



GRACEMOUNT MANSION HERITAGE REPORT 2024

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Produced for Gracemount Mansion Development Trust



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Abstract

This project was undertaken for the Work Placement course in the Architectural History and Heritage undergraduate degree at Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh over the second semester of the 2023/2024 academic year. The students were under the supervision of Dr. John Lowery, Senior Lecturer in Architectural History.

This report was initiated by the Gracemount Mansion Development Trust as they worked towards reinstating Gracemount Mansion as a community centre after its closure in 2018. The aim of the research was to assemble any information relating to the history of the house as there was not comprehensive research of the ownership, architecture, or uses of the site before the start of the project. Goals were set to figure out when the house was built, find the owners of the house, create a timeline for the architectural changes, and review the local legends surrounding the statues on the site.

Particular focus in this report is on the agricultural history of the site, concentrating on the Walled Garden, Agricultural Shows in the Liberton Area, and Gracemount Farm, the farm under proprietorship of the owners of the mansion. This focus was emphasised because the Trust hopes to use Gracemount as a space where the community can have access to a variety of food-related resources, such as growing food and meals, due to the food insecurity faced by the local area. Gracemount Community Garden and Transition Edinburgh South currently run the Walled Garden as a community food hub, organising weekly community meals using the produce grown in the garden and working with local schools so that they can utilise the garden. The history of food and agriculture on the site can be used in discussions around food insecurity in the housing estate at Gracemount, so that Gracemount Mansion can be used to help fight food insecurity in the community. Knowing the local history of horticulture and agriculture can also help community members feel closer ties to the local heritage as they access food-related resources at the future community hub.

This project developed over a four-month period and consisted of a site visit, a couple interviews and meetings with various people involved in the project, and, predominantly, private research utilising the following archives and resources: National Records Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland Archive, National Library of Scotland, University of Glasgow Archives, University of Edinburgh Centre for Research Collections, Lothian Health Service Archive, Biodiversity Library, and the British Newspaper Archive.

Acknowledgements

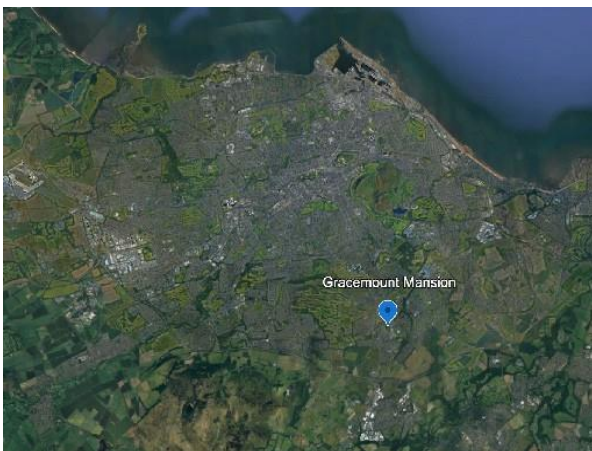
A special thank you to John Lowery for his supervision and expertise, Lynn Jamison for her research on Gracemount's food insecurity, Amelie Andre from Michael Collins Architects for general information on food insecurity, Richard Whiston for his information on the Walled Garden, everyone at Gracemount Mansion Development Trust, and to all of the staff at The National Records of Scotland, National Library of Scotland, HES Canmore Archive, University of Glasgow Archives, British Library, and the Centre for Research Collections and Lothian Health Services Archive at the University of Edinburgh.

Introduction

Gracemount Mansion (Fig. 2) is a B listed building in Liberton Parish, Edinburgh. The house was built in the 1790s with multiple phases of alterations going into the 20th century. The house was a residential country villa, part of a greater history in the area of large and medium estates of landed gentry and upper middle class polite society. It was a residential estate until the 20th century, when it would become a nursing home, and then transferred to the Edinburgh Corporation in 1957 to be developed for the Gracemount council scheme. Gracemount was used as a youth centre from 1963 until closure in 2018. The building is currently on the Buildings At Risk register for Scotland due to its dilapidated state. The roof, chimneys, and drainage all need maintenance. All of the windows and doors are boarded, and many windows are broken. A walk through the interior in February saw major damp and mould issues, but the property's historic features have been retained and are in good condition. The stables are derelict and the gardener's cottage is missing its roof.

The lands of Gracemount, before the housing scheme, included about 20 acres consisting of the Mansion and its walled garden and Gracemount Farm. St Catherine's, the adjacent estate house, and its policies were owned jointly with Gracemount from 1860 until 1913, increasing the policies to 126 acres. St Catherine's would be sold in 1913, reducing the policies by 9 acres.

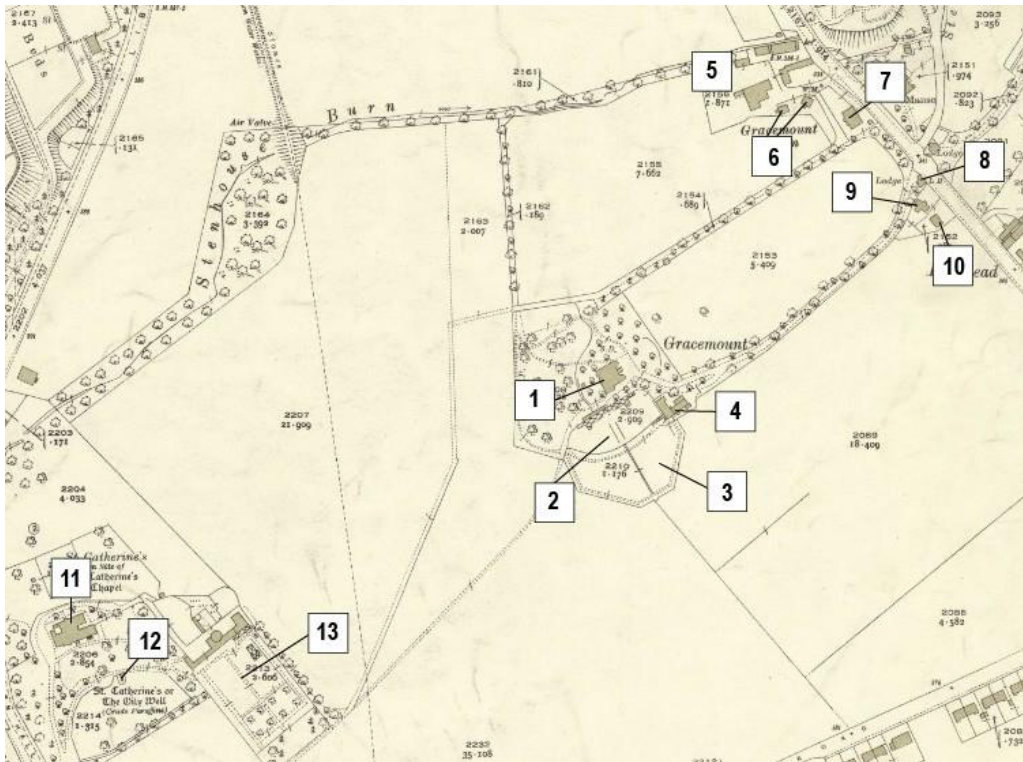
The earliest references to the Gracemount area are in the 16th century. Gracemount was called 'Priesthill', with later historians stating that this name was in reference to the priests that lived on the land. The priests were associated with St Catherine's, which was originally a chapel before the current estate house, and its 'Balm Well', which was lauded for its healing properties and visited by James IV and James VI. St Catherine's chapel and Balm Well would be almost completely destroyed by Oliver Cromwell. Any buildings at Gracemount from this period are also gone. By the late 18th century, the estate house of St Catherine's was built where the chapel stood. The Balm Well survives today, with 19th century restoration work. In the 18th century, Gracemount's lands would be a part of 'The Parks of Burnhead'. The area has also been referenced as 'Kirklands'. The name 'Gracemount' only appears after the house was built.



[Figure 1]
Gracemount Mansion's location in Edinburgh (Google Earth).



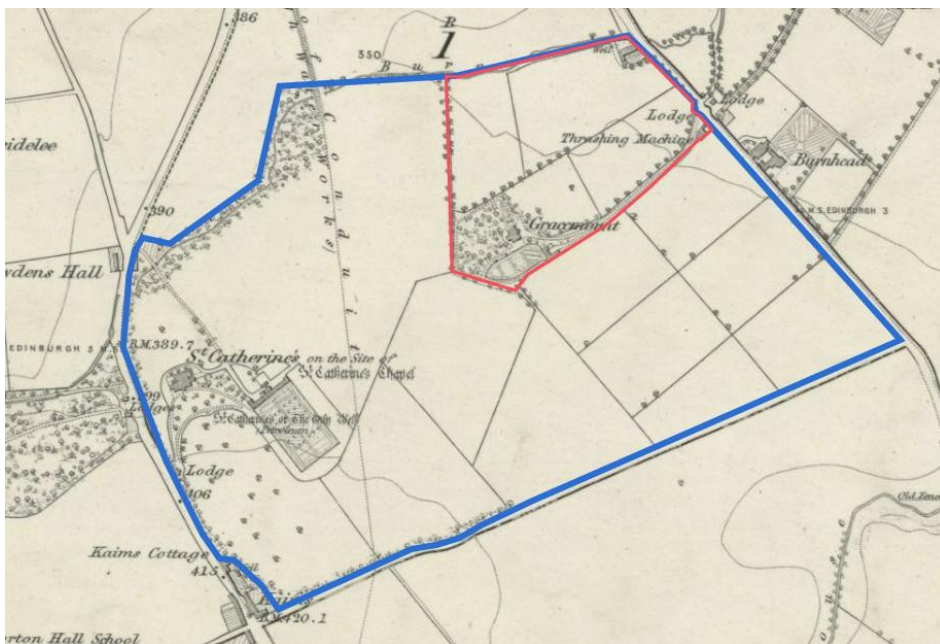
[Figure 2]
Gracemount Mansion, Front Facade, 2024. Photograph by author.



- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Gracemount Mansion | 5. Gracemount Farm buildings (demolished) | 9. Burnhead Cottage, 132 Lasswade Road |
| 2. Walled Garden at Gracemount | 6. Farm-hand houses, 124 & 136 Dunlaw Wynd | 10. Gracemount Cottage, 134 Lasswade Road |
| 3. Orchard | 7. Gracemount Farmhouse, 126 Lasswade Road | 11. St. Catherine's, 41 Howden Hall Road |
| 4. Offices and Gardener's Cottage | 8. Gracemount Porter's Lodge (demolished) | 12. Balm-Well of St. Catherine's |
| | | 13. St. Catherine's Walled Garden |

[Figure 3]

St. Catherine's, Gracemount, and Gracemount Farm's buildings, labelled, using 1934 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).



RED: Estimated boundary of Gracemount before St. Catherine's was included.

BLUE: Gracemount and St. Catherine's estimated boundaries combined.

[Figure 4]

Estimated boundaries of Gracemount's estate, with and without St. Catherine's, using 1877 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

This timeline was created primarily using Sasine Abridgements, cross referenced with advertisements for sale/let and other books and newspapers. Appendix

A lists the sasines abridgements and Appendix B lists the details of the sale advertisements. The dates given on this timeline are based on the first written record of each person owning or occupying the house, they may have purchased or lived in the home earlier.

Timeline of owners & tenants

Roman History

Archaeological digs revealed a Roman camp to the north of the site in Mortonhall, as well as the site of a battle to the southwest at Kaimes. George Good states that ‘there are four (Roman) battle stones or obelisks within the parish’ with one stone described as being ‘on the glebe at the Kirklands’. This may be within the site boundary in Gracemount, as a historical name for the site was ‘Kirklands’, and the land used to function as a glebe for St Catherine’s Chapel. If this assessment is accurate, it is likely that the stone no longer stands or has been relocated.

26th June 1600

‘Priesthill’ is given through charter from James VI to Mr. Edward Aitken of Underedge, Commissioner of Burgh and M.P. for Dunbar.¹

1630

Valuation of the tithes of Liberton indicate that Priesthill was under the feu holding of David Mcculloch of Goodtrees.

1700s

Feu holding is transferred to the proprietors of Moredun.

1766

John Mackenzie of Delvine, W.S. owns the Parks of Burnhead, using it as farmland.

1777

Cecilia Renton, and Alexander Muir Mackenzie of Delvine, 1st Baronet, gain the land from Mackenzie.

1788 – 1796: Lieutenant Colonel Gilbert Waugh (d. 1793) and wife Grace Waugh (d. 1822)

Lieutenant Colonel Gilbert Waugh, Captain of the 84th Regiment of Foot and Military Commandant of Hospitals for the Island of St. Domingo, would buy the land in 1788. Waugh would build the mansion house, including a coach-house, stable, byre, and barn, sometime between 1788–1794. The first map with Gracemount Mansion is from 1794, and this appears to be the first written mention of Gracemount (Fig. 5).

