRICK FROM THE WEST 1907

PLATE 336 SINGLE STOREY FORMER TOLL HOUSE Cottage with apsidal end. Main Street, Portpatrick
The character of the village is still maintained as seen in the traditional one and two storey houses and excellent two to three storey inns in the curvilinear streets. The latter effect is particularly accentuated with the addition of apsidal tollhouse features in Main Street (see Plate 336) and Holm Street (see Plate 337). Occasionally, in the smaller side streets, the typical two-room single storey labourer's house with steps to the doorway, noted in coastal burghs may be found. (see Plate 7)

Cairnryan, Inch, is an interesting example of a small sheltered harbour with a fishing settlement. It is mentioned in the OSA as 'the only considerable village in Inch' and had at that period a total population of 130. The archival photographs (see Plates 338, 339) show the typical irregular layout and building line of the village, which is situated along the main road entering from the north. The traditional two-room single storey cottages with thatched roofs were either detached or built in rows along with two storey structures.

The typical small windows and doors of the early buildings have been replaced with apertures of larger scale and the roofs have been slated, as was customary with the improvements in buildings in general. The layouts of the cottages, however, are often unaltered.

Drumore and Port Logan OS 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1848) (see Plate 326) were two small fishing settlements in the parish of Kirkmaiden which were described as villages in the mid-nineteenth century.

53 OSA, iii, 130.
54 Ibid.
55 NLS, Wigtownshire, Sheet 31.
56 NSA, iv, 200.
PLATE 337  COMMERCIAL HOTEL WITH APSIDAL END
Home Street, Portpatrick

PLATE 338  CAIRNRYAN VILLAGE  Inch
PLATE 339 CAIRNRYAN VILLAGE AND HARBOUR AREA

Inch

PLATE 340 PORT LOGAN VILLAGE Traditional houses behind Main Street, Kirkmaiden
Port Logan was reconstructed as an estate village by Colonel Andrew McDouall and the layout of the village consists of one principal main thoroughfare and a short parallel lane set back from the gently curving shore line of Logan Bay. (see Plate 340) Drumore developed on a larger scale. The fishing harbour was also used for trading and is referred to as a place for importing coal and goods and exporting cheese and grain. The buildings therefore in Mill Street are also on a larger scale than in a purely fishing harbour. (see Plate 341) The rows of single storey houses on the old fishing area, however, signify that this was the original building line of the fishing settlement. (see Plate 342)

The map of Port William, Mochrum, OS 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1848) 57 (see Plate 327) illustrates the straight line of neat terraced cottages in the planned layout. (see Plates 343, 344, 345)

The OSA in the 1790s states:

At Port William stands a neat small village of the same name, which was founded by Sir William Maxwell of Monreith about twenty years ago in honour of whom it was named. It consists mostly of one row of low houses, well built covered with slate and fronting to the sea. The inhabitants of every description are about 210.' 58

57 NLS, Wigtownshire, Sheet 29.
58 OSA, xvii, 561.
PLATE 341 HOUSES AND SHOPS Mill Street, Drumore, Kirkmaiden

PLATE 342 TRADITIONAL HOUSES Shore Street, Drumore, Kirkmaiden
PLATE 343 SINGLE STOREY HOUSE Two gables with chimneys to street. Main Street, Portwilliam, Mochrum

PLATE 344 SINGLE STOREY HOUSE with basement and steps to front door. Portwilliam, Mochrum
PLATE 345  FORMER PICSTY IN REAR GARDEN  Portwilliam, Mochrum

PLATE 346  THE NORTH CRESCENT  Carlieston, Sorbie
As it was the only port on the west of the Machers it flourished as a small trading port and fishing harbour and in 1788 a small barrack house was erected to accommodate the military and custom house officers. 59

Sorbie and Carlieston villages in the parish of Sorbie were both founded by Lord Garlies about 1770. The OSA records that by the 1790s there were nine new houses in Sorbie and thirty four new houses in Carlieston. 60 The latter village is given as the finest example in Wigtownshire of a planned village. The map OS 1:10560, 1850 (surveyed 1848-9) 61 (see Plate 328) shows the crescent layout of neat regular two storey buildings of vernacular structure curving round the bay. (see Plates 346, 347)

Conclusion

In the towns and villages the extant buildings do not date from before the eighteenth century. Nearly all saw the process of rebuilding and expansion which removed the other early buildings. This, however, has not altered the basic street layout based on the tradition of main street with subsidiary lanes leading back found in the medieval layout of the early burghs. The rows of single and two storey buildings face each other with doors opening on to the pavement. In the towns or villages, with more labourers than

59 OSA, xvii, 561.
60 OSA, i, 257-8.
61 NLS, Wigtownshire, Sheet 30.
PLATE 347  THE CRESCENT  Carlieston, Sorbie

PLATE 348  WINDMILL  Stoneykirk
 artisans and tradesmen, there were more single storey buildings. The situation is naturally reversed when the greater percentage of the population were in more skilled trades. The plan of the buildings consists of the single storey two room cottage type along with the two storey town house version of the basic four room farm-house on a narrow scale. In both instances the usual variations of internal division is found to suit the individual preferences of the builder along with the occasional T plan formed by a rear wing extension. The use of the local materials contributes much to the maintenance also of the local building tradition. In the development from the single storey house/shop to the two storey units one of the most striking features concerning detail is the incorporation of raised window and door surrounds usually in freestone. The local masons of the villages emulated those of the towns with the use of Georgian features applied to purely vernacular structures. Although the buildings may vary in building line and height the traditional use of strong colours applied to the main walling surface and the contrasting coloured elevational details give a focus on unity and strength.

In the present century while the population of the burghs of Stranraer, Newton Stewart and Whithorn have increased, the burgh of Wigtown and many of the seaport villages have declined. Of the inland villages only those in the proximity of Stranraer have shown an increase in population. In the case of the others they are either little changed or have decreased, dependent upon whether they have lost their source of industry and/or have been by-passed with the new means of communication. These are important factors in the preservation or non-preservation of the local character of the towns and villages as represented in the street layouts and buildings.
CHAPTER 5

Other Buildings
Minor Industrial Buildings

In this county, which is almost solely concerned with agriculture, there are few manufacturing industries. In the field of minor industry there are, however, types of buildings such as mills, smithies, breweries and tanneries, which relate to this background. In the supporting field of communication are harbours, inns, bridges and tollhouses. These various structures warrant reference and description as they contribute considerably to the regional vernacular.

Mills

Water and horse-powered threshing mills have been surveyed within the context of the farmsteadings. Outwith this setting are wind and water-powered mills, which were used for the purposes of threshing, but principally for the grinding of grain. Water-powered mills were also utilised for other minor industries and were the most important type of minor industrial building in this rural area.

