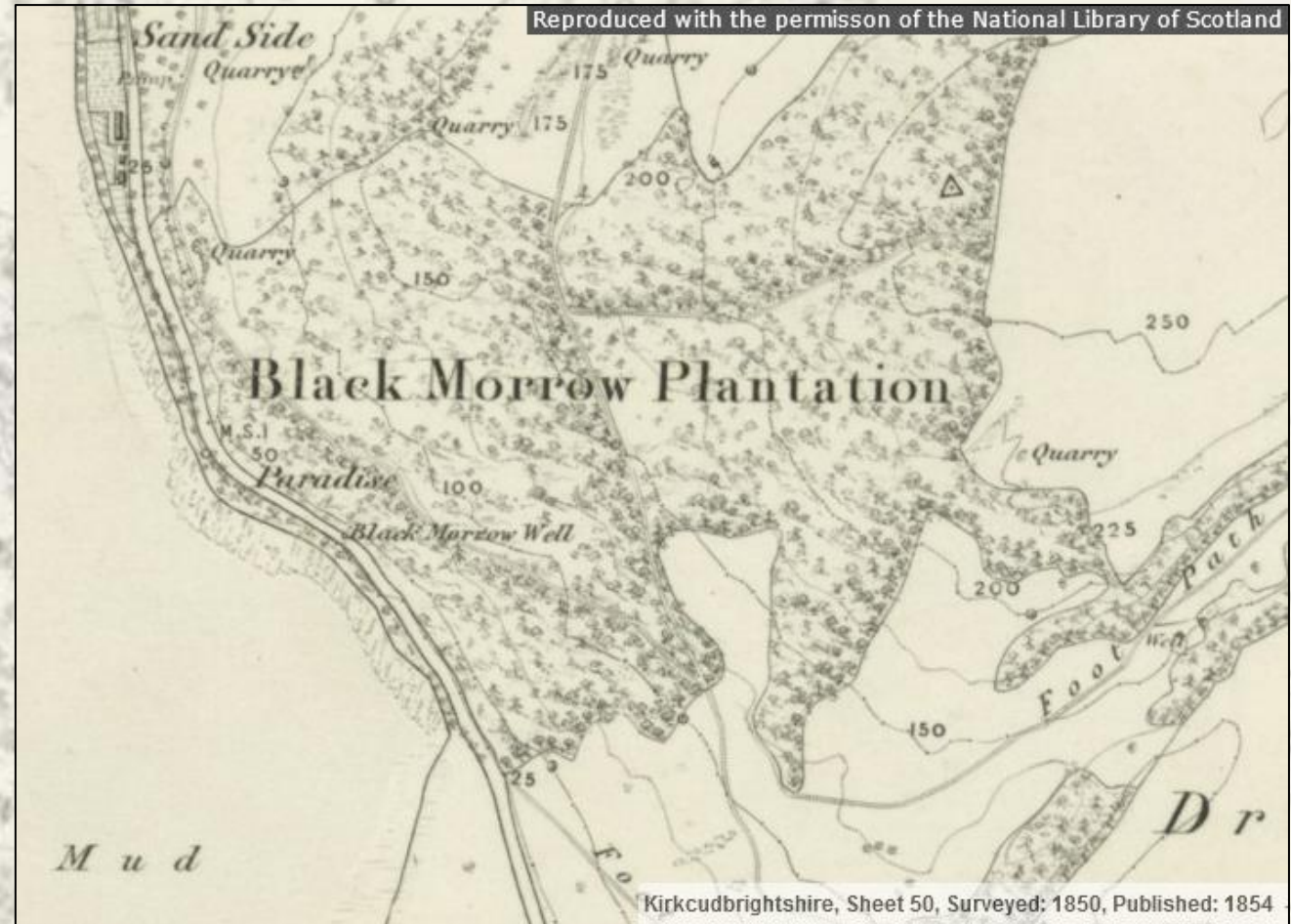


Black Morrow Well

also known as Black Moray / Murray's Well

There are several versions to the story.

The well takes its name from a gypsy chief who lived in the area called either Black Morrow or Murray. He took his name from his dark complexion and his great strength. He caused much suffering in the rich farmlands of the area. Young William McLellan, the younger son of the former laird of Bombie, wished to get his father's lands back, but did not want to fight Black Morrow personally. McLellan came up with a plan. He filled a well near Black Morrow's camp with spirits; when the gypsy chief had drunk freely he fell asleep. McLellan, who had been watching the proceedings from a safe place, sprung out from his hiding place and with one blow severed the head of Black Morrow from its body. McLellan stuck the head on the point of his sword and took it to the king, James II, who then returned the Barony of Bombie to him. McLellan took the image of a head on a sword for his crest.



Rediscovered by Jenny Roberts

Location: 268442, 549405
Parish: Kirkcudbright

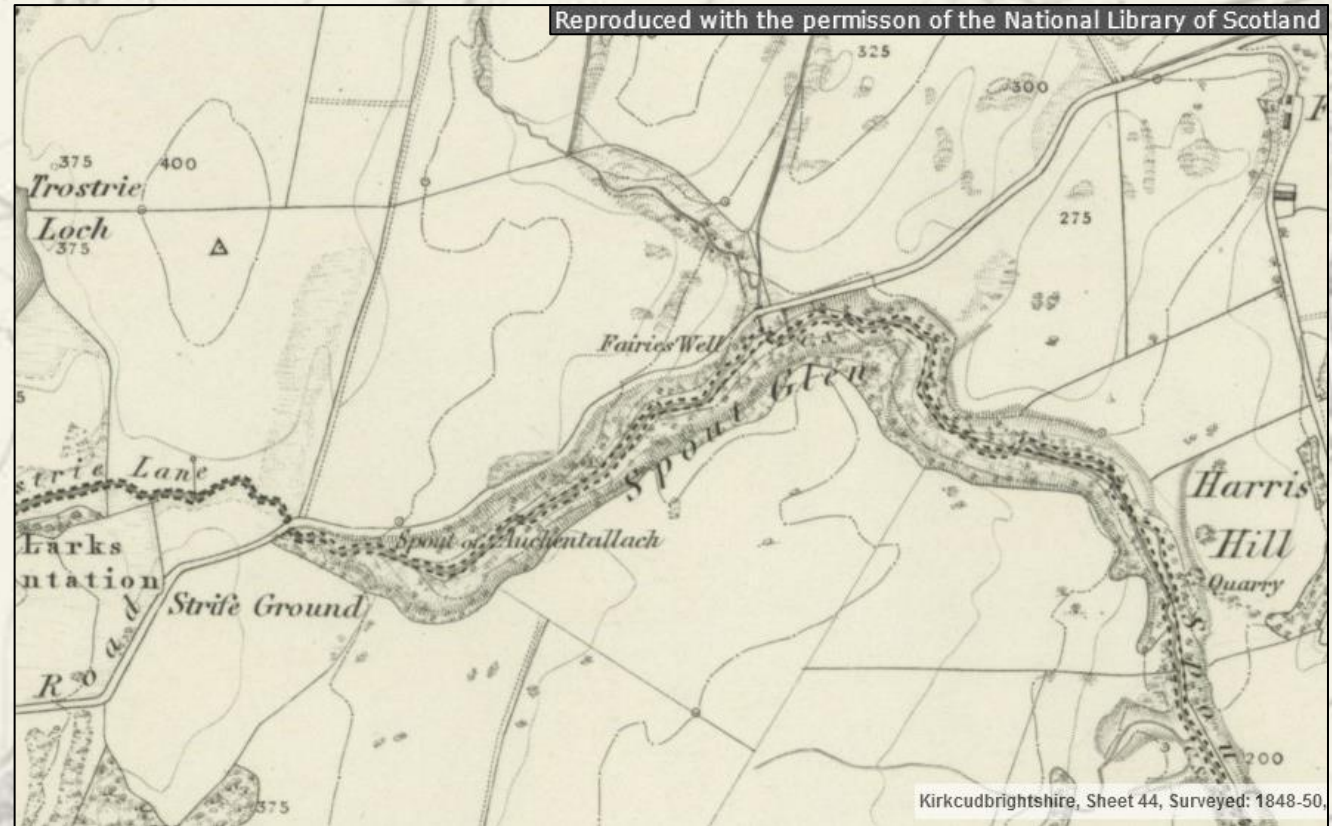
Fairies Well

In Spout Glen south of Lochhill. Named on 1843-1882 map but not thereafter.

In the OS Names Book 1848-1851 Vol 132 p.17 Fairies Well is described as located at "About 5/8 mile NW by W of Valleyfield House" and as "A small spring well on the farm of Loch Hill and close to the margin of Spout Burn it is traditionally handed down as being formally [sic] the haunt of fairies, hence the name."