Waugh and his wife, Grace, would have two children Colonel Gilbert Waugh (b. 1783 – d. 1844) and Grace Callender Waugh. Their son was an officer involved in the colonisation of India.² Their grandson, Sir Andrew Scott Waugh (b. 1810 – d. 1878) was a friend of George Everest and succeeded him as Surveyor-General of India. Sir Waugh gave Mount Everest its name, after his close friend. He was knighted in 1861 and was the Vice President of the Royal Geographical Society from 1867-70. The family may be descended from ‘Waugh of Shaw’, the standard bearer at Flodden Field.³

¹ George Good, Liberton in Ancient and Modern Times (A. Elliot, 1893), 129.

[Figure 5]

1794 Map of the Craigmillar Estates, part of the Papers of the Gilmour family of Craigmillar and Liberton Midlothian at National Records Scotland.

1796 – 1805: Robert Keith of Grenada

Robert Keith was involved with the Westerhall Estate plantation in St. Davids, Grenada, likely an overseer on the estate, and owned enslaved people.⁴ Keith was living in Grenada until at least 1797 and it is unclear if he ever lived in Gracemount Mansion.

1805 – 1824: Magdalen Hay, widow of William Smith of Forrest

1824 – 1826: David Carnegy of Craigo

Carnegy inherited the estate as the Heir of Provision to Magdalen Hay.

1826 – 1829: Agnes Edmond, (d. 1874) her husband Henry Sibbald W.S. (b. 1793 – d. 1837), and their daughters, Agnes Katherine and Clara Elizabeth.

1831 – 1935: John Mirtle, W.S. (b. 1803 – d. 1835)

Mirtle would pass away at Gracemount at the age of 32.

1835 – 1842: Robert Newbigging Cairncross, Advocate

Cairncross would inherit the house as the Heir of Conquest from his second cousin, John Mirtle. Cairncross let the house out as he had ‘recently gone abroad’.⁵

1842 – 1852: John Boyd Greenshields of Drum, Advocate

1851: Charles Kinnloch is listed as the occupant and owner on the 1851 O.S. Survey Name Book.⁶ This is likely Greenshields’ Son-in-Law, Charles Kinnear Kinloch, who was married to Greenshields’ daughter, Jane Boyd Greenshields.

² University of Bristol Archives. ‘Record: DM41/21 Grenada: Westerhall Estate: Accounts’. Accessed 18 April 2024. <https://archives.bristol.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=DM41%2f21>.

³ The Scotsman. ‘ELEGANT HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.’ 23 April 1836. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/18360423/046/0003>.

⁴ Pte John E. Daveran RS&M, Field Book No. 2, Midlothian OS Name Books, 1852-1853, vol. 17, 1851, <https://scotland-splaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/ordnance-survey-name-books/midlothian-os-name-books-1852-1853/midlothian-volume-17/81>.

1852 – 1895: Maurice Lothian (b. 1795 – d. 1880) and Estate

Maurice Lothian (b. 1795 – d. 1880) (Fig. 6) was a successful solicitor, running the firm M & J Lothian, with his brother. The following comes from his obituary in *The Scotsman*.⁷ In 1846, he was appointed to the position of Prosecutor- Fiscal and would stay in the position until 1869. From 1840-46, he sat as a representative of the Third Ward for the town council. Lothian was very involved in the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, serving as Vice-President and as a Director. In 1868, he was elected as a Fellow of the Edinburgh Royal Society. He was active within politics, sitting on the Midlothian Commissioners of Supply. Lothian was also religious, both within the Church of Scotland and the Free Church. He would deliver a series of addresses which would later be published under ‘God’s Word and God’s Work’. He would also publish a novelette titled ‘The Minister’s Daughter, or Legal Wrongs’. His addresses and publications can be found online today. Maurice Lothian would join the estates of Gracemount and St. Catherine’s together when he bought St. Catherine’s in 1860 from Alexander Wright, a rare seedsman. Lothian would live in St. Catherine’s and would let out Gracemount.

1861 - 64: James Wright, Esq., tenant under Maurice Lothian

1865 – 74: Mrs. Scott, tenant under Maurice Lothian

1874 – 96: David Henderson, tenant under Maurice Lothian and then Robert Alexander Ireland



[Figure 6]

Portrait photograph of Maurice Lothian, taken between 1843-57 by Robert Adamson and Octavius Hill. (Scottish National Portrait Gallery).

Copyright type: Creative commons copyright by NC with permissions for non-commercial, research orientated publication.
<https://www.nationalgalleries.org/art-and-artists/66969/maurice-lothian-solicitor>

1894 – 1908: Robert Alexander Ireland, I.S.O. (b. 1841 – d. 1904)

Ireland was the Assistant Keeper of the General Register of Sasines. Before buying Gracemount and St. Catherine’s, he resided at Blackford Mount, Mortonhall Road. Ireland, like Maurice Lothian, would live in St. Catherine’s and would let out Gracemount.

1899 – 1903: Ellen Martha Cranston and Robert Elliot Cranston, tenants under Robert Alexander Ireland.⁸

1905 - 1907: James McConnachie Wilson, Director of Edinburgh Evening News, tenant under Robert Alexander Ireland.⁹

⁵ *The Scotsman* (1860-1920). ‘The Late Mr Maurice Lothian’. 16 July 1880.

⁶ Dalkeith Advertiser. ‘CRANSTON-MOSS DIVORCE CASE’. 22 July 1909. British Newspaper Archive.

⁷ ‘DEATHS- WILSON’, *Edinburgh Evening News*, 13 November 1907, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000452/19071113/210/0007>.

1907 - 1922: Charles Edward Green (b. 1866/7-d. 1920) and Maggie Anne Dalrymple Green (b. 1867-d. 1959)

Charles E. Green would buy both St. Catherine's and Gracemount but would sell St. Catherine's to William Fraser Dobie in 1913. This sale would be for 9 77/1000 acres, including St. Catherine's, its offices, and garden. The rest of the land would be retained by Green, including an agreement to access the Balm Well at St. Catherine's.

Green initially studied medicine but would move into a successful career in publishing. Green was greatly involved in the Liberton community. He stood as the chair of the Liberton Bowling and Croquet Club.¹⁰ He was also the president of the Liberton Miniature Rifle Range and opened a rifle range for the club.¹¹ Green was also involved in opening a reading room in Liberton Village and had visions of opening an institute within the village.¹² Green fundraised for the Red Cross during World War I, as part of the Liberton League of Social Service and through the bowling club.¹³ He was also an antiquarian and was extremely interested in the history of Gracemount, St. Catherine's, and Liberton. He would buy the Old School in Gilmerton and donated this hall to be transformed into a Church Hall with a reading room and recreation space. He had hoped to turn this space into a museum of local history and 'antiquarian interest'.¹⁴ Green would collect historic maps and books relating to the Liberton area, becoming extremely knowledgeable about the local history.

Maggie Anne Green was also very involved in the community, including fundraising, lawn tennis, and flower shows. She was member of the Scottish History Society.¹⁵

The couple did not have any children. After Green's death, Mrs. Green would move out of Gracemount, but would stay in the Edinburgh area until her passing in 1959.



[Figure 7]
Drawing of Charles E. Green in 1917 by James Patterson, donated to the National Portrait Gallery by Maggie Anne Green. (Scottish National Portrait Gallery).

Copyright type: Creative commons copyright by NC with permissions for non-commercial, research orientated publication. <https://www.nationalgalleries.org/art-and-artists/2619/charles-edward-green-1866-1920-publisher>

8 Edinburgh Evening News. 'BOWLING SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION'. 28 October 1909. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000452/19091028/160/0005>.

9 Dalkeith Advertiser. 'LIBERTON NEW RIFLE RANGE OPENED'. 20 May 1915. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002714/19150520/048/0003>.

10 Mid-Lothian Journal. 'LIBERTON'. 24 February 1911. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002721/19110224/092/0005>.

11 Musselburgh News. 'WAR SAVINGS MEETINGS IN LIBERTON PARISH'. 20 August 1915. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002692/19150820/046/0003>; Dalkeith Advertiser. 'LIBERTON BOWLING CLUB COLLECTION'. 14 September 1916. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002714/19160914/054/0003>.

12 The Scotsman. 'GILMERTON GIFT OF NEW HALLS FOR PARISH WORK'. 9 April 1915. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002721/19150409/060/0004>; Mid-Lothian Journal. 'LIBERTON IN DAYS GONE BY.' 1 November 1918. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002721/19181101/033/0002>.

13 Miscellany of the Scottish History Society. Vol. Volume 4. Series 3, 1926. <https://digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/browse/archive/126513622#?c=0&m=0&s=0&cv=7&xywh=-320%2C0%2C2350%2C2847>.

1922 – 1947: The Sommervilles: Charles William Sommerville (b. 1861 – d. 1935), and his sisters: Louisa Anne Sommerville (b. 1862 – d. 1943), Evelyn Sommerville (b. 1865 -d. 1947), and Frances Jane Sommerville (b. 1863 – d. 1937).

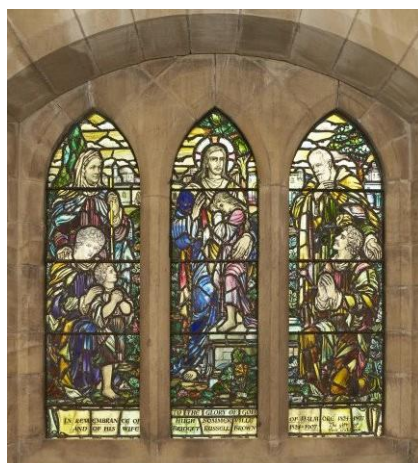
Sommerville owned and worked for his family paper mill and printing business, William Sommerville & Son Ltd, which owned the Dalmore Paper Mill in Auchendinny, Midlothian on the river Esk (Fig. 8).¹⁶ Sommerville would dissolve the partnership that had been in place since 1837 and made it a limited company.¹⁷ The mill would close in 2004 and the company would dissolve in 2012.

An address given my Bishop Reid of St. Peter’s Church, Lutton Place in memoriam of Sommerville, noted that he was ‘one of it’s [the church] most constant adherents and one of its most generous supporters’.¹⁸

Louisa Anne Sommerville, Evelyn Sommerville, and Frances Jean Sommerville, Charles Sommerville’s sisters, all lived at the property with him. It does not appear that any of the siblings were ever married or had children. Before moving to Gracemount, the siblings financed and dedicated a stained-glass window in Glencorse Parish Church, Loanhead, in 1907 for their parents who had passed away (Fig. 9).



[Figure 8]
William Sommerville & Son, Ltd. Dalmore Paper Mill in Auchendinny, Midlothian (Canmore).



[Figure 9]
Glencorse Parish Church stained glass, donated by the Sommerville sibilings in 1907 (Canmore).

14 ‘Midlothian Council Archives William Sommerville and Son Limited, Papermakers, Dalmore Mill, Auchendinny 1883-1988 [Curtis Fine Papers]’ (Midlothian Council Archives, n.d.), https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/295/william_sommerville_and_sons_collection.pdf.

15 Ibid.

16 The Scotsman (1921-1950). ‘St Peters Edinburgh’. 1 July 1935.

1947 – 1957: Nurses Home

After the passing of the last Sommerville, Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust, who had already acquired Gracemount Farm in 1923 to be an experimental tubercle-free milk production centre, bought Gracemount House. With the establishment of the NHS in 1947, the Royal Victoria Hospital system would come under control of the Royal Victoria and Associated Hospitals Board of Management, a board established under the Department of Health's South Eastern Regional Hospital Board. The house is referred as a nursing home in a 1949 classified ad and as 'House and Nursing Home' in the 1955/56 Valuation Roll, but further information about the house as a nursing home was not found.¹⁹

1957 – 1963: Edinburgh Corporation

The house would be bought by Edinburgh Council from the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board as part of the Gracemount Housing Scheme, with the house being earmarked as a space for community purposes. The house would sit in limbo for a couple years as the corporation devised how it would function as a community space. It was decided to be a youth centre in 1960.²⁰

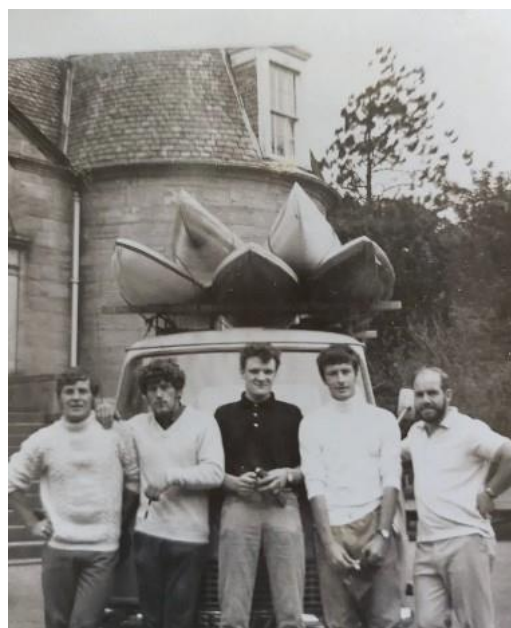
1963 – 2018: Youth Centre

The Corporation would turn Gracemount into a Youth Centre. This centre would be run by John Boag (Fig. 9), MBE, and his family, who would live in the top portion of the house. Boag would retire in 1992, but would continue to live in the house into the early 2000s. The centre would continue running until its closure in 2018.



[Figure 10]

John Boag, MBE, accepting his MBE for services towards the community (Gracemount Mansion).