Tower windmills of uncoursed random rubble stone construction are found, although the sails are no longer extant. They were uncommon in Wigtownshire except in the drier parts as in the south of the arable level region of the Rhinns in the parish of Kirkmaiden where Symson states in 1684:

1 Some of the sites and remains of industrial buildings are referred to by Ian Donnachie op. cit.
It is very defective of mills by reason that the little bourns are then dried up: to supply which defect the Laird of Logan hath lately built an excellent windmill, which is very useful not only to his own lands, but to the whole country thereabouts.  

Logan Windmill is a circular vaulted-tower mill approximately 20 feet high. This is crenellated as in the fashion of the Logan Estates. It has a square-headed entrance-doorway to the east and a projecting arch to the north, which gives access to the vaulted chamber. Two other possible windmill structures are at Stoneykirk (see Plate 348) and Barwhanny, Kirkinner. The former building is a circular stone tower approximately 12 feet high, the latter is also circular, and is approximately 25 feet high with a square headed doorway and is now converted to a dovecot.

Water-powered mills, on the other hand, may be found in all parishes. The location, naturally, was controlled by the supply and flow of water. The building contained the milling machinery and any other accommodation and was situated beside the mill race, which motivated the projecting wheel or wheels attached to the mill. The machinery functioned mostly by low-breast paddle wheels because of the slow pace of the water in the region. (see Plates 349, 350)

Early water-powered mills of simple plan and construction, used in the grinding of grain, were found around religious houses, estates and towns. The sites of early mills may be observed on Timothy Pont's map, and many later mills have been erected on them.

2 Symson, op. cit., 66-7.

3 NLS, Timothy Pont's Map of Wigtownshire.
PLATE 349 RECONSTRUCTED PORTYERROCK MILL
Isle of Whithorn, Whithorn

PLATE 351 DRUMORE MILL Kirkmaiden
INNERMESSAN MILL
MAP REF. NX085634

Drawn from RHP 4555

PLATE 350
Most of the present buildings date from the early eighteenth to nineteenth centuries. The number of mills was augmented in this period owing to the increased demand and production of grain and stone and brick kilns for drying were added to the basic rectangular buildings in the nineteenth century.

According to early tacks the building materials utilised in the mills had to be sufficient, and the millers were under the legal obligation to keep them repaired. In a tack of the mill of Myrton in 1699 the mill was to be upheld in timber and iron, and the adjoining houses were to be left sufficient in thatch, timber and doors. 4 Caldenoch mill, New Luce, although newly built in timber and stone in the early eighteenth century, 5 required new repairs in thatch and walls a few years later. 6 There are now few remains of this early mill. The early materials were constantly being repaired, and do not appear to have been very durable. The mill of the barony of Broughton was in a ruinous state in 1730 and the miller was obliged:

4 NLS, Maxwell of Monreith Papers Deposit 231 Tack of Sir William Maxwell to George McKinnal of the mill at Myrton 1699.

5 SRO, Agnew of Lochmaw Papers GD 154/460/5 Visitation of the mill of Caldenoch 1741.

6 OSO, OSNE 39, Caldenoch Mill.
to build a sufficient and good corn mill, on the
old situation of the former mill, the walls, timber,
mill wheels, axletree and stones, being all sufficient
and good. 7

The following were found to be interesting examples of one,
two and three storey mills, which are of rectangular gabled uncoursed
rubble stone walling construction with slated roofs. The layouts
vary but the most prevalent types are linear, L-plan and T-plan.
Lochans Mill, Inch, was recorded in the 1840s as:

The largest of its kind in Wigtownshire. It is
worked by 2 large water-wheels, which work 5 pairs of
stones. It is supplied by water from the Fultanton
Burn. There are 2 corn kilns, and a dwelling house
attached ... 8

It still has the remains of one of the wheels, which is
constructed with wood and iron and is 12 feet in diameter and 4 feet
6 inches in width. As in most of the other wheels few of the spokes
remain. At Drumore, Kirkmaiden, the disused eighteenth century
two storey attic and basement L-plan grain mill is situated opposite
the nineteenth century L-plan three storey grain mill. (see Plate
351). This later mill has a high breast iron wheel, which still
functions. Mildrigan Mill, Kirkinner (see Plate 352) is also

7 SRO, Broughton and Cally Mun. CD 10/1057/1 Tack of mill
croft of the Mains of Broughton 1730.
8 OSO, CSNE 35, Lochans Mill.
PLATE 352 MILDRIIGAN MILL Kirkinner

PLATE 353 PORTWILLIAM MILL Mochrum
a working mill used for cattle feed. It has been in the McDowell family for one hundred and thirty years. It has an internal overshot wheel 20 feet in diameter. It can deal with 3 tons of oats at a time and can handle 20 tons in a day. The mill is a linear two storey and attic range erected in the nineteenth century on an earlier site. Port William Mill, Mochrum (see Plate 353) is also one of the grain mills, which function although the wheel, which is extant, is no longer in use as the mill is now motivated by electricity. The building is T-plan and incorporates a nineteenth century kiln in one section of the wings. The three storey structure was considered to be 'a large and powerful cornmill with three pairs of stones' when it was erected in 1812. Kirkchrist Mill, Old Luce (see Plates 354, 355) is a very early mill, which was altered from a two storey into a three storey \( M \) shaped building in the nineteenth century. This is no longer in use as a mill. The mill of Airies, Kirkinner (see Plate 356) is a three storey rectangular building, which was erected on an earlier site in the 1860s and now functions as a byre. Aridwell Mill, Stoneykirk (see Plates 357, 358, 359) is a very early building and is a rectangular two-storey and basement structure, which is now used as a store. The kiln is still in position and was worked until 1963.

9 OSO, OSNB 84, Port William Mill.

10 Ibid, 59, Kirkchrist Mill.
PLATE 354  KIRKCHRIST MILL  Milton, Old Luce

PLATE 355  DETAIL OF INTERIOR, KIRKCHRIST MILL
           Milton, Old Luce
PLATE 356  AIRIES MILL  Kirkinner