In the OS Names Book Vol 132 p.57 Fairies Well is "A small spring situated on the farm of Lochhill and in the Spout Glen the water of which is considered very good - Mr Carlisle of Largs [said] that there is a superstitious tradition in the locality that fairies used to visit here, hence the name."

Fairy Wells were to be found on old estates in Scotland during the "Fairy Era" of the 19th Century.



Rediscovered by Lyn Walby

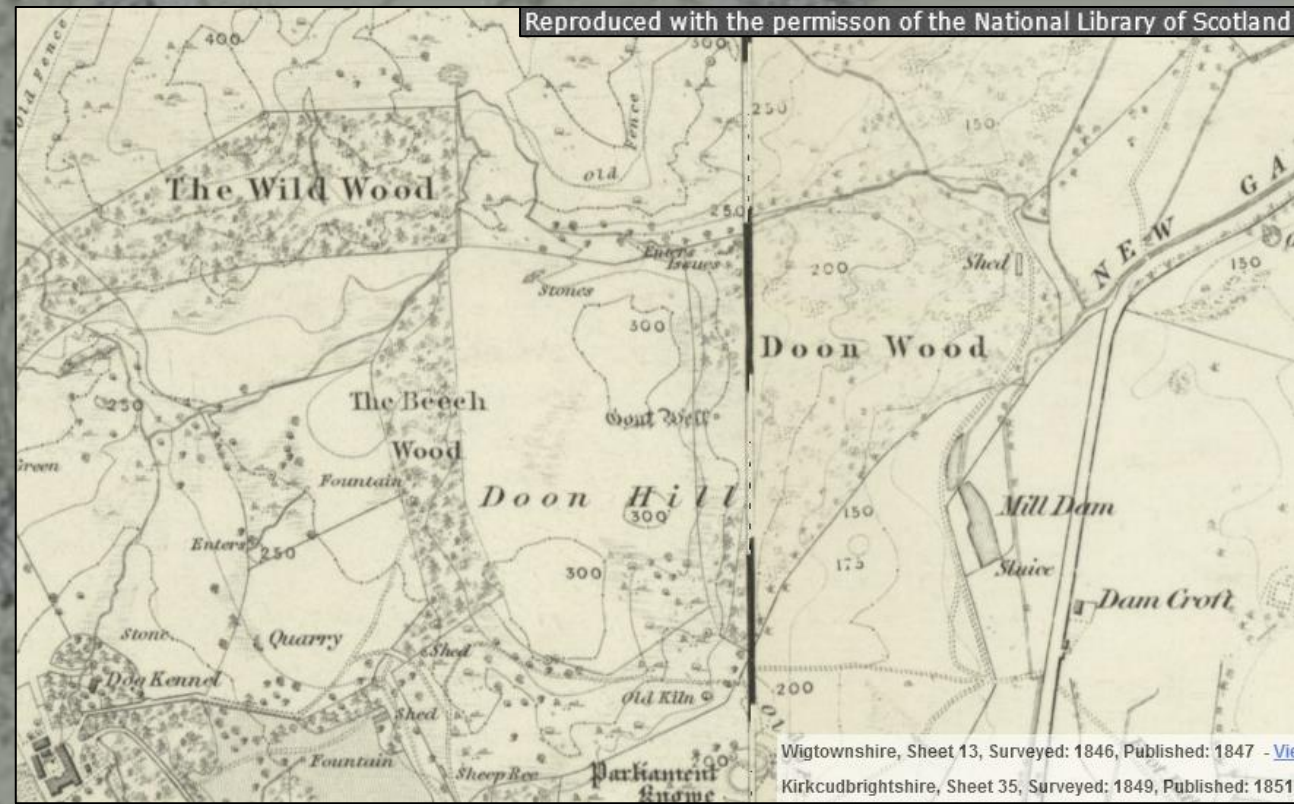
Location: 266878, 556917
Parish: Tongland

Gout Well of Larg

Rediscovered by William Ion - Minnigaff 242782, 566446

OS namebook: "A small spring well situated in doon wood and deer park of Kirroughtree, in former times it was much reported to be incredulous on the first day of May for the purpose of being cured of the gout & by washing or drinking of the water. It is still well known by this name."

An additional note is added to the record as follows
"hereabout is a well called the Gout Well of Larg of which they tell this story, how that a piper stole away the offering left at this well (these offerings are some inconsiderable thing which the country people used to leave at wells when they come making use of them towards any cure) but when he was drinking of ale which he intended to pay with the money he had taken away, the gout, as they say siezed on him, of which he could not be cured but at that well, having first restored to it the money which he had formerly taken away. Symson's Descriptions of Galloway 1684"



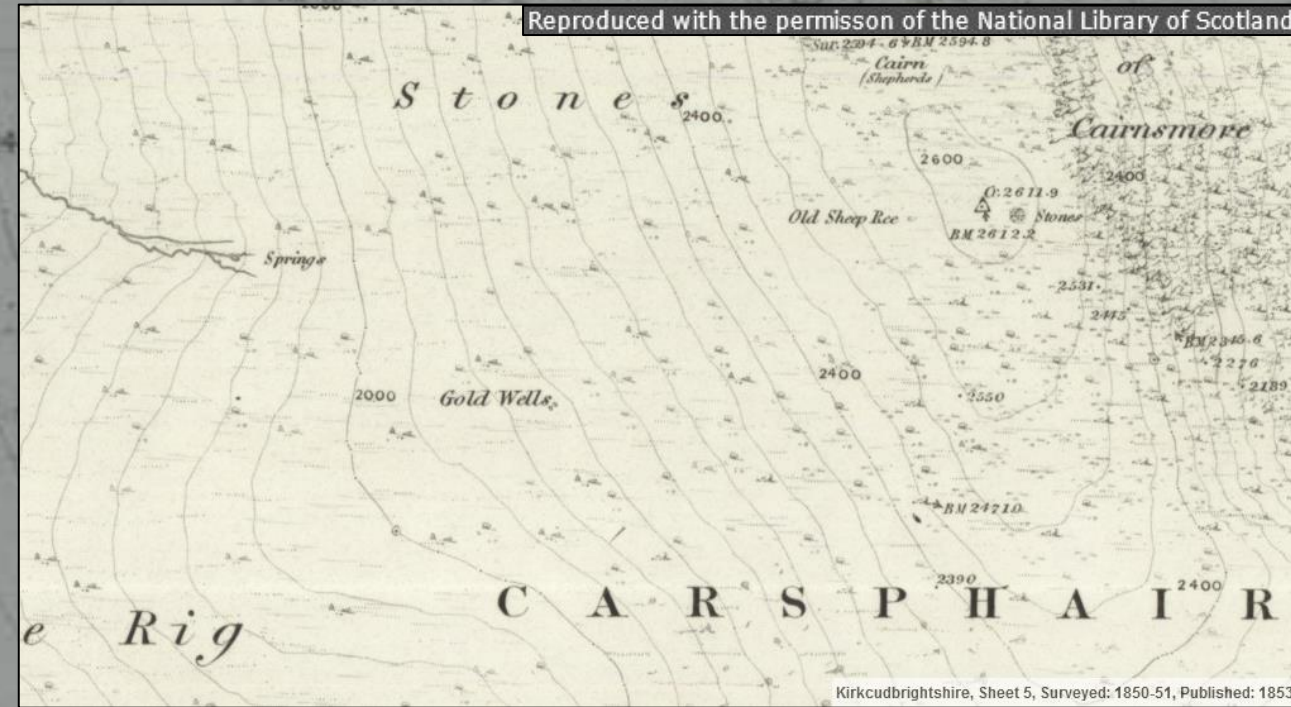
Only one other original reference, apart from Symson's, was found. This was in 'Where the Whaups are Crying - A Dumfries and Galloway Anthology' edited by Innes MacLeod, 2001:
"Minnigaff Kirk Session 'rebooked and exhorted' a number of young people, Patrick Stewart, James Reid, Jo Roxburgh, Robert Roxburgh, Margaret Martine and Jane Reid, on 29th May, 1720 for visiting the Gout Well on the first day of May. Minnigaff Parish Records"

