

8 Catherine Street – “The White House”



◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

Nos. 2 to 10 Catherine Street

- 1783** Land feued to John McCoskrie, postmaster in Gatehouse .
- 1866** **Nos. 2 to 8** sold by estate of Christina McNish to Robert McMiken, , High Creoch and his wife Grace Gemmill.
No. 10 sold to Rev John Grogan , RC priest Kirkcudbright
- 1880** **Nos. 4 & 6** probably sold to James and Robert Henry.
- 1881** Grace Gemmill or McMicken sold **No.2** to Samuel Williamson, merchant, Liverpool. At that time Joseph Tait, painter occupied no.2.
Grace Gemmill must have retained **No.8** as she sold this to T H McGaw in 1896.

Nos. 2 to 10

1783	All feued to John McCoskrie, postmaster in Gatehouse, measuring 185 ft along the street
1788 ?	Sold to William Hannay of Bargaly
1823	New charter to William McNish
1824	Sold to Alexander Cairns, joiner
1833	Passed to Nicholas McNish, wife of Alexander Cairns

No.8

1841 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 5 Page 12 [Back Street 11 to 13](#)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Back Street 11							
Carnochan	Peter			m	20	joiner	Kirkcudbrightshire
Carnochan	Jane			f	40		Scotland
Walker	James			m	20	iron turner	Scotland
Young	Alexander			m	20	carding master	Scotland
Cheater	Emily			f	40	independent	Scotland
Hawthorn	Mary			f	20	female servant	Kirkcudbrightshire
Back Street 12							
Armstrong	John			m	74	independent	Scotland
Armstrong	Jane			f	55		Kirkcudbrightshire
Armstrong	Jane			f	20		Kirkcudbrightshire
Armstrong	Janet			f	12		Kirkcudbrightshire
Back Street 13							
Milligan	Anthony			m	32	agricultural labourer	Kirkcudbrightshire
Milligan	Jean			f	32		Kirkcudbrightshire

1851 Girthon Census – Examination of census returns suggests that this property was unoccupied in 1851

1854	Title of Christina McNish or McClure <i>Note that in 1833 ownership had passed to Nicholas McNish from her husband Alexander Cairns. Was Christina a sister of Nicholas who married someone with surname McClure ?</i>
1854	<i>The 1854 map suggests that nos 2 & 4 Back Street were small detached properties whilst nos. 6, 8 & 10 were a terrace of houses.</i>

1859-60 Girthon Valuation Roll :

Mrs Christina McClure, owned a house, shop, garden and backhouse that was occupied by James Douglas, saddler. She also owned 2 houses with gardens, one occupied by Charles James McClure and the other by Miss Elizabeth Wright. She also owned a property for which annual rent was <£4, so occupants were not identified.

1861 Girthon Census – Examination of census returns suggests that this property was unoccupied in 1861

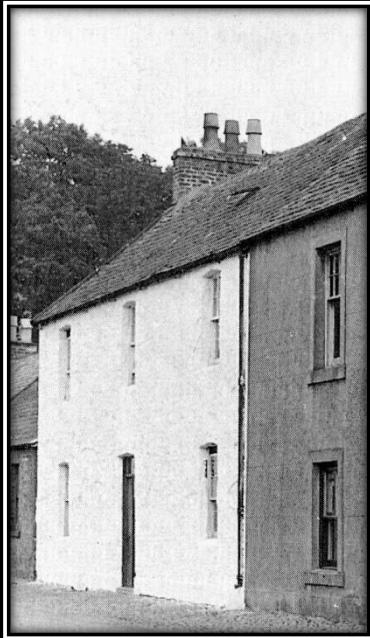
1871 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 3 Page 10 [Back Street 19](#)

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Watson	Joseph	head	m	m	30	wood hoop maker	England
Watson	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	28		Kbts
Watson	Elizabeth Tyson	dau.		f	8		Kbts, Anwoth
Watson	Agnes	dau.		f	2		Kbts, Girthon
Watson	Thomas	son		m	<12m		Kbts, Girthon
Watson	Henry	son	s	m	18	sailor	England
Watson	John	son	s	m	14	apprentice hoop maker	England
Burnie	Alexander	head	m	m	36	stone dyker	Kbts, Twynholm

Burnie	Elizabeth	wife	m	f	35		Kbts, Minnigaff
Burnie	Jane	dau.		f	9	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Burnie	Thomas	son		m	7	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
Burnie	Agnes	dau.		f	4		Kbts, Gatehouse
Burnie	Alexander	son		m	2		Kbts, Gatehouse
Burnie	John	son		m	4m		Kbts, Gatehouse
Cairns	Alexander M	head	m	m	26	mason	Ireland
Cairns	Jessie	wife	m	f	27		Kbts, Anwoth
Cairns	Eliza Jane	dau.		f	5	scholar	Kbts, Anwoth
Cairns	Robert	son		m	3		Kbts, Girthon
Cairns	John	son		m	<10m		Kbts, Girthon

1881 Girthon Census - Enumeration District 3 Page 13 Back Street (S) 04							
<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
McLellan	John	head	m	m	31	shoemaker	Kbts, Gatehouse
McLellan	Grace	wife	m	f	29		Wigtown, N'ton Stewart
McLellan	Agnes	dau		f	6	scholar	Kbts, Gatehouse
McLellan	Janet	dau		f	4		Kbts, Gatehouse
McLellan	Margaret	dau		f	2		Kbts, Gatehouse
McLellan	Lizzie Jane	dau		f	11m		Kbts, Gatehouse
Biggam	John	head	m	m	44	master tailor employing 2 men & 1 boy	Kbts, Gatehouse
Biggam	Margaret	wife	m	f	48		Kbts, Rerrick
Biggam	Jane	dau	s	f	16		Kbts, Gatehouse
Biggam	John William	nephew	s	m	19	tailor journeyman	England
Malcolmson	William	servant		m	16	tailor apprentice	Kbts, Girthon

1884-85 Girthon Valuation Roll :	Mrs Grace McMiken, New Zealand, per William McMiken, High Street, owned houses and gardens for which annual rent was <£4, so occupants were not identified. The one house may have been 'flatted' hence the reference to houses.
1896	Grace Gemmell (McMicken), New Zealand, sold to T H McGaw
1916	Title of William McGaw



No. 8 is the "White House".
Note the narrower windows.

1945	Sold by William and Thomas McGaw to Mrs E Murray Usher
1945	Feu to Mrs Mary Fleming or Carmichael (?)

1950-51 Girthon Valuation Roll :	8 Catherine Street was owned by Elizabeth Murray Usher and it was occupied by John McCluskie, farm worker..
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1960-61 Girthon Valuation Roll :	8 Catherine Street was owned by Elizabeth Murray Usher and it was occupied by H Martin.
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1975	Sold by Alexander McDougall to William Farraday and spouse
1990	Sold to John and Helen Macnamara, present owners

Last Updated : 13 November 2021