PLATE 357  ARDWELL MILL  Stoneykirk
PLATE 358
INTERIOR, ARDWELL MILL, Stoneykirk

PLATE 359
SLATED ROOF
Decreasing to the ridge.
Ardwell Mill,
Stoneykirk
Water-powered mills were used for other types of industry and are occasionally found extant. They have, however, changed in function or have been abandoned as these original types of manufacture have collapsed. There is a former lint mill at Kirkinner adjacent to the corn mill of Mildriggan which is in the process of reconstruction to a dwelling house. (see Plates 360, 361) Dyemill, Stoneykirk, is a linear single storey range, which was a small carding mill and has now been converted into a row of cottages. The waulk mill at Kirkcowan was first proposed to be erected in 1745. The two storey and attic linear range is of stone walling construction built and enlarged in the early nineteenth century. The single storey brick weaving sheds at the rear have an octagonal chimney. These buildings have now been abandoned. Creech Mill, Sorbie (see Plate 362) is a T-plan two storey and attic building, originally a damask mill, which is now used as part of the creamery. Sandmill, Inch (see Plate 363) is a two storey main range with a single-storey wing forming the L-plan hipped roof mill. This was a sawmill which was erected on the site of an earlier grain mill in the 1840s. Many sawmills of this type were erected on the estates at this period. Logan Mill, Kirkmaiden, is an example of the traditional linear layout. It is a two storey and basement mill which was motivated by an iron overshot wheel 20 feet in diameter and 4 feet wide. There were two mills of this name, one of which was this saw mill and the other

11 SRO, Kirkcowan Kirk Session Records CH 2/373/3 May 21, 1745.
12 OSO, OSNR 19, Sandmill.
was a two storey grain mill which is now gutted. Both were driven by water and the OS report states in 1847 that attached to the saw mill was a joiner's shop chiefly for the use of the Logan Estate. Attached to the corn mill was a dwelling house and outhouses with a farm containing about thirty acres of good arable.  

Smithies

These buildings have been observed as part of the large arable farmsteading layout. They were also erected in towns and villages from the late eighteenth to nineteenth centuries. They were a product of the dependence on horse-power in that period and carried out an essential minor industry. There were several single and two storey structures erected in the towns and villages in Wigtownshire.

There are still single and two storey smithies located in the towns 'but only very occasionally is the blacksmith seen in his shop shoeing horses. In recent times a practice has grown up of making the shoes in the smiddy and going out to the farms to complete the task'.

The traditional rural smithy found in the villages and along the turnpike roads is a single storey rectangular gabled building similar to the small farmhouse or cottage. The interior consists of the actual smithy and attached shoeing shop. In this region the smith's house is usually found detached at the distance of a

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13 OSO, OSNB 81, Logan Mills.

14 TSA, 469.
few yards from the smithy. There are several single storey three to six-bay smithies but most have been converted to garages. The number of chimneys vary dependent upon the number of forges, which were used. Early single storey smithies were formerly thatched, according to local blacksmiths. They now have mostly corrugated roofs with stone or brick rectangular chimney stacks. Many are altered as at the village of Glenluce, Old Luce. Some, however, retain several valid features. The smithy at Sorbie is a single-storey four-bay structure with three chimney stacks. South Clutag, Kirkinner, is a six-bay smithy with two chimney stacks. Malzie Smithy, Kirkinner (see Plates 364, 365) is three-bay and is still functioning. The interesting feature of this building is that the six-spoke low-breast steel 10 feet diameter 1 foot 9 inches wide bucket wheel is still attached to the smithy. There are several former smithies noted on the survey index cards, which had water-wheels. These motivated the bellows and tools, but this is the only extant wheel of this type, and it is now becoming derelict. The smith believes that the wheel is approximately one hundred years old. On field survey measurements and details were taken of Mull Smithy, Kirkmaiden (see Plates 366, 367) which although no longer functioning is still in its original state and reasonably well preserved. It is of particular interest as it and Malzie Smithy appear to be the only ones in Wigtownshire which are unaltered and entire in the complex with detached smiths' houses situated at a distance of a few yards from the smithies. Mull Smithy is two-bay and measures 28 feet in length by 19 feet in width by 7 feet 6 inches in height and the irregular random rubble walling construction is 2 feet thick. The smithy has a symmetrical front with a door and two windows. There is a single offset window 30 inches
PLATE 364  MALZIE SMITHY  Kirkinner

PLATE 365  WATER WHEEL  Malzie Smithy, Kirkinner
square in the rear wall. The shoeing shop is built on to the gable end and measures 18 feet in length by 19 feet in width. The original walling was 7 feet 6 inches high. This has been raised to 8 feet 6 inches when the original thatch was replaced by a slated roof. The shop has an offset front door 6 feet in width and is windowless. The interior of the smithy is virtually intact with a forge complete with bellows at each gable end and a main work bench 15 feet in length is fitted to the rear wall. A small lean-to fuel store 12 feet by 7 feet is attached to the other gable wall.

Breweries and Tanneries

At the end of the eighteenth century Stranraer, Whithorn and Newton Stewart had small breweries but these were apparently no longer functioning by the close of the nineteenth century. These towns also had tanneries. Both building types have since been converted to other uses when these minor industries became centralised. It is difficult to assess the buildings and layout of these industries as only two breweries and two tanneries are in part extant at Whithorn and Newton Stewart. The brewery at Whithorn consists of a one storey and attic range and the tannery adjacent to it is a two storey and attic range. The brewery and tannery are in different locations at Newton Stewart, as may be observed on the map (see Plate 277) but both are two storey buildings.

15 OSO, OSNB 35, Stranraer 'no business done at present in 1849'.
The coastline's natural harbours with towns and settlements were improved in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Development took place subsequent to the building of harbours which improved the fishing industry and provided better shelter for trading vessels. The harbours are of basically simple type with quays and/or projecting piers, which occasionally have light-towers or houses. (see Plate 339) The quays and piers are usually erected with wood-piles. The main walling construction consists of local stone rubble often executed in roughly squared blocks either uncoursed or coursed dependent as in other building types upon the period of erection. Granite is used, when available, rather than greywacke, in sections which require greater protection. Some of the traditional harbour buildings, such as the early nineteenth century stone and wood quay at Wigtown, have fallen into disrepair as they are no longer used. Traditional one and two storey buildings for the purpose of containing stores, usually of grain, are situated in the near vicinity or on the piers of the trading harbours.

A particularly good example is the two storey granary at Stairhaven, Old Luce (see Plate 368) which is situated to the east of the remains of the L-plan pier. The Isle of Whithorn had a pier erected in the 1790s 'on the site of the safe and commodious harbour' with the assistance of the Convention of Royal Burghs in 1802 at the cost of seven hundred pounds. This is an L-plan construction with one and two storey buildings consisting of grain stores and an

16 OSO, OSNB 85, Isle of Whithorn Harbour.
inn. (see Plate 369) Carlieston, Sorbie, also a natural haven, was improved in the late eighteenth century and rebuilt in 1855 with a pier and quay with wood-piling. The pier has two storey grain stores erected upon it. There are also traditional one and two storey stores built on the short pier at Fort William, Mochrum. Portpatrick Harbour had a small north pier and lighthouse, built in 1774, which is now ruinous. (see Plate 370) Only the south pier built from imported grey Welsh limestone and commenced in 1821 from designs by John Rennie remains. Port Logan Harbour, Kirkmaiden, has a projecting pier with a granite and sandstone light-tower of unusual design, which were erected by Colonel McDouall in the early nineteenth century.