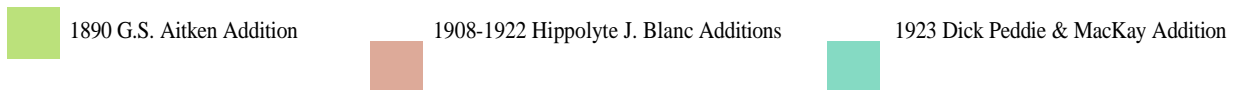
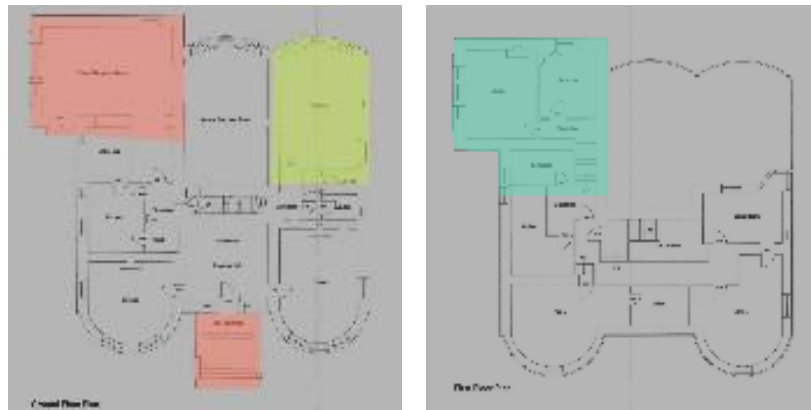
[Figure 11]

The mansion in use as a Youth Centre (Gracemount Mansion).

17 The Scotsman (1921-1950). 'HOUSEKEEPER (Senior) Required for Nurse's Home, Gracemount House, Liberton'. 23 August 1949.

18 'TALKS WITH JOINT GROUP', The Scotsman, 13 December 1960, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.british-newspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19601213/116/0005>.

Architectural Development



[Figure 12]

Confirmed additions made to Gracemount Mansion. Left to Right: Ground Floor and First Floor. Floor plans taken from 2015 LBC Application (15/05441/LBC) (Edinburgh Council).

1788-1794:

A confirmed date for the house is still unclear but this project has narrowed it down to Gilbert Waugh's ownership between 1788-1794. The house first appears on a map in 1794. When the house was advertised to be sold in 1796, it was presented as being 'lately built'.¹ Before this, the land appears to only be referenced as farmland. The main body of the house is a Georgian Classical style, except for the North facade, described as 'Gothick' by Gifford et al.²

Charles E. Green, the owner from 1908-1922, believed that the house was built by Robert Adam. The Musselburgh News stated that the front was 'erected from plans prepared by Mr. Robert Adam'.³ George A. Forthergill, when writing about the stones on Gracemount and St. Catherine's Oily Well, concurred that it was in Robert Adam style and Adam likely designed the house.⁴ While it would be incredible if Adam had designed the house, there is no evidence pointing towards it. The house does have similarities in layout to early plans for Sunnyside House in Liberton, drawn around 1785/86, with the double bays connected to a square plan (Fig. 13).⁵ However, the facades are very different. Any similarity to Adam's work is likely because architects were influenced by his extremely popular architectural publications. The architects may have been aware of his works at Sunnyside and influenced by the plan.

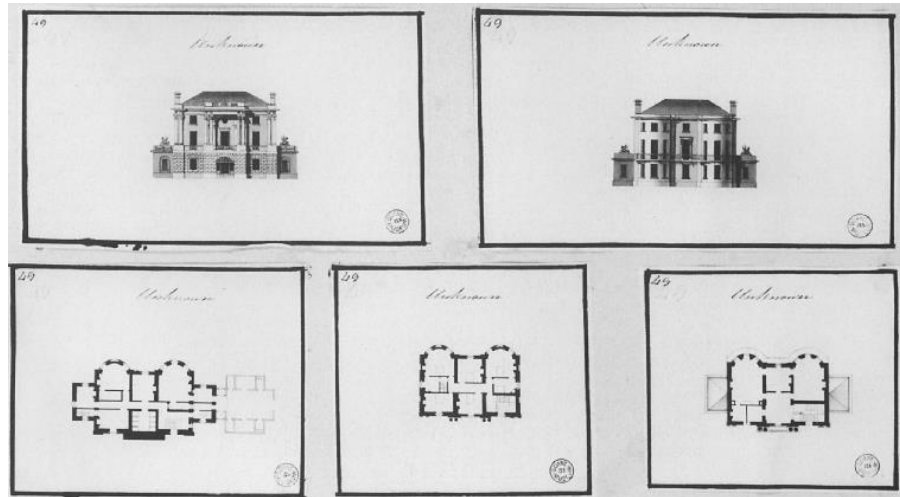
1 'VILLA OF GRACEMOUNT', Caledonian Mercury, 29 March 1796, Newspapers.com, <https://www.newspapers.com/paper/the-caledonian-mercury/7823/?locale=en-GB>.

2 Gifford, John, Colin McWilliam, David Walker, and Christopher Wilson. Edinburgh. The Buildings of Scotland. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1984.

3 'The Parish of Liberton VII. The Mansions and Other Historic Buildings: Gracemount and St Catherine's', The Musselburgh News, 13 December 1918, 3, British Newspaper Archive.

4 George Algernon Forthergill, Stones & Curiosities of Edinburgh and Neighbourhood (Edinburgh, 1910), 62.

5 Adam, Robert. Designs for Castles and Country Villas / by Robert and James Adam ; Edited by Alistair Rowan. Oxford: Phaidon, 1985.



[Figure 13]
Early Drawings for Sunnyside, in Volume 46 of Adam Drawings at the John Sloane Museum. (Rowan).

1800:

The Historic Environment Scotland listing and the Edinburgh edition of the ‘Buildings of Scotland’ series both state that the house was greatly altered and extended c. 1800, however, no documentation was found to confirm this.⁶

1826 – 1829:

The 1829 advertisement for sale states that the house ‘has been lately much altered and improved’.⁷ It seems likely that these alterations happened between 1826 and 1829, when the Sibbalds, who put the house up for sale in 1829, were in residence. It is uncertain what these alterations were.

1890:

‘Who’s Who in Architecture’ (1914) notes that G.S. Aitken, the first president and a founder of Edinburgh Architectural Association, made additions to Gracemount and St Catherine’s.⁸ Historic Environment Scotland and the Dictionary of Scottish Architects place the addition on Gracemount in 1890. No documentation of this addition was found, however, based on the 1894 Ordnance Survey, Aitken added the bayed addition on the northern side of the west façade.

1898:

There seems to have been some alterations around 1898. An advertisement to let the property states ‘fine old retired residence, now being altered with newest improvements’.⁹

1908 - 1922:

Charles E. Green made alterations on the estate during his ownership. He added his Coat of Arms and the Coat of Arms of John Dalrymple, the father of his wife, to the staircase leading to the main entrance.

Around 1909, Green added the basement, first, and second floor portion of the large square extension on the southwest corner of the house. Hippolyte J. Blanc, a well-known Edinburgh Gothic Revival architect and Antiquarian, was the architect for this addition.¹⁰

6 ‘GRACEMOUNT OFF LASSWADE ROAD (LB28076)’, Historic Environment Scotland, 14 December 1970, <https://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB28076>.; John Gifford et al., *Edinburgh, The Buildings of Scotland* (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1984), 488.

7 ‘TO BE SOLD, By Private Bargain, THE Beautiful VILLA of GRACEMOUNT’, *Edinburgh Evening Courant*, 10 September 1829, *British Newspaper Archive*, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0001060/18290910/017/0001>.

8 ‘Gracemount’; ‘DSA Building/Design Report: Gracemount House’, *Dictionary of Scottish Architects*, n.d., https://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/building_full.php?id=100063.

9 ‘Mid-Lothian- Gracemount, by Liberton’, *The Scotsman* (1860-1920), 2 April 1898.

10 ‘The Parish of Liberton VII’, 3.

In 1909, Green hired Mackenzie & Moncur, one of the most prolific greenhouse, conservatory, and heating and electrical installation firms in the U.K, to work at Gracemount.¹¹ Green is listed as a 1909 contract in MacKenzie & Moncur's 1909-1922 catalogue for their domestic engineering contracts for 'heating, hot-water service, etc'.¹² In a separate book recording their contracts from 1909, Hippolyte J. Blanc is listed as a recent architect that has consulted the firm.¹³ This suggests that this 1909 contract was carried out as part of the works done by Hippolyte J. Blanc, and suggests that the extension added by Hippolyte J. Blanc is from 1909.

1923:

C.W. Sommerville added an upper extension to Green's southwest extension. This extension, done by one of the biggest Edinburgh firms, Dick Peddie and McKay Architects, added another bedroom, dressing room, and bathroom to the house (Fig. 16).

The Offices:

There have been offices on the estate since Gilbert Waugh built the house. The 1841 advertisement for sale notes that the offices are 'excellent, having been erected only a few years ago', which suggests that the current stables and Gardener's lodge was built sometime in the 1830s (Fig. 17).¹⁴ Minor additions have been added since.



[Figures 14 and 15]

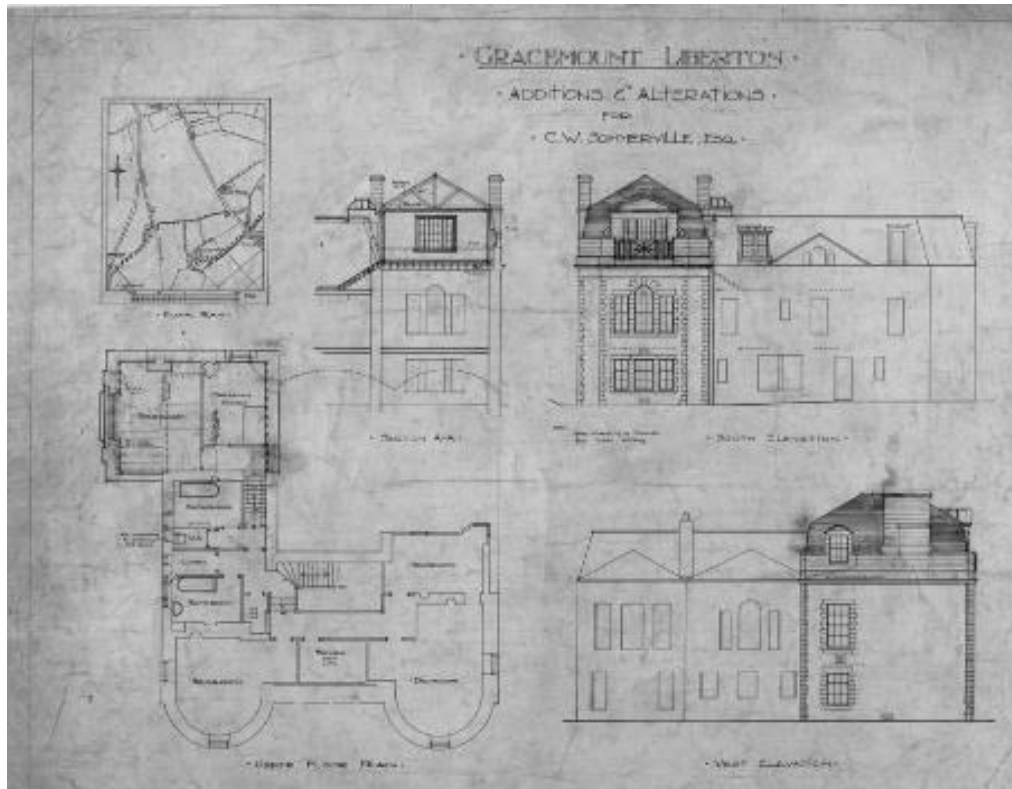
Hippolyte J. Blanc extension on the basement and first floor. The attic section with balcony is the 1923 addition by Dick Peddie and McKay. Photographs by author.

11 'MACKENZIE AND MONCUR, LTD. Hothouse Builders and Heating Engineers', in *The Gardening World Illustrated: A Weekly Paper Exclusively Devoted to All Branches of Practical Gardening*, vol. v.25(1908) (London: Brian Wynne, 1909), viii., <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/275006>.

12 MacKenzie & Moncur. 'Supplementary List of Patrons for Heating & Hot Water Service', 1909-1922. GB 248 UGC 118/10/2/2. University of Glasgow Archives. <http://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/data/gb248-ugc118>.

13 MacKenzie & Moncur. 'Illustrated List of Principal Engineering Contracts', 1909. GB 248 UGC 118/10/2/1. University of Glasgow Archives. <http://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/data/gb248-ugc118>.

14 'RESIDENCE NEAR EDINBURGH', *The Scotsman*, 23 June 1841, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/18410623/006/0001>.



[Figure 16]
 1923 Addition. This addition extended the addition made by Hippolyte J. Blanc vertically. (Canmore).



[Figure 17]
 Gracemount Offices, stable block. Photograph by author.