Gold Wells

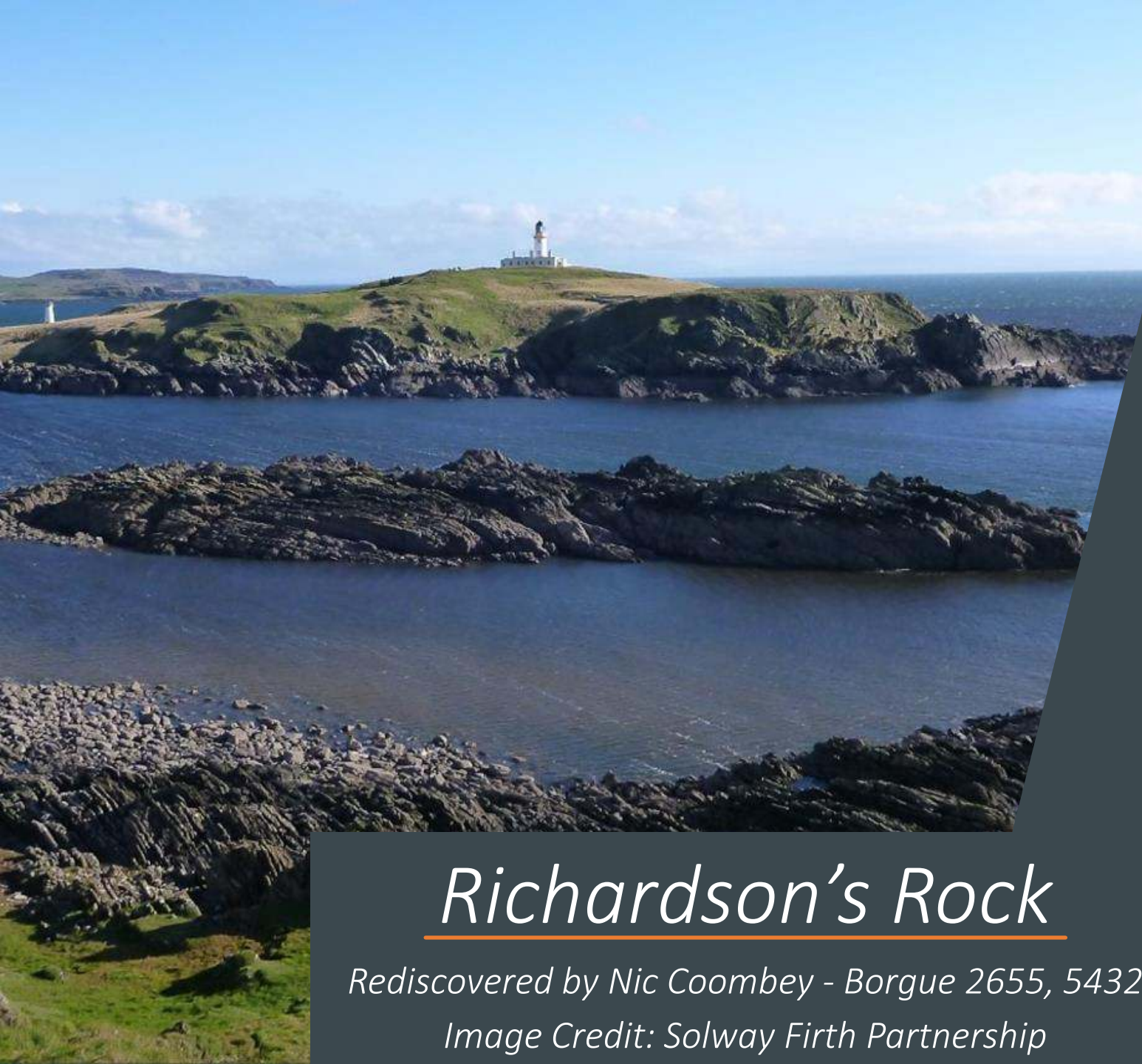
Rediscovered by Susan Paton - Carsphairn 258964, 597793

OS namebook: "near the summit are a number of springs, two of them are Known by the name of "Gold Wells" out of which and some small streams in the locality A William Dodd who was celebrated for his chemical skill collected a quantity of Gold, and converting it into some foreign coin but while doing so, he was disturbed by some of the officers of the Crown sent to apprehend him in his lucrative retirement."

Rambles in Galloway by Harper: "In what are called the gold wells of Cairnsmore, it is said that a Dr. Dodds, a sort of alchemist in his day, placed paper-mills, with which he collected the gold dust from the water ; and near the roadside, on the lands of Lagwine, he erected his smithy for converting the gold into coins of the West Indian Islands.



On the seclusion of his retirement being disturbed by some officers of the Crown sent to apprehend him, it is generally believed in the district that he threw his whole coining apparatus into what is commonly known as the green well of Lagwine....The Doctor was tried at Edinburgh, but it is not known what became of him afterwards."



Richardson's Rock

Rediscovered by Nic Coombey - Borgue 2655, 5432

Image Credit: Solway Firth Partnership

Scottish Gallovidian Encyclopedia and Torrs Farm First published 1824: “Wee Ross – One of the best known islands belonging Galloway; Between the two lands is a rock termed Janet Richardson. This was a poor woman who belonged to Clauchendolly, and who went on to the rock at ebb-tide, to gather a powkfu’ o’ mussels; while so employed the sea flowed round the rock, unobserved by her, at length noticing it – she “kilted up her coats, aboon the na’el,” as the saying is, plugged in, but the buldering waters of the sound hurried her off her feckless shanks, but she having a farkage o’ claise about her, they kepted her aboon broe, until she was driven ashore on the Milton Lands; from such circumstance is the rock named, and that name will likely remain as long as if it had been given by Cook or Parry.”

Craigencallie

Rediscovered by Arthur Eggleton – Minnigaff 250260, 578030

The well itself is unnamed but it sits next to a ruin called Craigencallie where the story lies...

Legend is that following his first victory at nearby Loch Trool, Robert the Bruce divided his force and instructed them to meet at Craigencallie (Gaelic: Creagan Cailleach – The Crag Of The Old Woman). He arrived alone, exhausted. The three times widowed woman there offered her 3 sons, each of a different father, for soldiers and to demonstrate their worth they engaged in an archery display, shooting ravens. The rock upon which two ravens were slain by a single arrow is named Pin Rock (Stone) and can be seen on the current map. The three sons then played a prominent part in the victory at Raploch Moor a few days later, utilising cattle to create noise throughout the night so to mislead their opponents as to the size of their force, then attacking at dawn against an anxious and alarmed enemy. The widow was later rewarded with 15 square miles of farmland by Newton Stewart with the descendants of her sons farming there into the 20th Century.

Natural Well



Well structure built immediately by it

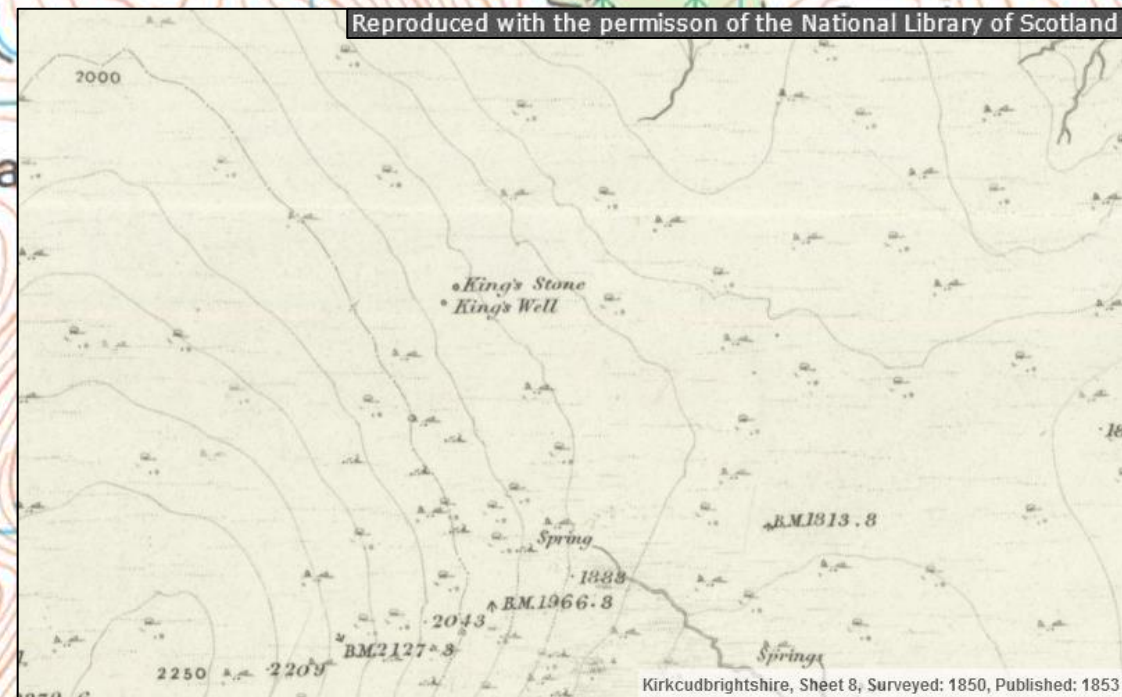
King's Well

Lies at 587m (1925ft) on the saddle between Meaul Hill 695m/2250ft and Cairnsgarroch 659m/2153ft. It appears on the modern OS map and as far back as OS 6" 1843 - 82. Nearby on some of the older maps is King's Stone about 60ft away.