Inns

Cottages and small farmhouses appear to have been used for the accommodation of travellers before the erection of the majority of inns in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries:

The justices of the peace having taken into their consideration that too little attention has been paid to the granting of all licences in this country for some years past . . . no authority is to be granted to licence

17 Groome op. cit., iii, 77.
18 NSA, iv, 155.
PLATE 370 NORTH PIER Portpatrick

PLATE 371 COACHING INN Mochrum
persons who have not a house or stabling fit for the accommodation of travellers in order to put a stop to so many tipling houses by the sides of the roads in towns and villages." 19

Most of the earlier inns were single storey thatched cottages as at Knockglass Croft, Portpatrick, which was used as an inn. 20 The Commercial Inn, Portpatrick, was typical of the larger single storey building with accommodation in the mid-nineteenth century for twelve travellers and stabling for four horses. 21 Others of this period were two-storeyed such as the Gordon's Hotel, Portpatrick, where nobility and gentry to and from Ireland generally stopped. 22

Most of the late eighteenth century inns are now traditional two-storeyed buildings with symmetrical fronts as have been surveyed in the towns and villages, and have courtyards and stabling to the rear. (see Plate 371) The Steam Packet Inn, Isle of Whithorn, was built for the use of steamship passengers. (see Plate 372)

19 NLS, Maxwell of Monreith Papers Deposit 231, Extract from Licensing Act 2nd July 1808.
20 OSO, OSNB 37, Knockglass Croft, Portpatrick.
21 OSO, OSNB 53, Commercial Inn, Holm Street, Portpatrick.
22 Ibid, Gordon's Hotel, Main Street, Portpatrick.
PLATE 372
STEAM PACKET INN
Isle of Whithorn,
Whithorn

PLATE 373
HALFWAY HOUSE
Kirkcowan
Inns which stand as detached buildings in the countryside are built very much on the style of the larger farmhouses of the region as at Halfway House, Kirkcowan. (see Plate 373) The Queen’s Hotel, Carlieston, Sorbie, illustrates the features of the typical detached later inn in the towns and planned villages. (see Plate 374)

Bridges

The building of single and two-span bridges was one of the essential means of change and was of great importance in the development of centres of settlement.

In the town records of Wigtown, on the 9th of March 1688, is found the earliest reference to a bridge in Wigtownshire:

The ilk day the magistrates and councell of the burgh of Wigtoune, finding the great lose that befales the brugh, throw the want of the use of the Bishop Bridge, doe theirfoir unanimous resolve to cause repair the samen, and yrfoir, and in perseivance yrof, have agreed with Michel Shann and Patrick Carroch for threttie pund Scots, for their workmanship, with ane leg dollor for their paines in gоеing to the wood for choising of the timber, and approves of the agreement, with Andrew Crawford in Wood of Cree, for the timber at twentie two pounds, and appoyns the timber to be led hom with all convenience, and the wrights to fall to the work immediatellie yrafter.’

23 Gordon Fraser, op. cit., Wigtownshire, 19.
PLATE 374 QUEENS HOTEL Carlieston, Sorbie

PLATE 375 BROUGHTON BRIDGE Whithorn
This early bridge of timber has not survived, but it may be assumed that there would be several made from this material. Bridges of stone are naturally more lasting and there are some which date from the early eighteenth century at least, when increased interest was shown in bridge building. This was to gain momentum in the second half of the century, during the period when the Military Road from Dumfries to Portpatrick was to improve existing roads and tracks.

The early bridges were plain and built on the narrow roadways. In many places bridges were widened and new bridges were built, but they were still strong and simple made of local stone and of single or two-span construction. (see Plates 329, 375)

From the 1730s the records of the Commissioners of Supply reveal a great deal about the men who built the bridges, the material they used, the construction and cost:

Sir Thomas Hay, Sir William Maxwell and Alexander Ross, reported to the meeting that they and Patrick Agnew of Dalrymple had met with workmen on the water of Blaidnoch and the foord of Shennanton and have agreed with Antonio McMillan and Patrick Dunlop, baillies of Whitehorn, measons for building a bridge over the water a little above the steps of Shennanton foord, they taking in a sufficient man known and experienced in the building of bridges, for which the Commissioners of Supply are to pay them one hundred and sixty pounds sterling, and they produced John Frew, meason, who is willing to joyn with them in building the said bridge.”

WCB, Wigtownshire County Minutes Commissioners of Supply Records 1/1 7th August 1739.
This two-span segmental arched rubble stone bridge is now bypassed. (see Plate 376) Another excellent example of a traditional two-span structure is the bridge of Park. (see Plate 377) Masons and their building methods and the size of these bridges are quoted in the extract, relating to the bridges of Tarf and Bladenoch. (see Plate 378):

The said commissioners have agreed with Alexander, John and Andrew Boddan, measons in Minnigaff and authorize Dalrell milner at Parhousemiln for building a bridge over the said water at the foord, of two arches, the land stones of hewen whinstone and also the middle pillar, the outside of the arches and the topp of the Taills to be hewen whinstone, the widness of the bridge to be twelve foot and betwixt the ledges to be ten foot ... to putt four stout pillars at the end of the ledges of said hewen stone and also to build ane arch of seven or eight foot of clear for the water over the little gillet on the east side of the said water and to fill up the ground betwixt said small arch and the bridge, so as to raise it higher than the watters at any time rizes, and to make the said road at least twenty foot wide, the widness at the end of the bridge to be fifteen foot, the height of the ledges from the cope to the top of the copestone to be three foot eight inches.

This is to cost £90.20s of sterling:
PLATE 376 SHENNANTON BRIDGE Penninghame

PLATE 377 BRIDGE OF PARK Old Luce
PLATE 378  BLADENOCH BRIDGE  Wigtown

PLATE 379  CROSS WATER BRIDGE  New Luce
It is also ordained the collector to pay up to
Alexander Boddan the sum appointed him for roughcasting
the bridge of Bladnoch and twenty five shillings sterling
for his building four pillars of hewen whinstone at the
end of the ledges of the said bridge of Bladnoch and
roughcasting the same. 25

Robert McKergo, meason, reported that he had finished
the single-span bridges over the water of the Pultanton
and over the burn of Ballancallantrie on the road from
Kirkmaiden to Stranraer. 26

It was agreed upon that it would be of great utility to have
more bridges built in the county:

and it was also of the opinion of the meeting that
the plans and estimates of Alexander Laurie, meason, are
the properest and best. 27

It was reported also that a bridge over the water of Luce,
a little above the junction with the Cross water in the parish of
New Luce was most material and necessary. 28 (see Plate 379)