An Antiquarian Legend: The Statues at Gracemount

The north façade (Fig. 18) of the house has been particularly intriguing and puzzling to those who have lived in the house and the Gracemount community. The façade's architecture is unlike the rest of the house, with rubble coursing and a stepped pediment decorated with ornamentation consisting of two male statues on pilasters, two smaller female busts at the top, and three shield-shaped ornaments (Figs. 19, 20, 21). The façade is centred on a niche with an arched window in the centre. On the left, a similar window sits. The placement of the window on the right suggests it was also originally arched and later altered.



[Figure 18]
Gracemount north façade. Photograph by author.

The clear difference in architectural style and material has led to suggestions that this façade is earlier than the rest of the building, with *The Musselburgh News* suggesting that the façade was part of a pre-reformation rectory associated with St. Catherine's Chapel, located where the St. Catherine's mansion stands now.¹ The association with the site as a rectory goes back to at least 1845, when it was noted in the section on Liberton in the *New Statistical Account*, Vol. 1, that 'there is a rising ground formerly called Priest Hill, now called Grace Mount, which was probably connected with the chapel of St Catherine's, and occupied by the officiating minister'.² The first reference to St. Catherine's Chapel is in Hector Boece's *Scotorum Historiae* (1527).³ It is believed to be founded by St. Margaret and famous for its Balm-Well or Oyly-Well with healing properties. The lintel of Balm-Well dates to 1563, and the well house was built in 1617 by James VI.⁴ Oliver Cromwell's forces 'almost totally destroyed' the well in 1650.⁵ Presumably, they also ruined the chapel.

The *Musselburgh News* stated that the pillared statues on Gracemount were 'identified by authorities' as James IV and the Earl of Arran.⁶ The reasons for and authorities behind these identifications are unclear. The other busts or their symbolism have not been identified. The *Musselburgh News* further implied that portions of the building date back to 1560, suggesting these statues are part of that scheme.⁷

1 'The Parish of Liberton VII', 3.

2 Society for the Benefit of the Sons and Daughters of the Clergy of the Church of Scotland, *The New Statistical Account of Scotland / by the Ministers of the Respective Parishes, under the Superintendence of a Committee of the Society for the Benefit of the Sons and Daughters of the Clergy.*, vol. 1 (Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood and Sons, 1845), 8.

3 Fothergill, *Stones & Curiosities*, 58.

4 'ST CATHERINE'S BALM WELL HOWDENHALL ROAD (LB28122)', *Historic Environment Scotland*, 14 December 1970, <https://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB28122>.

5 Whyte, 'Parish of Liberton', 324.

6 'The Parish of Liberton VII', 3.

7 *Ibid.*

Gifford et. al. associates the north façade and statues with the original development of the house c. 1790.⁸ Ray McKenzie also had this sentiment, adding that the detailing is reminiscent of George Heriot's School, begun 1628.⁹ The carvings on Gracemount are incongruous to the decorative production of the 16th century and appear to be 18th century (or later) made to emulate earlier decorative carving from the 17th century. It is uncertain who the statues represent, but based on these dates it seems unlikely to be James IV or the Earl of Arran. They do not appear to have any religious connotation. If the statues were made in the advent of the house's construction, they may have been made to reference the history of the site and St. Catherine's, or establish an image of older lineage at the house, their design alluding to an archaic past.

Two carvings of a trefoil and a keystone with a sun motif and the letters 'IHS' are positioned above the main entrance on the pediment of the east façade (Fig. 22). The Places of Worship in Scotland (POWiS) project notes that the trefoil is both a Pagan and a Christian symbol and the keystone is a Christogram.¹⁰ POWiS suggests that the house may have had a Christian connection, however, no indication was found for this beyond the connection of Gracemount and St Catherine's Chapel, although many of the owners were devoutly religious. Visually, they appear to be 19th or 20th century, but there is no evidence for dating.

Charles E. Green was keenly interested in the history of Gracemount and St. Catherine's. He invited The Old Edinburgh Club to visit Gracemount and the Balm-Well in 1919 and appears to have initiated both works in the early 20th century discussing Gracemount's history: The Musselburgh News article in 1918 and the chapter on St Catherine's Oily Well in *Stones and Curiosities of Edinburgh and Neighbourhood* by George A. Forthergill.¹¹ Green informed Forthergill on the history of Gracemount, provided almost all of the written sources on the Balm-Well, and either commissioned or requested Forthergill to create drawings of the figures on Gracemount, which were in Green's possession at the time of the book's publication.¹² Before Green's interest, there does not appear to be any works discussing the Gracemount figures. Charles E. Green's antiquarian influences coupled with his alterations done to the front stair entrance suggest that the 'IHS', as well as possibly the trefoil, may have been added by Green as part of the alterations on the house in an attempt allude to the Christian history of the site.

The stories surrounding Gracemount appear to be more Antiquarian enthusiasm, rather than truth, fostered by the uncertain history of the building, oddity of the facade and its mysterious figures, and the connection between St. Catherine's and Gracemount. In turn, the Antiquarian interest has nurtured an exciting local legend that has become integral to the discussion surround the Mansion's history.

Other Sculptures at Gracemount

There is a little Gargoyle-like face on the side of the east side of the Walled Garden, near the stables (Fig. 23). This is likely a decorative folly for the grounds.

8 Gifford et al., Edinburgh, 488.

9 Ray McKenzie, Public Sculpture of Edinburgh Vol. 1, Public Sculpture of Britain ; Volume Twenty, Twenty-One (Liverpool: University Press, 2018).

10 Facebook. 'Gracemount Mansion (POWiS)', 13 March 2024. <https://www.facebook.com/PlacesofWorshipinScotland>.

11 Old Edinburgh Club, The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club, Appendix. (Edinburgh : The Club, 1922), <http://archive.org/details/bookofoldedinbur1119olde>.

12 Fothergill, *Stones & Curiosities*, 58, 62-3.



[Figure 19, 20, and 21]
The statues on the North Facade of Gracemount Mansion. Photographs by author.



[Figure 22]
The trefoil and IHS keystone above the entrance.
Photograph by author.



[Figure 23]
The face on the walled garden. (Canmore).

Horticulture & Agriculture

Gardening History

Horticulture was popularised among the gentry in Scotland in the 17th century, expanding in the Georgian period with the rise of the upper-middle class and the building of country villas.¹ South Edinburgh has a particularly strong horticultural history, with the area being a popular country retreat for the upper class. Larger estates of landed gentry, like The Drum, Moredun Estate, and Mortonhall Estate had extensive formal gardens, pleasure grounds, and large, elaborate walled gardens. Country villas of gentlemen, such as those near Gracemount- St. Catherine's, South House, Southfield, and Burnhead, would also have pleasure grounds and intricate walled gardens, but on a much smaller scale.

The profession of the gardener would grow in prominence principally in Scotland, with Scottish gardeners becoming renowned for their skill in the UK and continental Europe. By the 19th century, most English gentry had Scottish head gardeners, and by the 20th century, the prolificacy of Scottish Gardeners made a public expectation for gardeners to be Scottish.² Along with gardeners, the professions of Nurserymen and Seedsmen would grow. Many nurserymen and seedsmen would become affluent upper-middle class, such as Alexander Wright, the rare seedsman who could afford to own St. Catherine's from 1842 – 1860.

Gardening culture flourished in Scotland, with scores of horticultural societies, nationally and locally, formed, ample publications of books and magazines, and extensive scientific research on gardening and plants. Those who could afford would have at least a household garden, and medium and large estates would have formal gardens and designed pleasure grounds for recreation.

The walled garden, also referred as a kitchen garden in period literature, is one of the most prominent features on Scottish estates, rising in popularity in the UK in the mid-18th century, but associated with Scotland due to their omnipresence in the country.³ Even as gardening practice and stylistic sensibilities changed throughout the 18th, 19th, and early 20th century, the form of walled gardens remained unchanged as the simplicity of structure allowed a variety of approaches in aesthetic and technical gardening practices to take place within its walls.⁴ The walled garden, meant for the production of household produce, would foster creativity and exclusivity, as wealthy people vied to produce the best, most interesting, and rare fruits, flowers, and vegetables. Glasshouse structures meant to grow exotic fruits and plants would develop along with the gardening culture, becoming prolific by the mid- Victorian period, with the advent of technical advancements that would allow easier production of structures at lower costs, and most estates 'could boast of at least vinery and two other glasshouses with a row of Melon frames'.⁵ Walled gardens would range in size, depending on the estate and family, with smaller estates of gentlemen, like Gracemount, tending to have a walled garden a half-acre to an acre wide, with one gardener and occasional help.⁶ Yet, even as these estates tended to not be able to afford multiple gardeners or extensive gardening innovations, they were still 'generally well kept and often highly productive'.⁷

1 Una R. Robertson, 'The Country House Kitchen Garden in Scotland 1600-1900', in *The Country House Kitchen Garden 1600-1950*, ed. C. Anne Wilson (New York : The History Press, 2013), 116-117., <http://archive.org/details/countryhousekitc0000wils>.

2 Catharine Ward Thompson, 'International Prototypes and Local Identity: The Walled Garden of Scotland as Heritage Landscape', *International Journal of Heritage Studies* : IJHS 4, no. 2 (1998): 70-71., <https://doi.org/10.1080/13527259808722222>

3 Cox, *Gardening*, 91-92.

4 *Ibid*, 95.

5 *Ibid*, 133.

6 Patrick Neill, *On Scottish Gardens & Orchards*. Drawn up by Desire of the Board of Agriculture, 65., accessed 17 April 2024, [https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.\\$b661865?urlappend=%3Bseq=3](https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.$b661865?urlappend=%3Bseq=3).

7 *Ibid*, 63.

Gracemount's Walled Garden

The first reference to the walled garden is in the 1825 advertisement for sale stating, 'The Garden is protected by high walls and the fruit trees are thriving.'⁸ It also makes note of a Gardener's Cottage on the property, indicating that the walled garden was already quite established with a gardener on site. In 1864, the first reference to the glasshouses on site was made in an advertisement to let the property, noting that there is both a Vinery and a Peach-house in the walled garden.⁹

Along with the walled garden, Gracemount boasted pleasure grounds, a bowling green, lawn, and offices consisting of a coach-house, stable, and gardener's cottage. In the 20th century, further garden space was added below the walled garden, and appears to have been used as an orchard. The Parks Department seems to have used the garden and orchard as a nursery for city parks until 1978.¹⁰ After this point, the garden was used in activities for the youth centre and sculptures were created and placed in the garden by John Boag and the children.¹¹

In 2001, Beechgrove Gardens came and redeveloped the deteriorating garden, creating themed spaces focused on conservation and wildlife. The renovation would replace walls that had fallen, adding a decorative brick wall (Fig. 26). There was also redevelopment work done in 2001 on Gracemount Community Park and the Walled Garden by Allan Murray Architects, who won a Civics Trust Award for their work in 2001.¹²

[Figure 25]
The Walled Garden.
Photograph by author.



[Figure 26]
John Boag sitting in front of the new brick wall added in the 2001 renovations. (Gracemount Mansion).

⁸ 'UPSET PRICE REDUCED', *The Scotsman* (1817-1858), 16 April 1825.

⁹ 'TO BE LET, for Such Period to Be Agreed upon, THE MANSION HOUSE of GRACEMOUNT', *The Scotsman*, 16 January 1864, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/18740228/286/0004>.

¹⁰ Beechgrove, 'Fact Sheet 21;', 23 August 2001, https://www.beechgrove.co.uk/module_uploads/2/Thursday-23-August-2001.pdf.

¹¹ 'THE BOAG YEARS', n.d., <https://www.gracemountmansion.com/newpage83280f9d>.

¹² 'AMA Studio – Awards', AMA Studio, n.d., <https://www.ama-ltd.co.uk/awards>.

Gracemount's Walled Garden Architecture

The layout and features of the walled garden is typical of walled gardens in Scotland. The walls are mostly brick, which has good heat retention, with the gardener's house located near the garden to allow easy access, and glasshouses on the north façade to allow the heat from the southern exposure to supplement the heating systems within the glasshouses for the production of fruit.¹³ The 1855 Ordnance Survey shows the paths and layout of the garden, with a walk skirting the garden, and the middle of the garden divided into compartments, meant for culinary plants (Fig. 17).¹⁴ The walls without glasshouses were usually used for training fruit trees, such as apples and pears, but fruit-trees may also be trained using espalier-rails.¹⁵ Fruit, such as grapes, peaches, and nectarines, require glasshouses with heating systems to be grown.¹⁶

Vineries and Peach-houses are extremely similar. The structures are more upright than glasshouses for other production, like pineapples, and the structure is raised slightly to allow the roots of the plants to expand under the structure into the garden (Fig 27).¹⁷ Peaches would be trained along the back wall, while vines would be trained along the glass front and back wall.¹⁸ Over the course of the 19th century, the technology for the heating systems and mechanisation of glasshouses would rapidly evolve and by the end of the century, many hands-on aspects of the glasshouse had been mechanised.¹⁹ By the mid-19th century, specific glasshouses for forcing flowers, such as roses and orchids had been invented.²⁰ With the height of the wall, it seems likely that the vinery and peachhouse would have been lean-to type structures, seen in Figs. 27 and 28. Unfortunately, the glasshouses are completely gone and there is no archival or documentary evidence for the structures or layout of the garden beyond ordinance surveys. The changes in structures are compiled over the next two pages.