Why King's Well? It is tempting to assume it refers to Robert the Bruce who was known to be at Glentool & Clatteringshaws in 1307 (both less than 10 miles away as the crow flies) and at Glenluce/Whithorn in 1329 (Ref The Bruce Trust). The nearby Polmaddie to Carsphairn Pack Road is part of the old Pilgrims Way.

However, from my own bookcase; "Galloway: the spell of its hills and glens", by Andrew McCormick published 1932 in the chapter headed "Cars Fearn", reference is made to "when King James V passed through that neighbourhood"; so could Kings Well be named after him (16th century) rather than Robert the Bruce (14th century)? Both kings visited Whithorn at some point.

Of course the well may have been named in jest by shepherds or men building nearby drystane dykes from 1700s.



Rediscovered by Niall Mackie

Location: 250405, 591264
Parish: Carsphairn

Physic Well (Chalybeate)

Rediscovered by Michael Ansell in Forrest Glen, Kells

256152, 587533

Appears first on OS 1st ed. 6" map of 1853. Then on OS 6" map 1888-1913 and on subsequent OS 25:1 and 50:1 maps to the present day. Note the well as marked on the maps is about 20m too far east, it is actually positioned just inside the Forrest Estate land and on the west side of the dyke. The well seems remarkably well preserved but is of no great depth, probably filled in with debris.

The well is close to a rocky eminence called Craigmaharb. Ostensibly this looks like ScG creag na h-earba, 'rock of the hind' but the 'ma' element often stands for the ScG honorific 'mo', meaning 'my' and is used to refer to one or other saint. This might mean that the site had some religious significance but this is highly speculative. The problem is that no known Gaelic saint is suggested by the specific element 'herb' here. It is hard to see a cult of St Herbert of Derwentwater being established here although of course Galloway was once under the sway of the Northumbrians.



Although appearing to be remote and isolated, in the past the Forrest Glen was quite densely populated as the ruins of many former holdings such as nearby Ringreoch attest. So the well would have been within reasonable reach of the rural community here.

Lost Wells of Kirkcudbright

Rediscovered by Jenny Roberts



Butter Well
268212, 550148

Used by the monks at St Mary's Priory to wash the butter when they were making it. Reopened in the 1840s as the Park House well had run dry.



Barbaras Well
268818, 551159

This well was thought to be called after a woman who lived nearby.



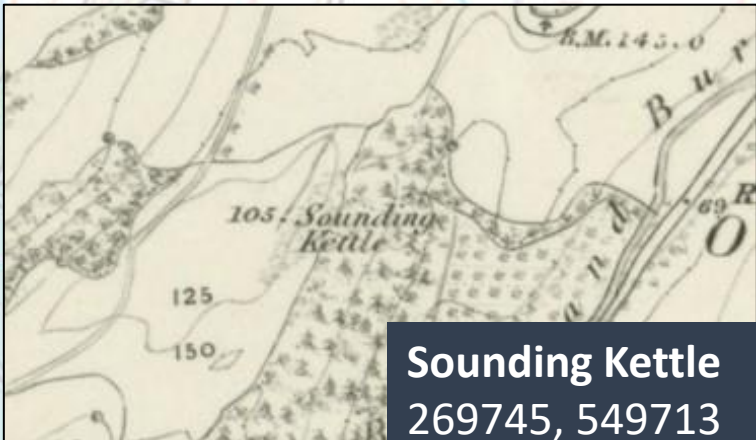
Monk's Well
267375, 548917

'An excellent spring of water issuing from a leading pipe into a trough or cistern' used by the monks when the Augustian St Mary's Priory was in existence.



Cotland Well
268802, 550007

This well is situated near Cannee Far. In the 1840s the water from this well was piped to St Mary's House.



Sounding Kettle
269745, 549713

Refers to a hole in the ground through which a small burn enters. It makes a strange sound, hence the name.

Wells at Drummore Castle

Rediscovered by Alison Fabian – South of Kirkcudbright

While looking into wells in her area, Alison came across written mention of two unnamed wells at the site of the prehistoric fort called Drummore Castle.

‘In his report of 1891, Frederick Coles stated that the ramparts were still imposing and strong, suggesting to him that the fort was constructed with one thing in mind....defence. He also stated that two wells were still visible in amongst the thick vegetation at the summit of the hill, indicating that the fort was meant to be inhabited.’

Harper’s *Rambles in Galloway* 1876 (who references Chalmer’s *Caledonia* 1807) identifies Drummore as being a frontier garrison of the Selgovae. ‘At the bottom of the hill was a well, now covered with stones, which is thought to have supplied the garrison with water.’

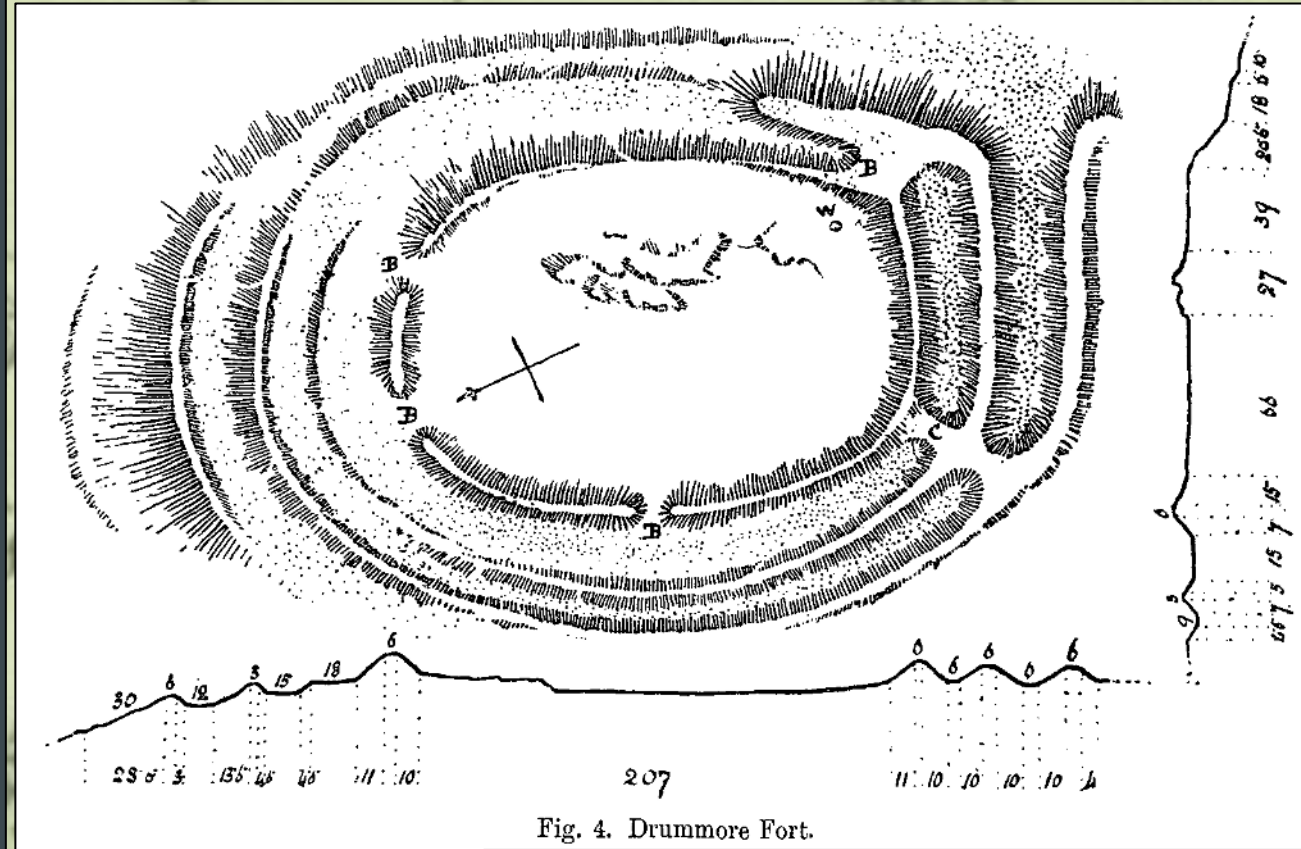


Fig. 4. Drummore Fort.