Many bridges were built on the major estates also. These had
more detail in design. In an offer to build a bridge on the estate
at Lochnaw:

25 WCB, Wigtownshire County Minutes Commissioners of Supply
Records 1/1 26th March 1744.
26 Ibid, 31st October 1769.
27 Ibid, 1st September 1772.
28 Ibid, 29th April 1786.
The landbreasts were to be eight feet two inches high from the bed of the water, two feet five inches thick, fifteen feet broad roadways, the span of the arch to be seventeen inches deep; the landbreasts to be greystone; four feet from the corner of the landbreasts until the landbreasts be four feet high the outside of the retaining walls on the upper side of the bridge to be greystone ashler, for five feet back, from the corner of the landbreast laid with Roman cement, and the rest of the retaining walls to be built with good rubble stone, the outer stones of the arch to be greystone hewn and jointed. The bridge to be sufficiently paved below the parapets to be thirty feet in length on each side of the bridge ten inches thick, two feet five inches high above the mettle of the road, when finished to be coped with greystone neatly hewn and dinted, thirteen inches broad, that is allowing an inch and a half to project on each side.

£35.15s cost. 29

The largest bridge is the five-span granite bridge built by Rennie in 1815. (see Plate 380) It is shown in order that the traditional single and two-span rubble stone masonry bridges may be compared in contrast to this bridge with its flat segmental arches. These early traditional bridges are one of the types of building, amongst those which have been mentioned in this section, which are virtually unchanged. They are in danger, however, of falling into disrepair when by-passed.

29 SRO, Agnew of Lochnaw Papers GD 154/496 Estimate for building a bridge at Lochnaw 1818.
PLATE 380  BRIDGE OF CREE  Newton Stewart

PLATE 381  LOGAN TOLL HOUSE  Stoneykirk
Tollhouses

The early nineteenth century saw the erection of the tollhouses on the roads which were turnpiked in Wigtownshire. \(^{30}\) They had a very short period as the tollbars were swept away in 1868. They are basically single storey cottages set beside the tollbar. The characteristic features, which allow the former tollhouses to be recognised as such are that they were apsidal ended, usually semi-circular or three-sided, to the road. The windows at this end were so positioned that the roadway was visible to the tollkeeper.

Few tollhouses appear to have been specifically erected as several cottages and farmhouses were used for this purpose when conveniently placed adjacent to the tollbar. \(^{31}\)

Several tollhouses, such as Logan Tollhouse, Stoneykirk, which was of unusual design, no longer survive. (see Plate 381) Those which are extant are the apsidal ended cottages at Wigtown, Stranraer and Portpatrick (see Plate 336). Low Knockbrell (see Plate 382) Penninghame is an X-plan with a gable wing with window to the roadway and at the east of the Bridge of Cree the tollhouse has an octagonal end and has now been converted to a shop.

\(^{30}\) SRO, Agnew of Lochnaw Papers GD 154/733 Act for repairing roads in Wigtownshire 1802.

\(^{31}\) OSO, OSHB 35, Tollhouse, Inch; ibid 17, Cairnryan Tollhouse, Inch.
PLATE 382  KNOCKBREX TOLL HOUSE  Penninghame

PLATE 383  GALDENOCH CASTLE  L closwalt
Tower-Houses

In Scotland as a whole tower-houses are the most prevalent type of Scottish castle and in Wigtownshire their distribution is widespread in the setting of farming land. These simple basic fortified residences are an essential part of the region's vernacular tradition in regard to the building materials and methods of construction used by local master-masons. The majority of tower-houses in this county, going under the name of castle, place, fortalice or tower, appear to have been erected on four-square or rectangular plans in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. They are modest of size and simple in plan, elevation and design as is to be expected in Wigtownshire, which was economically poor and isolated. It is beyond the scope of this study to attempt to analyse the possible external sources of influence upon the plan form of this building type. It was beyond doubt a product of the times and prolific because it met the requirements of local conditions. Similar to other buildings its form suited and fulfilled basic functional needs. In the tower-house these were defence, shelter and comfort, and to have a visual symbol of the laird's prestige, jurisdiction and feudal influence over the people on his demesne. These needs were met by the thick walled construction and the emphasis on vertical placement of apartments. Access to these was gained by turnpike stairs contained within the walling. The majority of these towers evolved to an L-plan layout with the addition of wing extensions. The emphasis on

32 John Dunbar, op. cit., 36; He also states that 'it is worth remembering that buildings of the same essential form occur here and there in almost every county of Western Europe over a very wide range of time', ibid.
the vertical was to move towards the horizontal when the prevalent requirement was no longer defence but improved living standards.

The desire and awareness of symmetry as a feature to be incorporated also becomes evident in later additions.

In every age before the nineteenth century Scottish society was dominated by landowners, and it appears that Wigtownshire, by the sixteenth century, was divided up into numerous small estates. Several new estates were created as a result of the Reformation, and by the seventeenth century, in the south-west, very small estates were common. The landowners in this region were mainly bonnet lairds, small independent owners, who were basically farmers. The wish to build and improve is seen, even in the sixteenth century:

Peter McDowell of Machermoir builded the castles of Machermoir and Fisgill (early 16th C.) . . . had a good estate, but wronged himself by building'.

Estates were adorned and residences increased in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Symson states:

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34 NLS, Timothy Pont's Map of Wigtownshire c. 1595.
35 J.M. Rusk, The Parish and Abbey of Glenluce (Edinburgh 1930) 75-86.
36 Smout, op. cit., 137.
37 National Register of Archives (Scotland 1210). The quotation is from a notebook written c. 1736 in the Heron of Heron and Kirroughtrie Papers.
Although we have neither limestone nor freestone, there are very few parishes, but have one or two good stonehouses, very well built, wherein a gentleman of good quality and estate may conveniently dwell.' 38

There was, however, an abundance of building stone in the local greywacke, which resulted in a lengthy tradition of masonry construction, including dry, clay or shell lime and mortar built random rubble. Light red coloured freestone, which was mainly imported, was often used for the hewn work. Round corners of towers are built of small stones to facilitate the construction of the curved surfaces. In the castle at the Isle of Whithorn, the roof timbers were noted as being of home grown oak; the slates being fixed to the sarking with wooden pegs. 39 The use of crow-steps may be seen in The Old Place of Mochrum, 40 and also in Cadenoch Castle, Leswalt. (see Plate 383) They are built of small stones and covered on the upper surface with a single slate or stone slab.

The oldest building, of which any considerable portion remains, is the castle of Corsewall. It is an interesting example of one of the few early fifteenth century buildings remaining in Wigtownshire. In the late seventeenth century it was regarded as having been a

38 Symson, op. cit., 71.

39 Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (Scotland) Wigtownshire (1912) xxii.