[Figure 27]
Example of a Lean-to Vinery from a 1907 MacKenzie and Moncur Catalogue. (Canmore).

¹³ Patrick Neill, *The Fruit, Flower, and Kitchen Garden.*, 3rd ed. (Edinburgh, 1845), 9, 12, 13, 15.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 21-22.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 13, 41.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 52.

¹⁷ Susan Campbell, 'Glasshouses and Frames, 1600-1900', in *The Country House Kitchen Garden 1600-1950*, ed. C. Anne Wilson (New York : The History Press, 2013), 99, <http://archive.org/details/countryhousekitc0000wils>.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Ibid.*

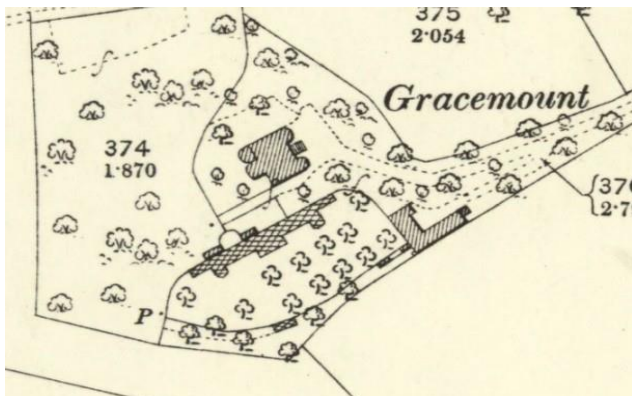
The Walled Garden in Maps



[Figure 29]

1855 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

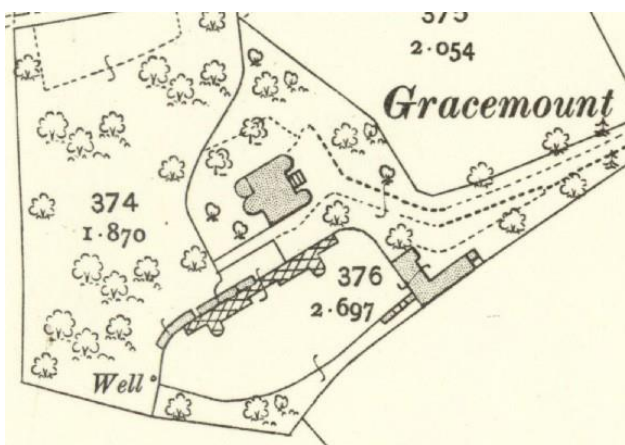
The first clear map of the garden. The garden has an intricate patterning for growing. Two small structures sit on the north of the garden, likely sheds, or bothies for garden hands.



[Figure 30]

1894 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

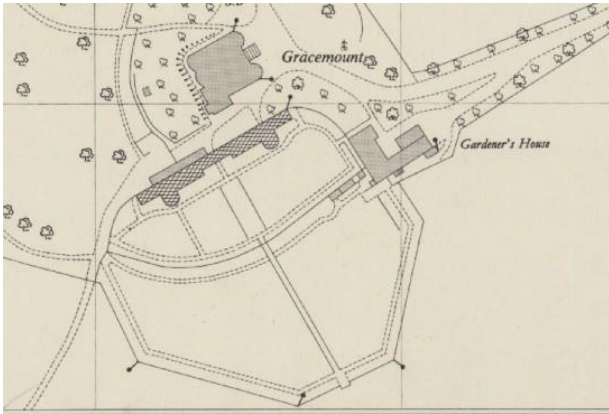
First map detailing the glasshouses. They are extensive structures that run along the entirety of the north wall of the garden. Behind the glasshouses, the sheds/bothies seem to have been extended. Their placement could also indicate they were sheds for the heating system of the glasshouse. A glasshouse is also placed on the outside of the south wall. Sheds have been added to the southside of the garden, behind the offices.



[Figure 31]

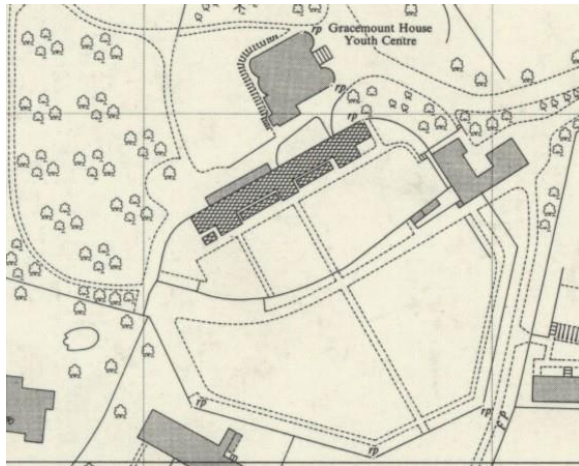
1908 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

The glasshouses appear to have lost their central square block. The structures on the north side have been extended extensively. The glasshouse on the southside of the garden is not visible.



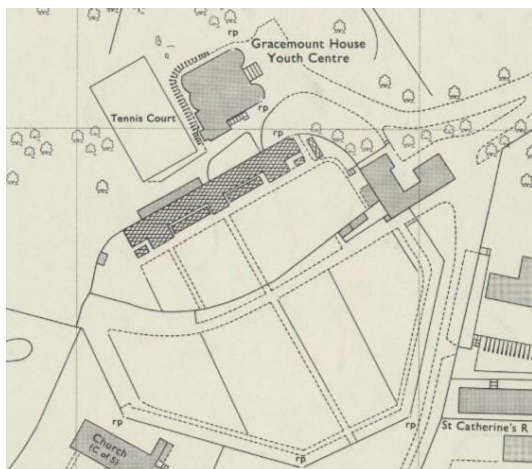
[Figure 32]
1934 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

The curved structure along the north wall has been removed. There is now a planned polygonal space below the walled garden. This seems to be an extension of orchard space for the garden. Further extensions have been made to the offices. There is also a small structure at the back of the house, perhaps a shed for recreation or a garden feature, like a gazebo. This map shows the walking paths that ran through the garden. There is an interesting square space in the centre, this likely indicates a growing pattern or maybe a planting bed.



[Figure 33]
1967 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

The glasshouse structure has changed, losing the curved fronts, and more glasshouses have been added in front of them- these may be forcing beds. The small side ancilliary buildings added to the east of the offices have been removed.



[Figure 34]
1972 Ordnance Survey (National Library Scotland).

A couple small glasshouses have been added near the entrance of the walled garden. A structure, likely a shed, was added on the west side. A structure was added to the back of the offices. The tennis courts have been added to the back of the house.

Horticulture Shows, Societies, & Gardening Publications

Horticultural shows were an important part of the extensive horticultural society within Scotland. Many of the horticulture societies ran annual exhibitions and shows, locally and nationally, and were extremely popular by the mid-19th century as both a gardening and socialite space.²¹ Gracemount's owners were involved in both local and Edinburgh-wide shows. Charles E. Green presided over the Liberton Horticultural Association's annual show in 1915. Horticultural shows were also places for socialites to be seen, with 'The Gentlewoman' remarking on Maggie Anne Green's attendance at the Scottish Horticultural Association's Chrysanthemum Show in 1910.²² One of the Sommerville sister's attendance was noted at the Liberton Horticultural Association Show in 1933.²³ The horticultural shows in Edinburgh and Liberton have allowed us to gain insight to some of the flowers, produce, and fruits being grown at Gracemount. Between 1850 and 1922, gardeners and residents at Gracemount won prizes in local Liberton shows and wider Edinburgh shows, which were published in local newspapers. The range of produce and plants is not unexpected for the period, as the thriving gardening industry allowed gardeners to buy exotic plants from all around the world.

Gardening Shows:

The Annual Show for the Newton and Liberton Horticultural Society, established in 1858

- Sept 15th, 1863: James Townley, gardener for James Wright, Esq. wins 1st place for two hand bouquets.
- September 10th, 1864: T. Cassidy, gardener to Mrs. Scott, wins 1st place for six peaches.
- September 12th, 1868: T. Cassidy was 'successful in gaining prizes'.
- September 11th, 1869: T. Cassidy wins 2nd place for six pears.
- September 8th, 1877: David Henderson 'forwarded plants for exhibition'.

Liberton Annual Show

- August 30th, 1913: Peter MacLachlan, gardener, had 2 first places and 2 second places for pot plants and 2 first places and 4 second places for vegetables.

Liberton Horticultural Association Show

- August 30th, 1900: James Scott, gardener, Gracemount, won 1st place for the best arranged table of plants.
- August 21st, 1915: Charles E. Green presided over the annual flower show.
- August 26th, 1922: Peter MacLachlan, gardener, won 1st place in Open Class for the following: Table Plants, Bunch Herbaceous, Rambler or Cluster Roses, peaches, nectarines, raspberries, cucumber, and turnips.
- August 26th, 1933: 'Mrs. Chas. Sommerville' attended the annual show. It does not appear that Charles Sommerville married. This is likely a misattribution for one of his sisters.

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society Shows

- July 11th, 1877, Summer Show: D. Cameron, gardener, won 1st place for two Coleus and two pots Clematis.
- September 10th, 1919: Peter MacLachlan, gardener, came in 3rd place for Two tuberous-rooted Begonias, one Double and one Single; 1st place for six Vases Rambler Roses; 2nd place for Six Cases Hardy or Half-Hardy Annuals and 2nd place for six bunches Hardy Herbaceous Perennials.

Caledonian Horticultural Society Quarter Meeting

- June 6th, 1850: Mr Denholm, Gracemount, contributed Ranunculuses and Double Wallflowers to the exhibition associated with the meeting.

²¹ E. H. M. Cox, *A History of Gardening in Scotland* (London: Chatto and Windus for New flora & silva Ltd., 1935), 197.

²² 'Chrysanthemum Exhibition in Edinburgh', *The Gentlewoman*, 26 November 1910, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0003340/19101126/399/0082>.

²³ 'LIBERTON', *Dalkeith Advertiser*, 31 August 1933, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0002714/19330831/070/0003>.

Scottish Horticultural Association, Annual General Meeting

- March 2nd, 1880: David Henderson displayed a Polyanthus and an Orchard bloom.

Leith Horticultural, Industrial, and Sports Society Annual Flower Show

- August 19th, 1904: Peter MacLachlan, gardener, won 1st place for one pint black currants, twelve tomatoes, and two Adiantums.

Chrysanthemum Show at Waverly Market, Scottish Horticultural Association

- November 17th, 18th, and 19th, 1904: ‘The Scottish Challenge Cup, with various money prizes, was offered to Scottish growers only, for eight vases of Japanese blooms in eight varieties, three blooms of each. As many as thirteen staged in this popular class...’²⁴ Peter MacLachlan, gardener, got 4th place.
- November 16th, 1910: Maggie Anne Green was spotted at the exhibition in ‘seal furst with a toque edged with sable and trimmed with Wedgwood blue ostrich feathers’.²⁵
- November 16th 1911: ‘Confined to Ladies’ Category: Miss Margaret MacLachlan won 1st place for best arranged Epergne of Chrysanthemums and 2nd place for best arranged Vase of Chrysanthemums. Charles E. Green won 2nd place for 2 bunches of Grape Alicante.
- November 14th, 15th, and 16th, 1912: Peter MacLachlan, gardener, won 1st place for ‘four vases in four varieties, three blooms in each vase’
- November 13th, 1913: ‘Confined to Ladies’ Category: Mrs. MacLachlan won 1st place again for best arranged Epergne of Chrysanthemums and 3rd place for best arranged Vase of Chrysanthemums.

Gardening Publications

Beyond horticultural shows, the gardeners at Gracemount appear to have been involved in the wider cultural world of gardening. Mr. David Rymer of The Gardens, Gracemount, Liberton wrote repeatedly to *The Gardening World Illustrated* and sent in multiple specimens of flowers for their editors to review between 1894 and 1895 (Figs. 35, 36, 37).²⁶

November 10th 1894: Rymer sent specimens of *Cattleya Dowiana aurea* and *Miltonia spectabilis Moreliana* to be reviewed, and they were received positively. In the same issue of the magazine, an article notes he had sent in previously what he thought was a *Laelia anceps alba*, however, it was critiqued and stated that it may be ‘*L. anceps Sanderiana* or *lip. Sander’s var.*’ instead.

September 21st, 1895: Rymer sent in a specimen of *Vanda Batemannii* or *Stuaropsis lissochiloides*, which was lauded for its ‘grand form’. Rymer was congratulated for beating the record of the number of blooms this species of orchid was able to produce on one plant.

24 *The Gardeners’ Chronicle* :A Weekly Illustrated Journal of Horticulture and Allied Subjects. Vol. ser.3:v.36 (1904). London: [Gardeners Chronicle], 1904. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/83824>.

25 *The Gentlewoman*. ‘Chrysanthemum Exhibition in Edinburgh’. 26 November 1910. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0003340/19101126/399/0082>.