Image from Coles, F. R. 1981 'The Motes, Forts and Doons of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright (Part I)', *PSAS* Vol. 25, 352-96

Placenames to suggest above: Howwell

‘Howwell is in the prefix from the Norse holl, contracted from hvall, for a hill or hillock. The meaning is, the well at the hill or hillock.’

St Mirran's Well

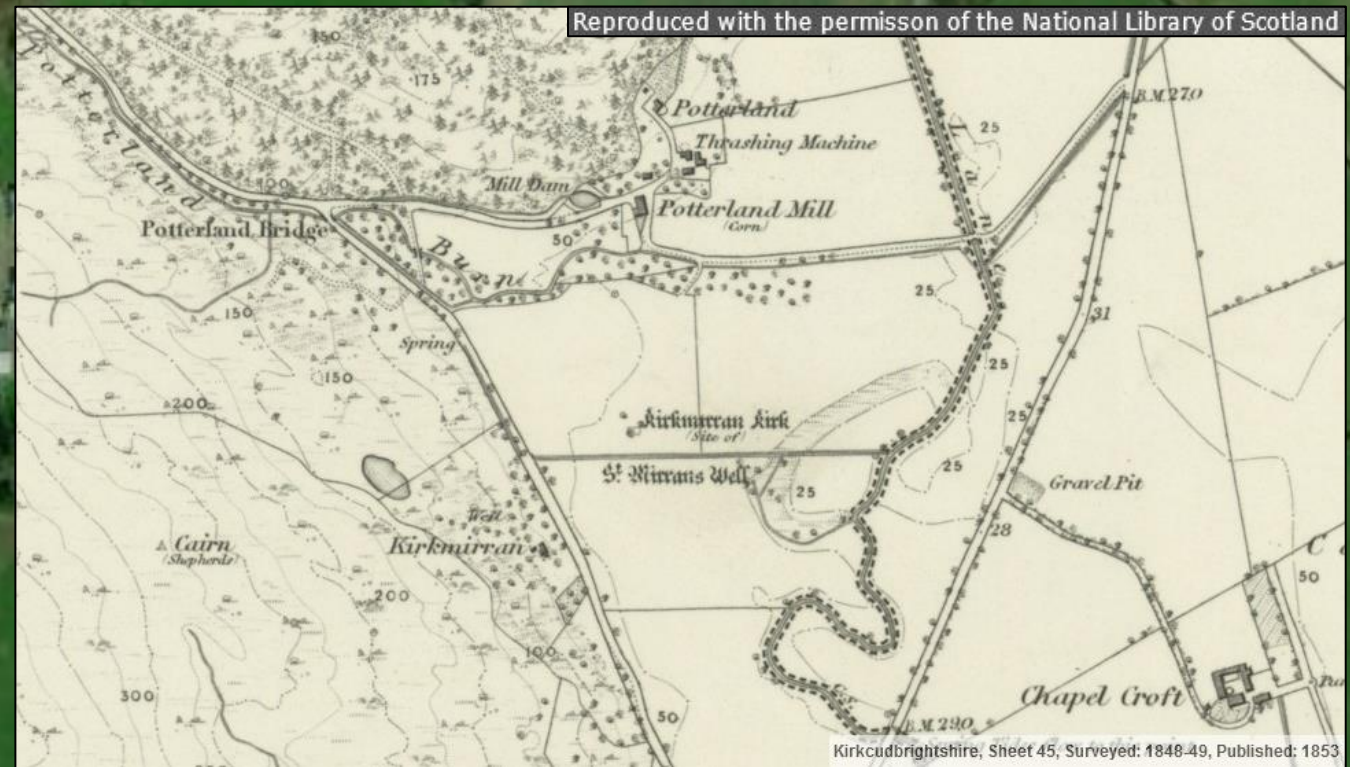
It is a spring well and is very close to Kirkmirran Kirk.

They are named after St Mirren who was a Catholic monk and missionary from Ireland (c.565 – c.620).

A contemporary of St Columba. He was prior of Bangor Abbey before making his missionary voyage to Scotland.

It is very close to Potterland, by Potterland Mill and close to Potterland Lane which forms part of the parish boundary.

It was on the grounds of Colonel Maxwell of Orchardton. The 1845 Statistical Account states that in ancient times it was probably a parish, with the kirk being a chapel of ease.



Rediscovered by Ruth Airley

Location: 280116, 555027

Parish: Kelton

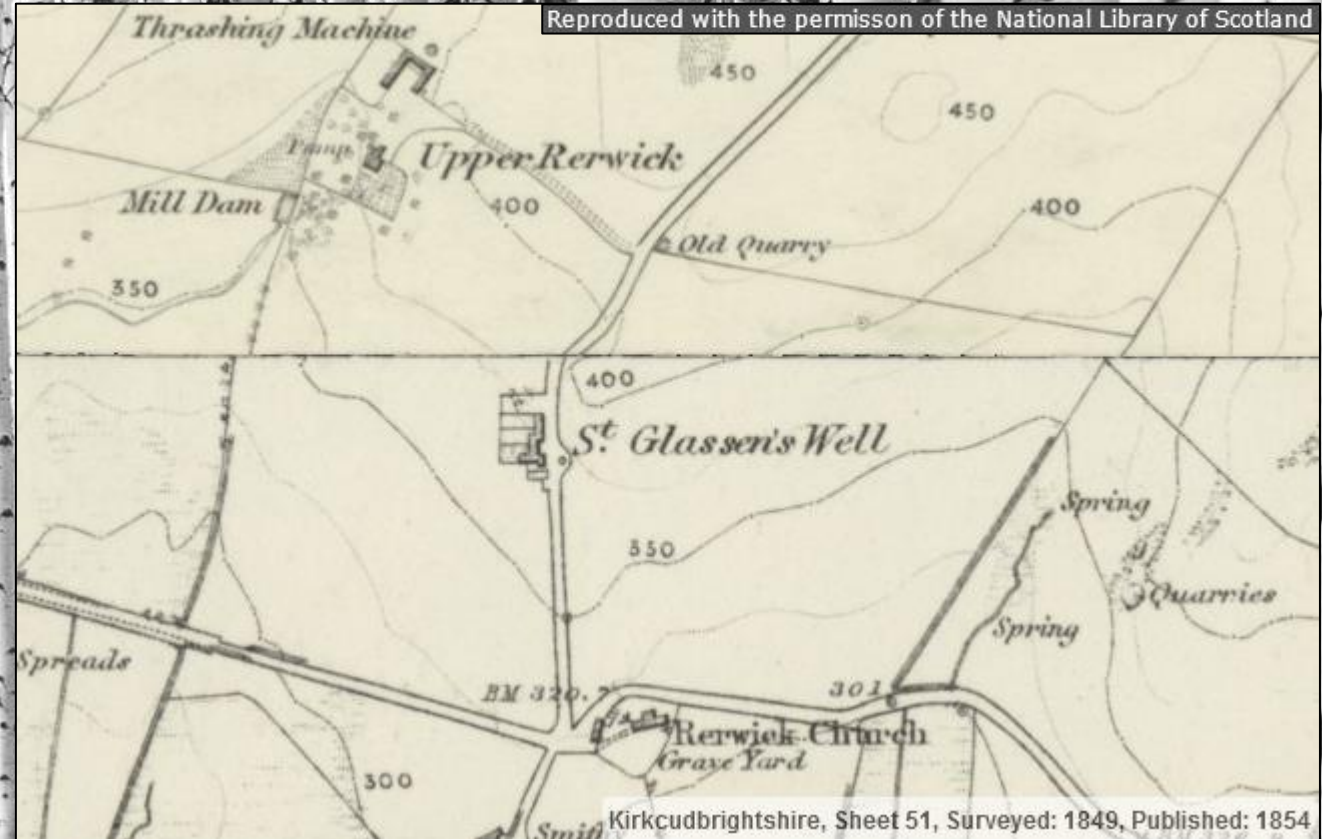
St Glassen's Well

In danger of becoming lost, as although described in 1847 in the Kirkcudbrightshire name books as an 'excellent spring well', it was described in 1971 as encased by a 1.0m diameter glazed pipe, the exposed end of which is covered by a cast-iron lid. There is a brief mention in 2004 that there is little left to see.

Torrance 1996: The site dates from at least 1536.

M'Kerlie 1878: We do not find any church dedicated to such a Saint, but in Keith's list of Scottish Saints there is MacGlastian, a bishop in Scotland in 814, whose festival day was the 30th January.

Saints in this Place-Name: St. Glascian or Maglastian...is said to have been an illustrious and saintly bishop during the reign of King Achaius, a Scottish king contemporaneous with Charlemagne. Very few particulars can be ascertained as to his life. All that is at present known of him is gathered from the traces of his cultus which remain in various districts of the country. Thus the parish of Kinglassie, near Kirkcaldy, seems to have been named after him, and in the neighbourhood is a spring of fine water known as St. Glass's Well. There is another well named after him at Dundrennan (Kirkcudbrightshire). Kilmaglas, now Stachur, in Argyleshire, indicates another dedication to this saint.