40 Ibid, 73-4.
considerable house, but even then it was wholly ruinous. 41
Only the ground floor now remains, containing a large vaulted
chamber with an entrance on the ground level communicating with a
wheel-staircase in the thickness of the wall, at one angle, which
led to the great hall on the first floor. The upper floor possibly
consisted of one large apartment used as the principal living room,
while at the wall-head would be projecting battlements supported
upon stone corbels with machicolations. 42

Towards the end of the fifteenth century and during the
sixteenth there is no marked change in the general arrangement of
plan, but as time goes on modifications occur, which indicate a
desire for a degree of comfort and privacy formerly unknown, and
defence gradually becomes a less dominant feature in the design. 43

Mochrum Castle was the home of the Dunbars of Mochrum, and is
perhaps the most remarkable castle in the county. The buildings
originally consisted of two towers situated about thirteen feet
apart within a courtyard. The west tower is the older keep and is
a plain square building, with all the principal apartments in the
main block and walls of considerable thickness; the wheel-staircase
is built partly in the thickness of the wall and there is a parapet
walk, a feature following the traditions of a defensive castle.
In the east tower, which is rectangular in plan, the walls are of
less thickness, there is no parapet walk and the staircase is
projected to the north and denotes the tendency towards horizontal

41 Symson, op. cit., 71.
42 RCAHM, Wigtownshire, xxii.
43 Ibid,
expansion. The latter was a very general plan during the sixteenth century as may be seen in Dunskey Castle, Portpatrick; the main part of the building is an example of the L-plan square tower with the projecting wing at one angle. Indications of ancillary buildings remain within the courtyard. At the close of the sixteenth century the tower-houses are represented by many more examples. They are almost all of L-plan and similar in most respects. Sorbie Tower is L-plan and probably dates from the end of the sixteenth century.

Symson refers to the tower in 1684 as the place of Sorbie belonging to the Earl of Galloway and that it was a very good house built by the Laird of Sorbie. 44 The castle of Park, Old Luce, consists of an L-plan tower. It was occupied as a farmhouse according to the OS report in 1847 which noted the inscription on the stonework:

Blessit be the name of the Lord.
This werk vas begin the first
day of marche 1590 Be Thomas Hay
of Park and Ionet Makdovel his
spou(se)’

45

The structure consists of an L-plan tower, four storey and a garret in height. At a later date the horizontal and symmetrical elements of a single storey and a two storey wing were added, which have since been removed, (see Plates 384, 385, 386) The movement towards the horizontal in wing extensions may also be observed in the castle of Stranraer. (see Plate 387)

44 Symson, op. cit., 144.

45 OSO, OSNB 65, Park Hay Castle.
PLATE 386
DETAIL OF QUOINS
AND WALLING
Castle of Park
Old Luce

PLATE 387 STRANRAER CASTLE Inch
There are few examples of other types of castles built during the seventeenth century. The ruin of Castle Stewart, Penninghame, denotes that the site was chosen for residence. Castle Kennedy, Inch, is important with its statement of the Renaissance and of symmetrical design. The plan of Carscreugh Castle, Old Luce, is also symmetrical. Referring to the house in 1684, Symson states:

It pertaines to Sir James Dalrymple of Stair, who have lately built it de novo. 46

Towers have often been used as part of the farmhouse or steading. The Dowies or Old Place of Monreith, Glasserton, the original abode of the Maxwells of Monreith, though altered and occupied as a farmhouse in the nineteenth century 47 still retains its massive walls and other features, which indicate its fifteenth century origin. Craigcaffie Tower, Inch, is a good example of a small sixteenth century rectangular keep, which was still entire in the nineteenth century, when it was converted into a farmhouse. 48 Killumpha, Kirkmaiden (see Plate 388) is a two storey tower with angle turrets incorporated within a two storey farmhouse. Auchness, Kirkmaiden (see Plate 389) is a sixteenth century tower, which also forms part of a farmhouse.

46 Symson, op. cit., 57.
47 RCAHM, Wigtownshire xxii; OS0, OSNB 76, Dowies and Moor, Mochrum.
48 NSA, iv, 89.
Caldenoch Castle, Leswalt (see Plate 383) is typical of the towers, which have been incorporated as part of the steading usually for storing cattle. It is an L-plan tower-house and is now seen surrounded by farmbuildings. The ruins of former residences are noted very often in this type of setting. Sinniness Castle, Old Luce, is all that remains of 'a good stone house' as is Daleoon Castle, Kirkinner.

The stonework of some castles has been entirely removed for building materials for the adjacent steadings, as for instance Garthland Castle, Stoneykirk and Drumore Castle, Kirkmaiden.

Occasionally it is difficult to decipher whether a tower has been removed or incorporated into a later building as in the case of the original residence of Physgill House, which was erected in the sixteenth century. (see Plate 390) The vernacular element is maintained in this structure and in Ardwell House, Stoneykirk (see Plates 391, 392) which is of seventeenth century origin. Crowstepping is in evidence in the latter building.

49 RCAHM, Wigtownshire, 67.

50 Symson, op. cit., 57.

51 RCAHM, Wigtownshire, 43.

52 'See above p. 222.'
PLATE 392 Rear Wing Ardwell House, Stoneykirk

PLATE 393 TONDERGIE Whithorn
Lochnaw Castle, Leswalt, showed four distinct periods of construction, consisting of a sixteenth century tower, seventeenth and eighteenth century dwellings and a mansion house, which was also built of the local greywacke stone. The older buildings were built around a central courtyard, the tower being situated at the south east angle while the mansion house was added to the west side. The seventeenth and eighteenth century buildings have now been demolished.

A feature that was commonly found adjacent to the tower-house is the functional dovecot. This was erected to house pigeons, which were a source of fresh meat for the laird's household before the improvement era. There are, however, possibly only three or four dovecots remaining now in this county, and all appear to be of early form. Two were noted of circular plan with tapering walls of rubble stone and square headed entrance doorways. At Corsewall, Kirkcolm, the ruinous building is approximately 12 feet high and at Cenoch, Old Luce, the dovecot consists of a two-storey building with a pointed roof. At the Home Farm, Classerton, the dovecot is a ruinous square tower approximately 25 feet high, which has a vaulted basement. As mentioned in the section concerning windmills, which were also situated near the lord's demesne, it is sometimes difficult to analyse the remains of these two building types as being of one particular type as they have many similar features.