26 *The Gardening World Illustrated* : A Weekly Paper Exclusively Devoted to All Branches of Practical Gardening, vol. v.11(1894-1895) (London: Brian Wynne, 1894), <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/273354>. *The Gardening World Illustrated* : A Weekly Paper Exclusively Devoted to All Branches of Practical Gardening, vol. v.12(1895-1896) (London: Brian Wynne, 1895), <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/273151>.

Gracemount Farm

Country Estates and Farms

Beyond pleasure grounds, formal gardens, and walled kitchen gardens, country villas and larger estates would often own farm policies and associated farmhouses and agricultural buildings next to the estate. The cause of this was twofold- as the upper middle class grew, they were buying more land from the gentry, as Waugh had bought from the Mackenzie's, and the effect of the Enclosure Movement saw farmland change from the runrig system with multiple tenant farmers, to enclosed farms with single tenants.²⁷

1730s - 1922: Brewery and Farm

Gracemount Farm's earliest records are the farm being used as a brewery, called Burnhead, from at least 1752.²⁸ The 1752- 55 Sir William Roy Military Survey Map shows Burnhead Distillery with enclosures, surrounded by runrig system farming, signifying the agricultural developments taking place in the 18th century. Burnhead Distillery would be part of the 'Parks of Burnhead', and after Gilbert Waugh's purchase of the land, it would be part of Gracemount's lands until the early 20th century.²⁹ After the Brewery's closure, it became Gracemount Farm for the next 120 odd years, growing a variety of crops including clover grass, hay, turnips, rye grass, potatoes, cabbage, and gooseberry. There are abundant newspaper advertisements over the course of time for a variety of workers for the farm including byremen, ploughmen, and dairymaids. The 1875 Valuation Roll lists Gracemount Farm as 'Farm of Gracemount and St Catherine's', indicating that it was the singular farm for the two properties, likely utilising the farmland of St Catherine's after their ownership was merged in 1860.³⁰ The farm production buildings would stay in the same general area as they had been for Burnhead Distillery. The farmer and farm hands appear to have lived in Burnhead and Gracemount Cottages. In the late 19th century, Gracemount Farmhouse and the farm-hand houses next to the farm production buildings were built.



[Figure 39]
Burnhead Distillery on the 1794 Map of the Craigmillar Estates, part of the Papers of the Gilmour family of Craigmillar and Liberton Midlothian at National Records Scotland.

[Figure 38]
Burnhead Distillery on the 1752-55 Sir William Roy Military Map. The distillery is the two squares to the right of the 'St Catherine's' label. (National Library Scotland).



27 Fenton, Alexander. *Country Life in Scotland: Our Rural Past*. Edinburgh: Donald, 1987.

28 Burnhead Distillery on the 1752-55 Sir William Roy Military Map. The distillery is the two squares to the right of the 'St Catherine's' label. (National Library Scotland).

29 Ibid.

30 1875 Valuation Roll via Scotland'sPeople. <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/record-results/705525356625524e05bdb> .

1922 - 1950: Tubercule-free Milk Research Farm

Around 1922, The Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust came into tenancy at Gracemount Farm and established a research farm for the experimentation of tuberculin-free and tested cattle herds in the fight to eradicate Tuberculosis. The Royal Victoria Dispensary was founded in 1887, the Royal Victoria Hospital established in 1894, and a farm colony in Polton established in 1910 by Sir Robert Philip, a pioneer in Tuberculosis treatment in Scotland.³¹

In 1914, the Edinburgh Corporation took control of the dispensary, hospital, and farm colony, with the Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust established to oversee their operations.³² In 1922, the Trust founded the Southfield Sanatorium Colony in Liberton at Southfield Farm, which held a research laboratory, school, and employment opportunities for patients.³³ The formation of the Royal Victoria Hospital was part of a wave of sanatoriums establishments in the UK at the turn of the 20th century.³⁴

It is estimated that 15% of those who passed away from Tuberculosis in Europe in 1900 died from the bovine strain of tuberculosis.³⁵ The need for more hygienic practices in milk production was clear as early as the mid 19th century, but arguments over correct practice would see British scientists dragging their feet.³⁶ Strong opposition to the pasteurisation of milk would come from not only farmers but also leading authorities.³⁷ Sir Robert Philip would argue against pasteurisation due to the fear of it being done ineffectively, and that the adoption of pasteurisation without other cleanliness procedures would not get to the root of the problem-diseased herds- and would just cause farmer carelessness in cleanliness and safety measures.³⁸

Gracemount Farm was established to promote hygienic herd rearing, an experiment to test Sir Robert Philip's ideas. The procedure to keep the cows tubercule-free was to have rigorous testing every six months, along with better herd-keeping practices, ensuring that the younger cows were reared constantly outdoors, and the herd were kept outside as much as possible, even in winter.³⁹ Dr. John Cormack Simpson lived on site at Gracemount, overseeing the farm.⁴⁰ In 1924, Simpson endorsed the Scottish branch of the Certified Milk Producers' Association, which promoted certified milk (milk that was certified as tuberculosis free, instead of being pasteurised) following the regulations of the Scottish Milk Order of 1923.⁴¹ In 1925, Edinburgh Town Council got involved, and the Public Health Committee ran a competition for farmers to enter their Grade A certified milk, to promote safe milk production.⁴² At the awards ceremony, Dr. Simpson presented a film on the production of milk at Gracemount Farm.⁴³ Whether this film has survived to present day is unknown. The farm was a great success and in 1930, Gracemount Farm had a herd of 110 cows, all tubercule-free (Fig. 40).⁴⁴ The 1927 annual report for the Trust noted that since the establishment of the research farm, 'the public demand for certified milk is stated to have increased remarkably, and to be now in excess of the supply.'⁴⁵

31 Archive, Lothian Health Services. 'Lothian Health Services Archive: Dispensing Hope'. Lothian Health Services Archive (blog), 13 September 2013. <https://lhasa.blogspot.com/2013/09/normal-0-false-false-false-en-gb-zh-cn.html>.

32 Ibid.

33 'DEATH OF SIR ROBERT PHILIP Pioneer of Anti-Tuberculosis Work', The Scotsman, 26 January 1939, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19390126/307/0008>.

34 Thomas Dormandy, *The White Death: A History of Tuberculosis* (London: Hambledon Press, 1999), 161–62.

35 Dormandy, *The White Death*, 329.

36 Ibid, 330-36.

37 Ibid, 335-36.

38 Robert Philip, 'The Milk Supply of the Country and Its Bearings on Health *Meeting Held on 4th February 1925.', *Edinburgh Medical Journal* 32, no. Suppl (1925): 100.

39 'HELP FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM', The Scotsman, 2 November 1935, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19351102/164/0015>; 'AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS HIGHER GRADE MILK', The Scotsman, 22 March 1929, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19290322/140/0014>.

40 1925 Valuation Roll via Scotland'sPeople. <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/record-results/1330630606662552f748bee>

41 'CERTIFIED MILK PRODUCERS SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FORMED', The Scotsman, 17 October 1924, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19241017/184/0004>.

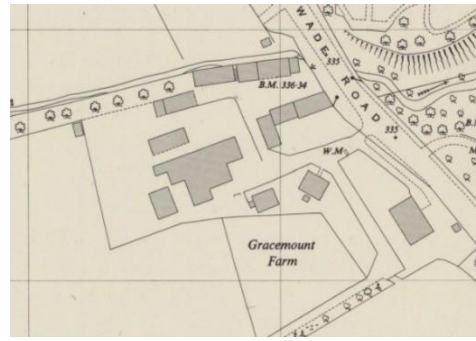
42 'MILK COMPETITION FIRST IN SCOTLAND HOW PURITY IS OBTAINED', The Scotsman, 17 April 1925, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19250417/179/0004>.

43 Ibid.

44 'CONSUMPTION CRUSADE Case of the Children IMMUNITY POSSIBILITIES', The Scotsman, 19 March 1930, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19300319/477/0008>.

45 The Musselburgh News. 'FIGHTING TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION FORECAST EDINBURGH TRUST'S WORK'. 15 March 1927. British Newspaper Archive. <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19270315/178/0005>.

C.W. Sommerville and his sisters still had a presence at Gracemount Farm during the tenancy of the Trust. In 1939, Sommerville's estate, presumably his sisters Louisa Anna and Evelyn, would build a new 'turnip shed, food store, mixing house, hay shed, and implement shed' at Gracemount Farm (Figs. 41, 42).⁴⁶ After the death of the last Sommerville sibling, Evelyn, in 1947, the Trust would buy Gracemount House and its surrounding estate, including the farm.



[Figures 41 and 42]

Gracemount Farm in 1932 and 1947 Ordnance Surveys, showing the changes made in the 1939 additions to the Farm. (National Library Scotland)

1950: University of Edinburgh

Throughout his lifetime, Sir Robert Philip would have a strong relationship with the University of Edinburgh. The Trust would not only fundraise to create a Chair of Tuberculosis at the university, but Sir Philip would also be unanimously voted into the position.⁴⁷ An agreement would be made between 1916-1922 that 'The University, through their Professor of Tuberculosis, shall be responsible for the whole clinical supervision and treatment of patients' in the dispensary, hospital, and Polton Farm Colony.⁴⁸ After Sir Philip's death, the post would be taken up by Professor Charles Cameron upon recommendation in 1945. Cameron would live in Gracemount Farmhouse (Fig. 43) while he held the position.

In 1950, the Trust felt that their mission at Gracemount to produce and sell tubercule-free certified milk on a commercial basis had been satisfied and decided the best course of action would be to make the farm a teaching farm.⁴⁹

46 'RHP41672-41680', National Record Scotland Catalogue, n.d., <https://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/details.aspx?reference=RHP41672-41680&st=1&tc=y&tl=n&tn=n&tp=n&k=gracemount&ko=a&r=&ro=s&df=&dt=&di=y>.

47 'DEATH OF SIR ROBERT PHILIP Pioneer of Anti-Tuberculosis Work', *The Scotsman*, 26 January 1939, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19390126/307/0008>.

48 'Agriculture: Farms: Gracemount, 1950-1952', 1950-52. EUA IN1/ADS/SEC/A/9/5. University of Edinburgh Centre for Research Collections. https://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk/repositories/2/archival_objects/211879.

49 'Annual Report, 1949 - 1950'. 1949-50. LHB41/7/1. Lothian Health Services Archive. https://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk/repositories/4/archival_objects/59571.

The Trust handed over the farm over the farm to the University of Edinburgh for the teaching of agriculture students, under the stipulation that it would continue tuberculosis research and produce tubercule-free milk for the farm’s customers and Southfield Sanatorium.⁵⁰ The University decided to rename the farm to ‘Sir Robert William Phillip Memorial Farm Gracemount’ in recognition of the work done by Sir Philip.⁵¹

In 1951, after Professor Cameron retired, Sir John Crofton was elected to the position. Crofton and his family also lived in Gracemount Farmhouse, undertaking alterations to the house when they moved in.⁵²



[Figure 43]
Gracemount Farmhouse, 126 Lasswade Road. (Google Maps).

During Crofton’s time as the Chair of Tuberculosis, Crofton and his team had an incredible medical breakthrough, creating a three-drug treatment that stopped Tuberculosis bacteria from getting resistant to treatment that would have a staggering success rate.⁵³ His work plummeted the rate of Tuberculosis in Edinburgh and the treatment method spread worldwide.⁵⁴

In 1955, The University sold 19 acres of Gracemount’s land to the ‘north-east of Lasswade Road’ to the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, excluding Gracemount Farmhouse, and ‘the northernmost of the two cottages facing Lasswade Road’, presumably Burnhead Cottage. As a part of this sale, they made an agreement with the board that the university could continue to use about 40 acres of land for the dairy farm over the course of 1956.⁵⁵ By 1957, the Edinburgh Corporation had bought Gracemount House from the South Eastern Regional Medical Board and talks had begun for the Gracemount Housing Scheme, utilising the land of Gracemount Farm. The scheme was begun in 1958, and the farmlands would be lost. The buildings that remain from the farm are two farm-hand houses, at 124 and 126 Dunlaw Wynd, Gracemount Farmhouse at 115 Lasswade Road, and Burnhead and Gracemount Cottages, 132 and 134 Lasswade Road, respectively (Figs. 43-46).



[Figures 44, 45, and 46]

Above:
Left to Right: 124 Dunlaw Wynd, Burnhead and Gracemount Cottages (132 and 134 Lasswade Road), 126 Dunlaw Wynd. (Google Maps).

50 ‘SCHOOL OF SCOTTISH STUDIES Edinburgh University’s New Project’, *The Scotsman*, 28 October 1950, British Newspaper Archive, <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000540/19501028/205/0007>; ‘Agriculture: Farms: Gracemount, 1950-1952’, 1950-52. EUA IN1/ADS/SEC/A/9/5. University of Edinburgh Centre for Research Collections. https://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk/repositories/2/archival_objects/211879.

51 ‘Agriculture: Farms: Gracemount, 1950-1952’, 1950-52. EUA IN1/ADS/SEC/A/9/5. University of Edinburgh Centre for Research Collections. https://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk/repositories/2/archival_objects/211879.

52 ‘Site Plans, Plans, Sections and Elevations Showing Additions and Alterations. | Canmore’, <https://canmore.org.uk/collection/735893>.