Rediscovered by Kathy Keeling

Location: 275970, 546917
Parish: Rerrick

Rumbling Well

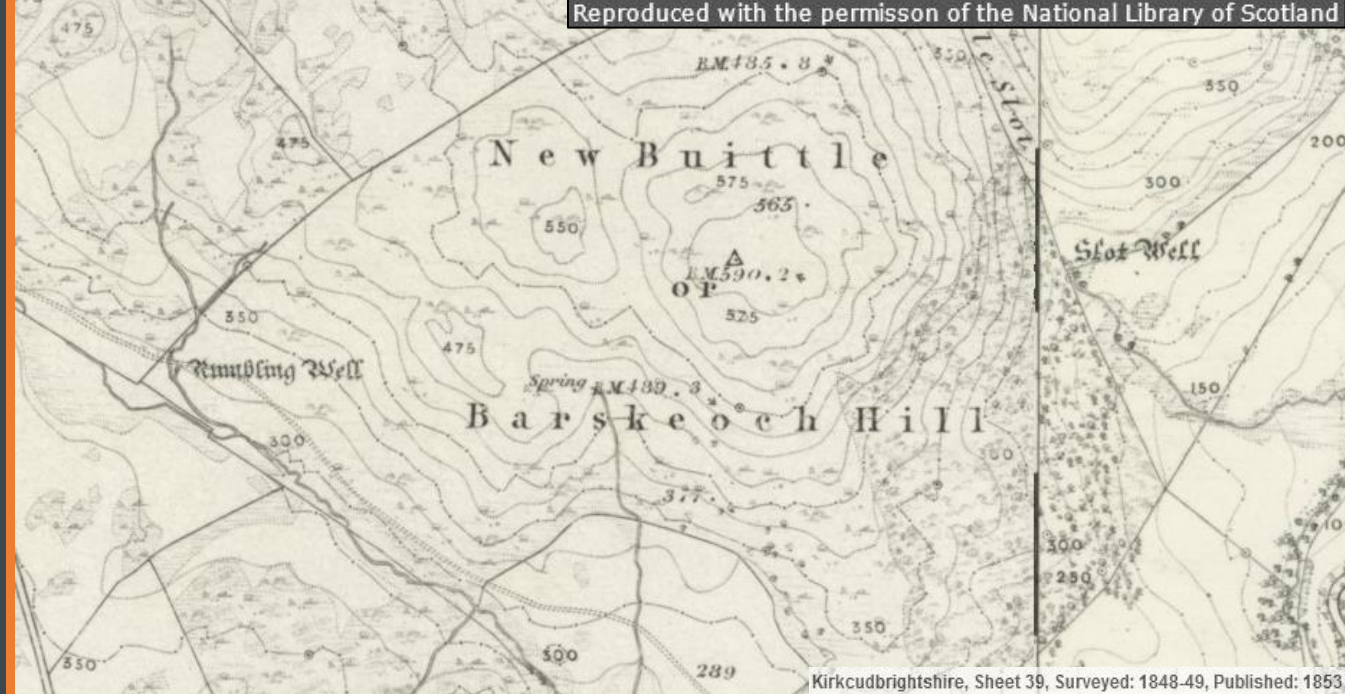
Rediscovered by Lyn Ferguson - Buittle 280515 561550

OS namebook: "This is a small and good spring upon the farm of New Buittle and used to be resorted to by the credulous. In the parish of Buittle about a mile from the Kirk towards the north is a well called the Rumbling Well. Frequented by a multitude of sick people for all sorts of diseases the first Sunday of May lying there the Saturday night and then drinking of it early in the morning."

Canmore: "The rumbling well is mentioned in 1684 as a resort of sick people, who left money or clothes as a thank you offering (1914).

A spring of water from the base of a natural bank. The back of the well has been revetted with stone, and there is a plentiful supply of water (1963)."

Places of Worship in Scotland 2003: "The well is described as a holy well located on flat ground near the foot of a hill, adjacent to a modern reservoir."



Slot Well

Rediscovered by Lyn Ferguson - Buittle 281328 561613

Canmore: "The Slot well was frequented in 1684 by people wishing to cure their sick cattle. As a thank offering they left behind the bands and shackles used to bind the animals (1914). The Slot well is now buried beneath stones which have fallen from the field dyke and a mass of tangled under-growth. A steady stream of water, however, issues from the ground 3.0m below the position of the well indicating that the spring is still functioning (1963)."

Lochenbreck Spa Well

Rediscovered by Sue Taylor – Balmaghie 264904, 565021

Lochenbreck spa well is a chalybeate well (natural mineral spring containing iron salts) located in Laurieston Forest on Laurieston Road, a minor road between Laurieston and Gatehouse of Fleet. The well has appeared on maps since at least 1797, and used to be a very popular attraction both for wealthy holidaymakers and for sufferers of TB and other ailments, who sought out the well's medicinal properties. Still today, its waters run bright orange.

This well's history has been inextricably bound up with that of the Lochenbreck Spa Hotel, which was either built or converted from a previous lodging or dwelling house located on the other side of the current small road in order to meet a demand for spa visitor accommodation, probably in the 18th century according to reports.

The hotel clearly made a feature of the spa and its water properties to attract visitors, creating a circular pavilion to enclose the well, installing a pump for its water, and even extending the hotel gardens to include the well in its landscaping. The hotel closed in 1905 and sadly later burnt down. The tremendous fire was the result of an oil lamp spillage.

Image from Andrew Wilson



It has been reported that the bard Robert Burns stayed at the inn a few times, and it's claimed he may even have written or made notes for his work *Scots Wha Hae* whilst there; but these claims are also disputed.

Another frequent guest was the writer and artist Malcolm MacLachlan Harper (1839-1914), who apparently wrote articles about the hotel/spa, though I have been unable to trace any of these. However, the 1906 edition of his book *Rambles in Galloway* contains not only descriptions of the well and hotel, but also a poem he wrote inspired by the spa.



The lassie I lo'ed

Oh! dearly I lo'e a' the Dee's rocky mountains,
Its licht birken glens, an' its dark heather braes,
Where the bonnie wild roses in simmer are blawin'
An' sweetly the wee birds are croonin their lays:
An' dear aye to me is the bricht glancin' burnie
That rins 'mang the rocks in the deep shady dell -
But dearer an' brichter to me than them a' is
The lassie I lo'ed at Lochenbreck Well!

An' bonnie the wee ferny nook in the glen is
Awa' 'mong the uplan's o' Grennoch's wild shore,
An' pure is the breath o' the breeze that is blawin'
Frae hills roun' Loch Dee, where the mad torrents roar.
An' sweet to the e'e are the bricht broomy knowies,
An' wee glentin flo'ers 'neath the sun's gowden spell -
But bonnier an' sweeter to me than them a' is
The lassie I lo'ed at Lochenbreck Well!

Oh! naething in Nature to me half sae fair is -
Nae wee modest primrose in shade o' the tree -
Nae lily in beauty wi' her can compare,
Or wee daisies gleamin' sae fair on the lea.
To me, a' the year, it would be a bricht simmer
If that it were mine in her presence to dwell -
For dearer to me than a' titles or gowd is
The lassie I lo'ed at Lochenbreck Well!

*Malcolm MacLachlan
Harper 1876*

Lochenbreck Well

Time was, I poured golden from the earth.
And they flocked to my brilliance,
drank of my ochre goodness,
housed my followers and me.

Installed in my new bower, I bubbled free,
glowed amber in goblets,
eased pains, healed the sick, revived spirits;
entertained the young people
who, fired by my zest and sparkle,
sipped til the small hours.

Once, resplendent in red, I danced for Burns
(well, he'd galloped through a storm for me).

Star of Galloway!
Flame of the North!
Well of healing!
- they called me.

In those days.



No one flocks or gallops now.
It's quiet.
In my roofless fallen bower in the silent woodland, I lie low, reflect, murmur,
dancing only with the rain.
Trickle a little, feral orange, waiting.

Sue Taylor 2021

St Ninian's Well

Parton (270840, 569806), by Sue Taylor

St Ninian's Well is located at Chapelbrae in the grounds of the former Parton estate on the east bank of the Dee, and close to a ruined estate chapel, a priest's house and an ice house.

The well only acquires its very specific name on very recent OS maps - OS 2017 and OS 1944-70. The well does appear unnamed on four or five earlier maps (the earliest is 1843-82) - marked only as "Spring".