53 Symson, op. cit., 65.
54 NSA, iv, 125.
55 RCAHM, Wigtownshire, 64-5.
Other Estate Buildings

Tower-houses were replaced by mansion houses as the landowners placed of residence in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This was contemporaneous with the building of the home farmsteadings, factors' houses and other estate buildings such as lodge houses and other types of cottages for workers. In this period improvements were initially carried out on these structures, and the external influences on plan, elevation and design may be observed in varying degrees dependent upon the individual preferences of the owners. They became more aware of the architecture of the prolific pattern books in regard to their immediate demesnes. The movement seen in the tower-houses in the later period towards symmetry and horizontal expansion gained momentum, particularly in regard to the mansion houses. These buildings created the greatest effect in the clarity of statement of these elements. Vernacular tradition is preserved in one aspect, nevertheless, in some of the buildings by the characteristic use of local walling materials and methods of construction as interpreted by craftsmen. The following estate buildings are selected because they retain this traditional feature and represent the typical styles of estate architecture in Wigtownshire.

There are many archival references to the new residences:

... built in a variety of beautiful situations." 56

56 Smith, op. cit., 55.
One of the most aesthetically pleasing mansions is Tonderghie, Whithorn (see Plate 393). It may well have been built around an early tower as it has the essence of a structure with this heritage, as observed at Dysgill and Ardwell. It is a symmetrical three-storey house with steps to the front door on the first floor. The horizontal element is seen in the curtain walls to the single-storey wings and the walling is roughcast. The house was described in the late eighteenth century as a very handsome house built by Hugh Stewart of Tonderghie. 57

In the greater residences such as Lochinch Castle, Inch, Logan House, Kirkmaiden 58 (see Plate 394) and the House of Eldrig, Mochrum, the influence of Scots Baronial is noted. This may also be seen incorporated in factors' houses and larger farmhouses, particularly in the Logan Estates, where houses are seen to have been erected around former towers. This estate shows a preference for castellated buildings even in the smaller structures. Colonel Andrew McDouall of Logan built the Port Logan Fishkeeper's House and Fish-house, Kirkmaiden, between 1788 and 1800. (see Plates 395, 396) Castellation applied to these buildings accords to them the appearance and appeal of follies. The Gothic style is rarely interpreted in this area and one of the few occurrences of this may also be observed in the windows of a former lodge house of the latter estate. 59 This was primarily erected to commemorate the name of Chapel Rossan on the promontory at Kirkmaiden (see Plate 397).

57 OSA, xvi, 280.
58 Groome, op. cit., iv, 546.
59 Todd, op. cit., 7.
PLATE 394 LOGAN HOUSE Kirkmaiden

PLATE 395 FISHEEKER'S HOUSE Port Logan
PLATE 396  FISH-HOUSE Port Logan

PLATE 397  CHAPEL ROSSAN Kirkmaiden
The prevalent styles of most of the other estates were based on the symmetrical and horizontal features of English architecture. Mansions such as Sir Maxwell of Monreith’s new dwelling, were considered very elegant and commodious in the late eighteenth century. 60 This is a three-storey building with a five-window symmetrical front with porch and fluted columns. Dunragit House, Old luce, and Barnbarroch, Kirkinner (see Plate 398) display classical features on a larger scale. The latter mansion built in 1780 61 has unfortunately been gutted by fire. These residences and their home farm steadings all display an excellence of building stone construction. Glasserton Home Farm Steading (see Plate 399) and Ardwell Mains Steading (see Plates 400, 401) are typical of the different periods and types of stone construction noted in courtyard plans. The former consists of whitewashed uncoursed random rubble; the latter of local greywacke stone is exposed and snecked and has granite quoins and lintels.

Unlike the majority of farmhouses, manses and schoolmasters' houses the houses and cottages of factors and estate workers were often erected in the new ornate villa or cottage style. A typical example is the original symmetrical ornate facade of Airlour, Mochrum (see Plate 402). This was rebuilt for the factor of the Monreith Estates. It is described in the OS report as:

A neat and commodious house of the cottage style.
A new addition was built to it in 1822.* 62

60 OSA, xvii, 572.
61 Croome, op. cit., i, 129.
62 OSO, OSNB, 75, Airlour, Mochrum.
PLATE 398  BARNBARROCH  Former mansion house of Vans Agnew.
           Kirkinner

PLATE 399  GLASSERTON HOME FARM
PLATE 400  ARDWELL MAINS STEADING  Stoneykirk

PLATE 401
DETAIL OF SNECKED WALLING
Ardwell Mains,
Stoneykirk
PLATE 402   ARLOUR   Mochrum

PLATE 403   ADDITIONS TO ARLOUR   Mochrum
It has since had alterations and additions carried out on the structure \(^{63}\) (see Plate 403) but the excellent tradition of the stone walling has been preserved. The local uncoursed dressed greywacke is left in its natural state, and set within the contrasting blocks of granite quoins and surrounds.

Lodge houses and other cottages illustrate the imported features of cottage architecture. Compared to the simple basic two-room rectangular gabled cottages, estate cottages show a preference for unusual plan, elevation and detail. These are present in ornate chimneys passing through ridges, hipped roofs, lattice windows, porches, barge-boarding and finials. The Stair Estates were inclined to incorporate all the latter features in their buildings, and had a particular emphasis on ornate barge boarding. (see Plates 404, 405, 406, 407) These aspects are widespread in the county owing to the influence and lands of the family. Other estates such as the Glasserton Estates retain barge boarding and the other features in a more restrained manner and show a preference for hood-moulding. (see Plate 408) Many of the unusual lodge houses contain similar apsidal features or windows in gables noted in tollhouses. This is because they perform the common function of regarding the roadways. (see Plates 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414) Cottages, which are off the main road, are found to be of basic simple traditional design and retain perhaps only the latticed window aspect of estate cottage building. A typical example is noted in Balkelly Cottage,

\(^{63}\) RHP 4591/1 Airlour, Mochrum 1820.
PLATE 404  WEST GATE LODGE  Glasserton

PLATE 405  GARCHIE LODGE  Kirkcolm
PLATE 410  MONREITH WEST GATE LODGE  Mochrum

PLATE 411
WALLING OF ROUNDED CORNER
Castle Kennedy Village
Inch
PLATE 412 NEW LODGE Classerton

PLATE 413 TORWOOD LODGE New Luce
PLATE 414  LARBRAX LODGE  Leswalt

PLATE 416  USE OF BRICK. MONREITH LODGE  Mochrum
Stoneykirk (see Plate 415) which was sketched on field survey.

All these building types, apart from those on estates such as Monreith, which used their own bricks (see Plate 416) show the heritage of a long tradition in the craft of stone walling.
Conclusion

Many interrelated factors have created the characteristics of the traditional regional vernacular observed in the building types surveyed. The most important influence, however, is observed to be the type and availability of building materials, which directly affect structural form.