53 Royal College of Physicians. ‘Sir John Wenman Crofton’. <https://history.rcplondon.ac.uk/inspiring-physicians/sir-john-wenman-crofton>.

54 Ibid.

55 ‘Tuberculosis: Gracemount Farm House (Residence for Professor of Tuberculosis), 1951-1955’, 1951-55. EUA IN1/ADS/SEC/A/6/82. University of Edinburgh Centre for Research Collections. https://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk/repositories/2/archival_objects/211602.

Conclusion

This project was able to create an almost complete timeline of ownership for Gracemount House, devise some of the architectural works done to the house, establish some of the features and produce growing in or around Gracemount's walled garden, and compile the history of Gracemount Farm. This project has shown that Gracemount has an interesting and rich history. Multiple influential members of the greater Edinburgh community lived at the house and the 20th century history of Gracemount Farm is part of a greater history of the eradication of Tuberculosis that is of national and worldwide importance. Architecturally, the house is still a bit of a mystery, but the changes made to the house that have been confirmed show multiple important Edinburgh architects involved. The statues on the north side of Gracemount are also still quite a mystery, but seem very likely to be 18th or 19th century statues, rather than statues from St. Catherine's Chapel. The connection of these statues to St. Catherine's seems have been developed by keen antiquarians, rather than concrete proof. The Horticultural Shows that Gracemount participated in shows how important gardening was to Gracemount residents, the local, and wider Edinburgh community. Knowing what plants were being grown at Gracemount can help to develop future development plans and education in the Walled Garden. Understanding the local history of agriculture and gardening may allow local community members to feel closer to their local history when they utilise Gracemount's future horticultural and food resources.

Limitations:

Gilbert Waugh's papers and private correspondence from 1772-1793, at the British Library in London were not able to be accessed due to the cyber-attack effecting all of the library's systems, and are unlikely to be accessible for the foreseeable future. These papers would be fantastic to check out in the future, as they may have key insights into the building of the estate or day-to-day life on the estate.

Due to time constraints, the City Archives were not utilised, but likely have more information on the 20th century history of the house and definitely have the history of the housing scheme. Further exploration of the City Archives and the Lothian Health Service Archives may also help to find more information about the house as a nursing home.

Future Research Opportunities:

- St Catherine's: The house was associated with multiple high-profile people, including William Rae, a friend of Sir Walter Scott's. Further research into Alexander Wright and the Walled Garden at St. Catherine's may offer insight into Gracemount's horticulture.
- Liberton Horticultural Associations and Shows: There does not appear to be any research done on the history of horticultural associations and shows in Liberton. They were highly popular and important within the community and are a rich part of Liberton's history.
- The Housing Estate: We did not have time to fully research the estate but further research would be useful to help contextualise the current food insecurity faced by the community. Gracemount's housing estate also is very relevant to the 20th century architectural history of Edinburgh, and has not been researched extensively in general, unlike other nearby communities, such as the Inch or Moredun.

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Appendix A: Sasine Abridgements

(6772) Nov. 10 1796

ROBERT KEITH of the Island of Grenada now in Edinburgh, Seised, Oct. 28, 1796,- in lands called the PARK of BURNHEAD consisting of 20 acres with the Tenement of House built within said park, being part of Goodtrees;- Brewery, Maltstead & Houses on part of Stenhouse called Westfield, & 1 Rood and 29 falls of the lands of Stenhouse called Whinnieknow, and Teinds, par. Libberton; - on Feu Disp. by David Stewart Moncrieff of Moredun, Advocate, to John Mackenzie of Delvin, W.S., Jun. 27. 1769; Disp. and Assig. By him to Cecilia Mackenzie, his spouse, in liferent, and Alexander Muir Mackenzie now of Delvin, his grand-nephew, in fee, Aug. 7. 1777; and Disp. and Assig. By them, to Gilbert Waugh, late Capt. 84 Reg. of Foot, May 23. 29. 1788;- and on Feu Disp. by James Hume of St Catharines, to the said Gilbert Waugh late of the 57 Reg. of Foot, Dec. 15 1791; & Disp. & Assig. By the Commissioner of the said Gilbert Waugh now Military Commandant of Hospitals for the Island of St. Domingo, Sept. 8. 1796. P.R. 415. 41.

(11,1613) Dec. 20. 1805

MAGDALEN HAY, relict of William Smith of Forrest, Seised, Dec. 18 1805,- in GRACEMOUNT comp. The Lands called the Park of Burnhead consisting of 20 Acres, formerly part of the Lands of Goodtrees or Moredun; and 2 Pieces of ground called Westfield and Whinnieknow, being parts of the Lands of Stenhouse, & Teinds, par. Libberton; - on Disp. By Robert Keith late of the Island of Grenada, now in Edinburgh, Nov. 23. 1805. P.R. 555.121.

(5547) Dec. 31 1824

DAVID CARNEGIE of Craigo, Seised, Dec. 30th 1824, - in lands now called GRACEMOUNT, and Teinds, par. Libberton;- on Disp. And Settl. By Magdalen Hay, relict of William Smith of Forret, Sept 28. 1811; Ret. Gen. Serv. of Elizabeth Carnegie, and Adam Gillies, on elf the Senators of the College of Justice, her husband, in liferent, and the said David Carnegie, in fee, as heirs of provision to the said Magdalen Hay, Apr. 19, 1824; and Ren. by the said Elizabeth Carnegie, and Adam Gillies, of their respective rights of liferent, Jun. 23. 1824.

(Vide NO. 4804). P.R. 1043. 33.

(9664) Jan. 15. 1827.

AGNES EDMOND and HENRY SIBBALD, W.S., her husband,- and Agnes Katherine Sibbald, and Clara Elizabeth Sibbald, their children, Seised, in liferent and fee respectively, Dec. 25. 1826,- in the lands now called GRACEMOUNT, and Tends, par. Libberton; on Disp. By David Carnegie of Craigo, with consent of the Trustees under the Mar. Con. between the said Agnes Edmond, and the said Henry Sibbald, May 15-26. 1826. P.R. 1151.3.

(7501) Jun. 21. 1837

ROBERT NEWBIGGING CAIRNCROSS, Advocate, as heir of conquest to John Mirtle, W.S., his second cousin, Seised, Jun. 16. 1837,- in the following lands, forming part of the lands and others now called GRACEMOUNT, viz., the lands called the Park of Burnhead, consisting of 20 Acres with the Tenement of Houses within the said Park, and Teinds, par. Libberton;- on Disp. by Agnes Edmond, and Henry Sibbald, W.S., her husband, with consent of the Trustees under their Mar. Con., to the said John Mirtle, Dec. 8, 1831; and Ret. Gen. Serv., Aug. 31. 1835. P.R.1507. 268.

(5501) Sept. 12. 1835

ROBERT NEWBIGGING CAIRNCROSS, Advocate, as heir of conquest to John Mirtle, W.S., his second cousin, Seised, Sept. 5. 1835,- in the lands called the PARK of BURNHEAD consisting of 20 Acres, with the Dwelling House, Offices and other Buildings thereon, forming part of and comprehended in the lands now called GRACEMOUNT, and Teinds, par. Libberton; - on Ch. Resig. Conf. and Novod. By David Anderson of Moredun, Banker, Edinburgh, to the said John Mirtle, Mar. 20. 1832; and Ret. Gen. Serv. Aug. 31. 1835

(1941) Dec. 20. 1842

JOHN BOYD GREENSHIELDS of Drum, Advocate, and Jane Boyd, his spouse, Seised, in fee and liferent respectively, Dec. 17 1842, - in the lands, Mansion House, Offices and others now called Gracemount, comp. The lands called the PARK of BURNHEAD, consisting of 20 Acres with the Tenement of Houses within the said Park, and Dwelling House, Offices and other Buildings on said lands, Piece of ground on which a Brewery, Malt Stead and Houses formerly stood, being part of the lands of Stenhouse called Westfield, and part of the said lands of Stenhouse called Whinnieknow extending 1 Rood and 29 falls, and Teinds, par. Libberton; - on Disp. by Robert Newbigging Cairncross, Advocate, Dec. 9. 1842.

P.R. 1670. 115.

(2418) May 19. 1852.

MAURICE LOTHIAN, Solicitor, Edinburgh, and Procurator Fiscal of the County of Edinburgh, Seised, in the lands now called GRACEMOUNT comp. The lands called the Park of Burnhead consisting of 20 Acres, with the Tenement of Houses within the said Park, and Dwelling House, Offices and other Buildings on said lands; Piece of ground on which a Brewery Malt Stead and Houses formerly stood, being part of the lands of Stenhouse called Westfield, and that part of said lands of Stenhouse called Whinnieknow, extending to 1 Rood and 29 falls, and Teinds, par. Libberton;- on Disp. By the Trustees of John Boyd Greenshields of Drum, Advocate, with consent of his residuary legatee. May 8. 10. 1852.

P.R. 1931.164.

(9262) Jul. 3. 1860.

The Trustees of ALEXANDER WRIGHT of St. Catherines, grant Disch., June 20. 1860.- of Bond and Diss. For £6000, to the extent of £1500, by Maurice Lothian of Gracemount, Procurator Fiscal for the Shire of Edinburgh, May 13. 1859- and declare the lands and Estate of ST. CATHERINE'S,- disburden thereof.

(Vide No. 6372). P.R. 2241. 124.

144 (No. 5) Jan 16. 1908. (3-4)

Disp. By Trustees of deceased ROBERT ALEXANDER IRELAND, I.S.O., Assistant Keeper of General Register of Sasines who resided at Blackford Mount, Mortonhall Road, Edinburgh, with a consent- To Charles Edward Green, The Holies, Gordon Terrace, Edinburgh, -of (I.) lands of ST CATHERINES and GRACEMOUNT, bounded on west by Road from Edinburgh to Roslin, on south by Road from Colinton to Gilmerton and on north east partly by road from Edinburgh to Lasswade, and extending (exclusive of Feu at corner of Roads from Edinburgh to Roslin and from Colinton to Gilmerton, the Superiority of which is included) to 98 954/1000 Acres, with Buildings thereon, with Minerals and all rights as to Water from Edinburgh and District Water Trustees,- under burden of servitudes affecting part of said lands in Bond of Servitude to said Water Trustees, recorded in this Register 30th Oct. 1876, and subject to rights granted by Convey. And Disch. In favour of said Water Trustees, dated 9th Feb. 1900, and (II.) 22 Acres 3 roods 29 falls of land, bounded on east by Highway from Liberton Church to Lasswade, and on south by Highway from Lasswade Road to Kaimes and Peebles Roads, being part of lands of Westfield called Stenhouse now called Burnhead, which lands and other are included in lands and others described as part of lands of Stenhouse called Westfield, containing 46 Acres 31 falls, with Minerals, all in Parish of Liberton with Teinds. Dated Dec. 29 1907, and Jan. 13 and 15 1908; with Warrant of Registration thereon for preservation as well as publication on behalf of said Charles Edward Green. Presented by John Grant, Writer. Lib. 4886. 189.

8771 (No. 61) No. 14. 1922 2-3

Disp. By MAGGIE ANNE DALRYMPLE or GREEN, of Gracemount, widow- To Charles William Sommerville, residing at Woodhouselee, Milton Bridge- of (I.) the lands of ST CATHERINES and GRACEMOUNT, bounded on the west by the Road from Edinburgh to Roslin, on the south by the Road from Colinton to Gilmerton (sometimes called the CAPTAINS ROAD) and on the north-east partly by the Road from Edinburgh to Lasswade, and extending (exclusive of the Feu at the corner of the Roads from Edinburgh to Roslin and from Colinton to Gilmerton) to 98 954/1000 Acres, with the Mansion House of Gracemount &c. Thereon, with Mineral and all rights as to Water from Edinburgh and District Water Trustees, under burden of servitudes affecting part of said lands in Bond of Servitude to said Trustees, recorded in this Register 30th Oct. 1876, and subject to rights granted by Convey. and

Disch. In favour of said Trustees, dated 9th Feb. 1900,- under exception of 9 77/1000 Acres of said Estate of St. Catherines with Mansion House of St. Catherines &c. Thereon, including Lodge and Entrance Gate in Disp. To William Fraser Dobie, recorded 11th Nov. 1913; and also excepting and reserving (1) 4 6478/1000 Acres of ground and Houses &c. Thereon, whether Property or Superiority, at the south-west corner of the lands disposed, with Teinds, but not including in said exception the Entrance Lodge to Gracemount from said Road from Edinburgh to Roslin (and Peebles) (being the Cottage nearest said Entrance) and Garden pertaining thereto, and (2) the Balm Well of St. Catherines, with right of access thereto through said lands disposed to William Fraser Dobie, and through the lands now disposed along a line shown Green and marked A,B, C on Plan No. II.; and (II.) 22 Acres 3 roods 29 falls of land with Buildings thereon, bounded on the east by the Highway from Liberton church to Lasswade, and on the south by the Highway from the Lasswade Road to the Chimes and Peebles Roads, being part of the lands of Westfield called Stenhouse now called Burnhead, which lands and others are included in the lands and other, described as part of the lands of Stenhouse called Westfield, containing 46 Acres 31 falls, with Minerals, all in Parish of Liberton, with Teinds. Dated Sept. 28, 1922; with Warrant of Registration thereon, for preservation as well as for publication, on behalf of said Grantee. Presented by J.C. Thomson, Writer, Edinburgh. Lib. 6598 171.