Julia Watt, Whithorn Trust: "Generally, the naming of a well for the saint either means there was either a local dedicated church and cult of St Ninian or else it's on the pilgrimage route from the East to Whithorn and grateful pilgrims or local religious foundations named the well."

Paul Hodson: "The Glendonwyns of Parton were supporters of Robert the Bruce, and he gifted Parton to them in return. At the time of the reformation they remained Catholic, and in 1580 built [the nearby] house as their priest's house and private chapel.

I would surmise that the chapel in the field either predates St Inan's Kirk [the late 16th century ruin in Parton churchyard] or was built at the same time as [the] house. The Glendonwyns got into financial trouble and the estate was bought by their cousins, the Murrays.

The well alcove bears the inscription 'Fons Sancti Niniani', which I think means 'sacred waters of Ninian'. No idea of the well's age, but I guess the well and baptisms will be linked to the Catholic chapel rather than St Inan's, so Reformation times.



Image: Tom Marshall



Image: Paul Hodson

The inscription is on a granite block and there is the remains of an iron fence and arch around the well, so I would say these are Victorian, when the Murrays tarted the estate up! Apparently they used to baptise people in the well, and we have what is left of the cup used to pour water on children's heads (*see photo*). I don't have a date for the cup. It is handmade, and was given to us by a former neighbour who had taken it from the well before we came here. There is also a small figurine of Ninian in Parton House that used to stand in the recess in the photo."

Green Well of Scotland

By Sue Foster & David Bartholomew – Carsphairn 255735, 594564

OS Namebook: “A spring well on the Farm of Lagwine situated about 5 chains above the Bridge over the Deugh. It formerly was famed for its medicinal qualities but owing to the carelessness of the people in the neighbourhood all sorts of filth has been thrown into it. It was into this well that Mr Dodds threw his dies for coining when pursued by the officers of the crown. A great many tales is told by the country people about large quantities of gold being in the bottom.”

Account of Alexander McKay c.1860: “by the villagers and others long resident in the parish this goes by the name of the Deil’s Well. The Bank Holm, the Deil’s Well and the neighbouring wood constitute the Sunday afternoon resorts of the villagers when the weather was fine.

Of the Deil’s Well all sorts of stories were told: how that at times past it had at various times received valuables that otherwise were likely to fall into the hands of the enemy, and therefore other than it being unfathomably deep and containing much rubbish, it would yield these treasures again were it pumped dry and cleaned out. Its great depth however was a deterrent as it had swallowed up several chains of a stone dyke, part of which disappeared in my time, and yet apparently could swallow up as much more. Also it was said that slaughter and murder had been committed here, and the bones of the dead might not with impunity be disturbed. So that there were several reasons why no attempt had ever been made to clear out the Deil’s Well, and that was enough.”



Image: Anna Campbell

Willie's Well

Compiled by Claire Martin – Castle Douglas 277548, 563095

It is in the middle of a field, in an area where there are standing stones nearby. First map it appears on is 1843 - 1882 OS map 6 inch and it also appears on 1888 to 1913 OS 6 inch map.

The entry for Willie's Well in the *Scottish Healing Wells* book by R & F Morris states that Willie's Well is “in a field in front of Erniespie House, probably named for William Graham, a Covenanter killed by Claverhouse troops who lies buried here [at Crossmichael churchyard], Erniespie is a mile north of Castle Douglas.”

Further research states that William Graham was killed in 1682, another source says he was killed in 1684. The first source, Alexander Shield's *A short memorial of 1690*, states William was shot by the troops belonging to John Graham, Laird of Claverhouse. William Graham's gravestone is in Crossmichael Churchyard and was erected sometime between 1702 and 1714. William Graham was a tailor in Crossmichael and was said to have been visiting his mother on the day that he was killed.

Site visit: could not find a well site in the location listed on the current OS map. We did however find more than two piles of dressed stone in a nearby wooded area and wondered if perhaps the landowner had blocked up the well and moved surrounding stones to a different location?



Another story appears in *More Stewartry Sketches* by Iain Durisdeer (shared by Dr Peter Hewitt) relating the well to a man called William Auchenleck who was shot and killed: “the soldiers disentangled the twisted body from the stirrup and threw it down an adjacent well in what is now the field in front of Ernespie House.

The well which was Auchenleck's tomb became known locally as ‘Willie's Well’, the name which it still bears. Not much of it is now visible because it was useless in its original function ... Perhaps some day the well will be uncovered and the few mortal remains of William Auchenleck, Soldier-of-Fortune and Covenanter, will be given an honourable burial.”

Frenchman's Rock

By Nic Coombey – Borgue 266029, 546358

OS Name Book: A large rock situated near the Western Coast of Kirkcudbright Bay and at Low spring tide it can be forded. According to tradition, Senwick Church contained a quantity of Plate [and] was plundered by French pirates who safely escaped with their booty; but a storm arising immediately after they had put to Sea, the ship was dashed upon this rock, and every person on board perished. In Memory of this event, the rock has ever since been styled the Frenchmen's Rock.

It is also said the rock was bombarded one night by mistake, it being thought to be Paul Jones's ship!

Photo Credit: Solway Firth Partnership

**“They stole the silver plate but
they paid with their lives!
Heaven, as if watching over this
act stirred up the winds and
waves and the ship was wrecked
on these rocks.”**

Rediscovered by Samantha Oakley

Location: 262706, 577877

Parish: Kells

Physic Well

(A rather negative) *Ordnance Survey Namebook*: About 9 chains ESE [East South East] of Millbank. A Spring well on the farm of Millbank. It was formerly resorted to by diseased persons, who were superstitious enough to think its Waters possessed the virtue of healing. It is not a Mineral Well.

Possible mention in *Witchcraft and Folk Belief in the Age of Enlightenment, Scotland, 1670-1740* by Lizanne Henderson (2016): An interesting late example indicates that professionals occasionally made use of folk cures.

Robert Trotter (c.1736-1815), known as the “Muir Doctor”, was based in the Glenkens. He often sent his patients to the physic well in the New Galloway parks.

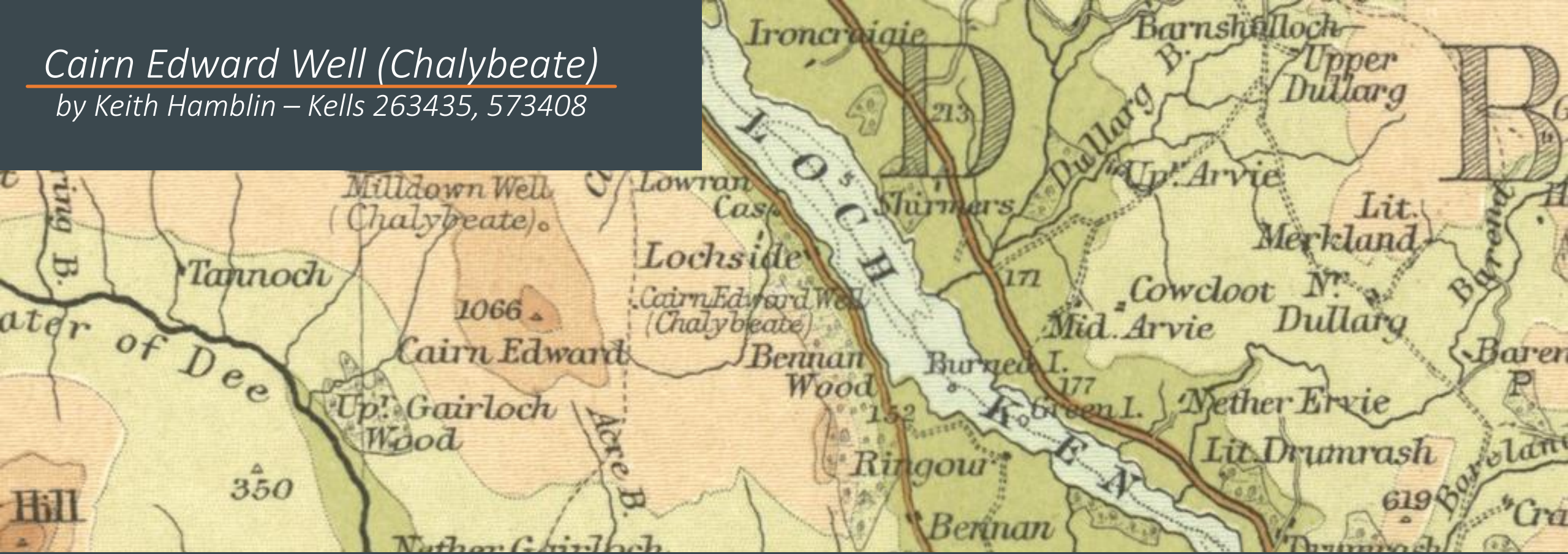


Kirkcudbrightshire, Sheet 24, Surveyed: 1849-50, Published: 1853

Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland

Cairn Edward Well (Chalybeate)

by Keith Hamblin – Kells 263435, 573408



Ordnance Survey Name Book, Sept 1846: "About 1 7/8 mile south of Kenmure Castle. A chalybeate well on the ----- of Clone and situate near to the East base of Cairn Edward (Hill) hence the name. This well was much frequented too by diseased persons to which its waters had proved beneficial."