Limited supplies of suitable raw materials restricted plan, elevation and design in all the early structures whatever their particular function. The various types of less durable walling materials such as clay, mud or turf were non-loadbearing and could only support simple light roofing constructions. This in addition to the scarcity of timber limited roof span and restricted height. Unmortared and mortared stone-walled buildings were also erected. At the beginning of the eighteenth century the documents reveal that the majority of building types, apart from tower-houses and churches, were thatched regardless of the fact whether the walls were of non-loadbearing or loadbearing materials.

In a reference to the erection of farmhouses and cottages jointed crucks are noted in conjunction with the building of load-bearing mud or lime mortared stone walls. This may well have been a tradition derived from the usage of cruck construction with non-loadbearing walling materials such as clay.

Stone walls which are exposed in their natural state are a feature which may be found in all building types in urban and rural areas. In the former setting the common practice of painting or rendering walls in strong colours has been noted. The tradition of roughcasting is observed in relation to the covering of external wall
surfaces in documents and field study in buildings such as tower-houses, mansions, and church and school buildings. The practice of limewashing walls is applied to other building types and carried out not only on stone but clay-walled structures, as described in certain farmsteadings.

With the improvement movement there was increased demand for more durable building materials, improved standards and accommodation. These features were stipulated in the various types of leases. Plans were drawn up by local masons and factors in conjunction with the approval of the landowners. Local quarries are noted as being the source of the main walling materials. Thatch was gradually replaced by local and imported slates and local timber was augmented by external supplies.

Many of the structures were beyond repair, but other basic rectangular buildings, which were of linear plan in the main range were reconstructed and additions were made, and many new buildings were also erected in this period. Buildings according to size and type were increased in plan and elevation. Another change was that partitions, many of which had been non-structural, became part of the walling construction. Additions to the main rectangular shape of buildings were usually carried out in the form of hipped-on wings. In cottages, farmhouses, manses and mills the basic plan evolved to an L- or T-plan. In churches the latter type became usual with the addition of transeptal aisles. Separation is observed in the detachment of dwelling houses from other offices in the various groups in rural complexes. In the towns and villages whilst some earlier buildings were removed the main layout of the streets retained their original character and were also little affected by
external influences other than the recognition of Georgian Classical features which were adapted and applied to the facades of vernacular buildings.

Although improvements demanded certain changes in standards and functions the early forms are recognisably the source of later vernacular buildings, which owe little to external influences. Many of the simple basic rectangular structures erected in the local walling materials are preserved and incorporated within later additions. Earlier buildings are usually deciphered by the method of walling construction. Difficulty is met when attempting to analyse the period and type of walling construction hidden by roughcast or many coats of limewash, which is common in the clay-walled constructions.

The region was and is well endowed with stone suitable for building and it is in the use of the local greywacke, sandstone and granite, which belong organically to the setting that accord the vernacular buildings the most essential feature of harmony. These basic building types with their pure functional statements denote the region. In particular those of the farmsteadings and cottages are accorded the position of being the most representative of this agriculturally orientated county and its individual character.

The increased development of communications since the end of the nineteenth century heralded the increased use of general building materials and methods and the end of vernacular character of local walling materials and architectural form. As finance is of paramount consideration in most present day structures the vernacular building traditions are in danger of being neglected and lost.
**GLOSSARY**

Explanation of terms from the Scottish National Dictionary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Bond, therefore throughband inband etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faulk</td>
<td>A joist connecting the rafters of a house. The tie beam or cross beam; a cross piece of timber fastened to the couple in the roof of a house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Fey</td>
<td>Land set apart for the growing of bear or barley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bent</td>
<td>A kind of course grass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bind</td>
<td>To tie up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bothy</td>
<td>An independent building on a farm or part of the farmstead used to house unmarried farm servants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box Bed</td>
<td>Bed enclosed on three sides and roofed with wood. The fourth side is closed with sliding panels, ordinary hinged doors or curtains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad</td>
<td>A board.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But and Ben</td>
<td>Standard two-room cottage type; usually but = outer, kitchen end ben = inner, best room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byre</td>
<td>Cowhouse, building in which cattle are kept tied.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabre</td>
<td>Beam or rafter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cast</td>
<td>To plaster; to give a coat of lime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaumer</td>
<td>Men's room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay-biggin</td>
<td>House made of clay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cot and Clay</td>
<td>Straw and clay plastered on a wooden framework to make partitions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottar</td>
<td>Older meaning: a tenant on a farm who occupied a cottage with or without a piece of land attached; the farmer working the cottar's land in return for services rendered to the landowner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Couple, Cupple, = Rafter, cruck; one of the pair of sloping rafters, forming two sides of a triangle, which support the roof of a building.

Cipple = Dail, Deal = A certain size of plank of fir or pine wood.

Divot, Dyvot = A turf, sod.

Fammtoun = A tract of land cultivated as a unit.

Feal, Feall = Turf.

Flail = To thresh corn.

Foldyard = Open yard in which livestock are free to move about.

Cabel, Cabell, Cavel = Cable.

Cropping = Darning method used in thatching.

Hallans = An inner wall partition or screen, generally composed of mud or clay mixed with stones or moulded over a wood and straw framework.

Horse-gang = Building to house horse-engine.

Jest = Joist.

Leaf = A hinged part.

Lum = Chimney.

Multure = The toll paid to the miller.

Pan = One of a number of horizontal timbers fixed to the couples or rafters of a roof and running at right angles; a purlin.

Pinning = To stop up, to consolidate masonry by wedging small stones or chippings into the interstices of the larger stones.

Plaister = Plaster.

Plension = Planking, boarding woodwork especially that of floors.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poynting</td>
<td>To indent a stone face with a pick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigging</td>
<td>Roof, ridge of the roof.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rybat</td>
<td>Reveal stone, quoin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sark</td>
<td>To cover the rafters of a roof with wooden boards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sclate</td>
<td>Slate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scob</td>
<td>A twig; a cane of willow or hazel one bent over in the form of a staple to fasten down thatch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scuncheon</td>
<td>In masonry: the inner edge of a window or door jamb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skew</td>
<td>A stone forming part of the coping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sneck</td>
<td>Latch, small stones or interstices in random rubble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spurtle</td>
<td>A flat bladed instrument for pushing thatching straw into position in a roof.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strae</td>
<td>Straw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teathing</td>
<td>The manuring of ground by cattle or sheep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thirled</td>
<td>To bind tenants by the terms of a lease to have the grain produced on the lands ground at a certain mill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrieve</td>
<td>Straw, heather reeds etc. for thatching; a measure consisting of two stocks generally containing twelve sheaves each.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throughband</td>
<td>See bond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trennel</td>
<td>A dowel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waulk</td>
<td>Fulling.</td>
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Wigtown

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<tr>
<td>Stranraer</td>
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<td>Wigtown</td>
<td>CH2/373</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wigtownshire County Buildings</th>
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<th>Commissioners of Supply Records</th>
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