According to the Name Book, Cairn Edward (the Hill) takes its name from the following story: "When Edward Bruce was upon the pursuit of the English through Galloway, and when reaching the summit of the ridge of hills, which divides the Dee from the Ken, and beheld the imposing scene that presented itself to his view, he was transported with delight, and exclaimed, 'that beautiful Country must be mine.' The spot afterwards became famous, and a Cairn still called Cairn Edward, was raised upon it, as a memorial of this interesting visit."



Wishing Pot

*Recorded by William Ion – Minnigaff
(241326, 566941)*

Sits in the rocks underneath Queen Mary's Bridge. It is a round, deep hole in the rocks about 30cm across, probably formed naturally by the action of the water. Well known in the Newton Stewart and Minnigaff areas as a wishing well requiring stones to be dropped into it from the bridge for a wish to come true. The number of stones needed to be dropped into the well varies but three seems to be the most common figure. Knowledge of the well is still current but it is not clear for how long this tradition has existed. There is no reference to the well in older texts and it does not appear on maps or in Canmore.

cc-by-sa/2.0 - Queen Marys Bridge by Mark McKie - geograph.org.uk/p/719346



Five Pound Well

Located in Minnigaff – 245184, 576457

The Ordnance Survey Name Book entry explains that the name for this well came from a bad bet: "This name applies to the source of Penkill Burn. It is said to have derived its name from a man who undertook to drink all the water in it for £5 but could not accomplish it."

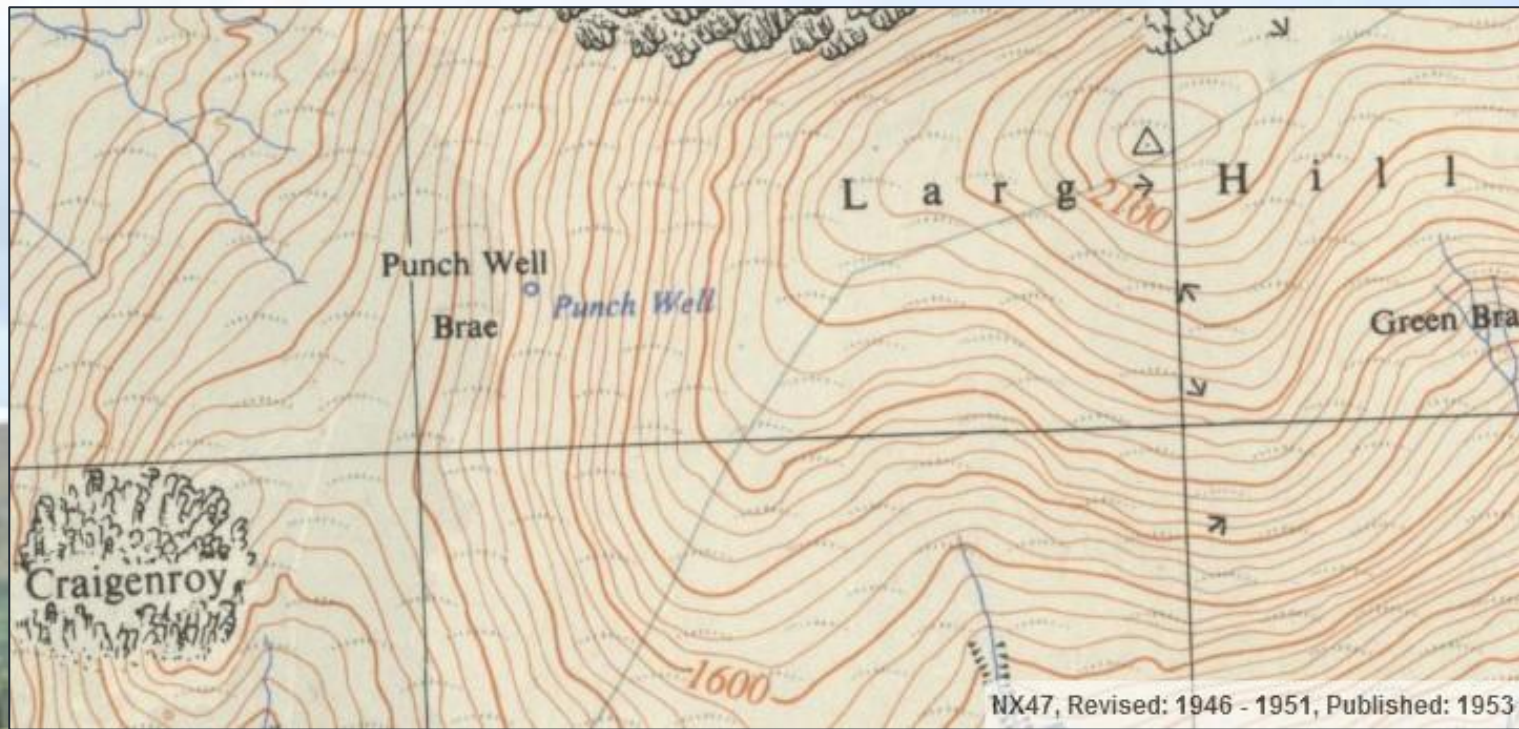
Five Pound Well first appears on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of 1852. It still appears on modern mapping and can even be seen on current aerial imagery as a small pool at the side of a burn, although it appears to be smaller in area than that depicted on the earlier mapping.

Punch Well

Minnigaff - 241149, 575213



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Punch Well is located on the southwest side of Larg Hill, in an area named Punch Well Brae.

The Ordnance Survey name book (1848-51) describes it as a "A good spring well on that portion of Larg Hill called Punch Well Brae. It's name originated from the circumstance of shepherds, farmers and friends sometimes ascending this hill for the view of the surrounding country, and who are in the habit of making punch and drinking it here."

Punch Well continues to appear on mapping until at least the 1960s, but is no longer shown on current maps. The name Punch Well Brae is still shown to this day though.

Brownie's Well

Dalry 264584, 581416

The well only appears on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1854.

The Ordnance Survey name book describes it as "A spring well on the farm of Bogue and situate near to the south end of Brownie's Green hence the name. This well at present is nearly filled up and defaced."

A more specific tale behind the name is given in *Lights and Shadows of Scottish Character and Scenery* (1824) by Cincinnatus Caledonius (reproduced on the website www.kirkcudbright.co). This story centres on a farmer called Ramsay who helped to conceal Covenanters on his land. He was summoned before the Council of Scotland and while he was away, his farm was mysteriously taken care of. Overnight the corn would be shorn, threshed and taken to the kiln before anyone was up the next day. The stories started going round that it was Brownies doing the work – although in the end it turned out that it was the Covenanters who he had helped out over the years.

Image Pool

by Susan Smyth – Dalry 264464, 591648

Ordnance Survey name book: “A small pool in the Stroanfreggan Burn in which an Image cut in stone of a woman and two babes was found some years ago, hence the name. The Image has been built into the chimney over the fireplace in Stroanfreggan House, also another one was got in it which is over the Door supposed to have been the representation of St Paul, no tradition or facts whatsoever can be gleaned respecting them.”

A paper by John Corrie in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* from 1912 identifies a stone in the grounds of Hastings Hall, Moniaive (pictured) as being one of the stones pulled out of the Image Pool.

It's identified as being the shaft of an early Christian cross, and Corrie writes that the carvings might be similar to those found on the Anglo-Saxon Ruthwell Cross.



Holy Linn Waterfall

By Donald Gibson – Dalry 265552, 580844

The waterfall sits along the Garple Burn as it passes through Barscobe Wood.

The Ordnance Survey name book describes it as "A cascade of about 20 feet of a fall in Garpel Burn, during the Scottish persecution, the ousted Minster of Balmaclellan had baptized several children of his flock here hence the name."

It is mentioned in the New Statistical Accounts of Scotland from 1845: "[The progress of the Garpel] is marked by a few waterfalls. The most picturesque of these is the Holy Linn, a cascade worthy of its present celebrity, both on account of its natural beauty, and from having been the spot where the ejected minister of the parish, in persecuting times, baptized the children of his flock"

(Parish of Balmaclellan, 1845, Vol. 4, pp 99-100).