575 (No.39) Jan 21, 1948 3-4p.m.

DISP. by Trustees of CHARLES WILLIAM SOMMERVILLE of Gracemount, Liberton, Edinburgh sometime Woodhouselee, Milton Bridge- TO Trustees for the Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust, Edinburgh,- of Estate of GRACEMOUNT, with Mansion House there of &c. Being the lands &c. Under the exceptions described in Disp. to said Charles William Sommerville, recorded 14 Nov. 1922 [See minute 8771 of 1922], in Parish of LIBERTON, with right of access by footpath to road from Edinburgh to Peebles, with minerals, Teinds, water rights &c. Under burden of access to Balm Well of St. Catherines, servitudes &c. Under exception of 3 Areas of ground in Disp. to William Fraser Dobie, recorded 14th Nov. 1922, which lends &c. Were last vested in said Charles William Sommerville, from whom said Granters acquired right by his Trust Disp. and Sett., dated 2nd April 1923, and Codicils, &c., all registered in Books of C. and S. 26th July 1935.

8521 (No. 45) Sept. 22, 1948 3-4p.m.

DISP. by Trustees for the ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL TUBERCULOSIS TRUST, Edinburgh- TO Secretary of State for Scotland, - Of Area of ground, with Mansion House known as GRACEMOUNT HOUSE, LIBERTON, EDINBURGH &c. Thereon, to southwest side of road from Edinburgh to Lasswade, forming part of Estate of GRACEMOUNT (under exceptions) described in Disp. to Charles William Sommerville, recorded 14th Nov. 1922, with Teinds, minerals, water rights &c. (under exception of 3 Areas of ground in Disp. to William Fraser Dobie, recorded 14th Nov. 1922). Dated Aug. 3, 5, 7, and 26, 1948; with Warrant of Registration thereon, on behalf of said Grantee. Presented by James P. Hume, Writer, Edinburgh. 9231. 143.

Appendix B: Sale/Let Advertisements

05 November, 1766, Caledonian Mercury

To be LET

THE LIME-QUARRIES of Goodtrees. As also, to be FEUED or SET, in a long lease, and entered to Martinmas next, the PARK of BURNHEAD, consisting of twenty acres, three roods, and a half English measure, all lying three miles south of Edinburgh. Any person inclining, may treat with John Mackenzie, Writer to the Signet, the proprietor. This park is a convenient situation for a country villa, having beautiful prospects of the Frith of Forth, and springs of water within the park.

05 September 1778, Caledonian Mercury

To be SOLD and entered to immediately,

THE LANDS CALLED THE PARK OF BURNHEAD, consisting of about twenty acres, lying in the parish of Libberton and shire of Edinburgh. These lands, which are in the proprietor's natural possession, are pleasantly situated, commanding a delightful prospect, and afford an excellent situation for building upon. There is at present upon the lands, a very good farm-steading, consisting of a dwelling house, stable, byre, and two large cart-shades, which at trifling expense, may be converted into a good barn. These houses are all lately built and in good repair.

01 January 1785, Caledonian Mercury

'A House in Edinburgh and Lands in Libberton Parish'

... Lot II. The Lands called PARK of BURNHEAD, with the teinds thereof, situated within about two miles of the city of Edinburgh, in the parish of Libberton and shire of Edinburgh. These lands consists of about 20 acres, and are at present possessed by James Dewar, upon a lease current till Martinmas, 1797, at the yearly rent of 361 Sterling. They pay no public burdens, except cess for a valuation of 30 l. Scots. They are held feu of a subject superior, for payment of one shilling of feu-duty. - There is a good steading of farm houses upon these lands and they afford a fine situation, for building upon.

Advertisement in 1787 with same phrasing as 1785.

05 January 1788, Caledonian Mercury

LOT 1. The Lands called PARK of BURNHEAD, with the teinds thereof, situated within about two miles of the city of Edinburgh, in the parish of Libberton, and shire of Edinburgh. These lands consist of about twenty acres, and the rent of them is 36 l. Sterling; they pay no public burdens, except cess for a valuation of 30 l. Scots. They are held in feu of a subject superior for payment of one shilling Sterling of feu-duty. There is a good steading of farm houses on the lands, and they afford a fine situation for building. The purchaser may immediately obtain the natural possession of these lands.

29 March, 1796, The Caledonian Mercury

VILLA OF GRACEMOUNT, Three Miles South of Edinburgh.

TO BE SOLD, by public roup, within John's Coffeehouse, on Wednesday the 7th of September next, at one o'clock afternoon. THE HOUSE and OFFICES of GRACEMOUNT, with four Inclosures surrounding them. Also, A BREWERY, and separate Court of Offices, lying in the parish of Liberton. The House, lately built, is commodious and handsomely situated, stands upon an eminence, and commands extensive and picturesque views. Besides a water-pipe in the scullery, the premisses are supplied with soft water, and a beautiful stream runs through one of the parks. The offices consist of coach-house, stable, with four stalls, byre, barn, &c. The inclosures are well laid out, and mostly surrounded with stripes of planting, in a thriving condition. They contain, including the planting, about 20 English acres, and hold of a subject superior for payment of a shilling Sterling yearly. The place is pleasant, dry, healthy, and delightful, having every conveniency for a genteel family. The Brewery and Malting are large and commodious, having ample supply of water conveyed in pipes at a considerable distance, which run into the highest part of the work; and the adjacent court of offices answer for a farm stead to a tenant of any of the inclosures. For particulars, apply to William McFarlan, W.S., James Court, who will treat by private bargain before the day of sale.

01 May 1824, The Scotsman.

DESIRABLE VILLA TO BE SOLD.

THE LANDS AND VILLA OF GRACEMOUNT, consisting of 20 English Acres, in the immediate vicinity and having a commanding view of Edinburgh, will now be sold by private bargain, and, if not sold, to be let furnished, entry at Whitsunday. For particulars, inquiry to be made to Mssrs. Carnegy and Shepherd, W.S., 55, Albany Street. Edinburgh April 24, 1824.

16 April 1825, The Scotsman.

UPSET PRICE REDUCED.

Beautiful Villa. With 20 Acres of Ground near Edinburgh. For Sale by auction, in Mr. Gibson's Sale Rooms, 71, Prince's Street, on Wednesday 4th May next, at three o'clock, unless previously sold by private bargain- Upset price L5,500.

THE HOUSE AND LANDS OF GRACEMOUNT, lying immediately south of the church of Liberton, on the Lasswade Road. The House is commodious, and the Offices, at a trifling expense, can be made suitable. The garden is protected by high walls and the fruit trees are thriving. There is also a neat Porter's Lodge and a Gardener's House. The grounds are skirted by belts of wood, and subdivided by full-grown hedge rows. Both house and grounds command fine views of all the surrounding well known romantic scenery. A stream of water runs along the north boundary, and there are also several excellent springs within the grounds. The public burdens are trifling, and payment of the price will be made convenient to the purchaser. Entry now or at Whitsunday first.

Application may be made to Messers Carnegy and Shepard, W.S. 55, Albany Street, or to Mr Gibson, 71 Prince's Street, for farther information.

05 September 1829, Edinburgh Evening Courant

To Be Sold

By Private Bargain

THE beautiful VILLA of GRACEMOUNT consisting of about twenty English acres, situated in the parish of Libberton, and immediate vicinity of Edinburgh. The House, which has been lately much altered and improved, contains Dining Room, Drawing Room, five Bed Rooms, besides Attics; also Kitchen, with Scullery, Laundry and Servants' Apartments- Wine and Beer Cellars, Larder, and every suitable accommodation, with an ample supply of Water. The Garden, which covers half an acre, is surrounded by an excellent wall, is well stocked with fruit trees, and is very productive. The Property is tastefully laid out, and the beauty of the views from the House and grounds is well known. There is a Court of Offices, consisting of Coach-house, Stable, Byre, Washing-house, and Harness-room. The stage coaches from Edinburgh to Lasswade pass and re-pass the Lodge twice every day. Entry to the Property may be had either now or at Martinmas, and the greater part of the price, may, if desired remain on the security of the property.

For further particulars application may be made to Henry Sibbald, W.S. 63, Northumberland Street, who will give directions for showing the property.

06 February 1839, The Scotsman

DESIRABLE RESIDENCE NEAR EDINBURGH

TO LET, unfurnished, for one or more years from Whitsunday first,

THE HOUSE of GRACEMOUNT, with the Garden, Offices, and Pleasure-Grounds adjoining, situated in the parish of Liberton, within a short distance of Lasswade Road, and about three miles from Edinburgh. The house may be seen on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

23 June 1841, The Scotsman

THE PROPERTY OF GRACEMOUNT, with the MANSION HOUSE, GARDEN, and OFFICES lying within the parish of Liberton, upon the Lasswade Road, and about three miles to the south of Edinburgh. The Lands, extending to about 20 imperial acres, are divided into four Fields, and are surrounded by shrubberies and thriving plantations, all inclosed by a wall. The house is commodious, and commands an extensive and delightful view of the surrounding country and of the Frith [sic] of Forth. The Offices are excellent, having been erected only a few years ago; and there is also a good walled Garden, with a fine southern exposure.

Advertisement in March 1842 with same phrasing and then advertisements to be let in May and June 1842.

16 January, 1864, Edinburgh Evening Courant

TO BE LET, for such terms of years as may be agreed on, THE MANSION-HOUSE of GRACEMOUNT, with the GARDEN, VINERY, and PEACH-HOUSE, BOWLING-GREEN, LAWN, GARDENER'S LODGE, AVENUE, and First-rate STABLING, in the Parish of Liberton, about three miles from Edinburgh. Apply at the Gardener's Lodge. If desired, possession may be obtained before Whitsunday next.

28 February, 1874, The Scotsman

TO BE LET, for such period to be agreed upon, THE MANSION HOUSE of GRACEMOUNT, LIBERTON, within Three Miles South of Edinburgh.

On the main floor, Dining-Room, Drawing-Room, and Five Bed-Rooms. Two attic Bed-rooms. On the ground floor, Servant's bed-rooms, an Apartment fit for a Billiards Room or Servant's Hall, the Kitchen, Washing house, Scullery, Cellarage, &c.

The length of the avenue secures retirement. There is a Coach House, 4-Stalled stable, Loose Box, Groom's and Harness Rooms, and Byres; a well-enclosed Garden with southern exposure, Vinery, Peach-House, good water, Lawn, Bowling-Green, Lodge, &c. The whole extends to about four acres. Seen on Wednesdays and Fridays, from One to Four o'clock. Entry immediately if desired. Apply to Messrs. Finlay and Wilson, S.S.C., 47 Queen Street.

28 May 1890, The Scotsman

MID-LOTHIAN- To be Sold by Public Roup, with Dowell's rooms, No. 18 George Street, Edinburgh on Wednesday 25th June 1890, at Two o'clock (unless previously disposed of by private bargain)

DESIRABLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh with Entry (including actually occupancy of St Catherine's Mansion- House) at Martinmas 1890, in order to wind up a Trust Estate.

The Property consists of LANDS OF ST CATHERINE'S AND GRACEMOUNT, extending to about 100 Acres, and situated about Three Miles south from Edinburgh, on the Roslin Road.

The mansion-house of St Catherine's contains 3 Public Rooms, 10 Bed-Rooms, besides usual Servant's Accommodation and Kitchen, and ample Offices and Stabling, Garden and Policies, including Conservatory, Vineries, and Peach-House. The mansion-house of Gracemount consists 2 Public Rooms, Parlour, 3 Bed-Rooms, and Billiard Room, besides Servant's Accommodation and kitchen. The Stable and Offices are ample. Garden and Policies, including Vinery and Peach-House.

Both Houses are well situated and the surroundings pleasant. Both are supplied with water from the Edinburgh main. The Policies extend to about 7 and 5 Acres respectively, and contain some fine old trees, and the celebrated Oil or "Balm Well" of St Katharine.

The Farm is in the occupation of Mr. Kidd, Gracemount. The Farm-House is distant about a half mile from St Catherine's Mansion-House. The land is of good quality and in a very high state of cultivation. There is a substantial Dwelling-House on the farm of two storeys, and suitable Steading.

The ground is believed to be rich in Shale, which, from samples taken, yields a very superior Oil.

The rental of the Property (including a Feu-duty of £1 5s) is £593 5s, and the Public Burdens for the year 1868-9 were £52 17s 8d. The Feu-duties are nominal.

The whole Property will be offered in the first instance as one at the Upset Price of £16,000, but in the event of its not being sold, the Mansion-House of St Catherine's and Policies, Land, Cottages, and Feu-duty will immediately thereafter be offered at the Upset Price of £13,000, and the Mansion-House for Gracemount and Policies at the Upset Price of £3000.

Same advertisement run again in 1892.

16 November, 1894, Glasgow Evening Times

PURCHASE OF A MID-LOTHIAN ESTATE-

The historic and desirable properties of St. Catherine's and Gracemount, with the mansion houses, offices, and policies, which include the celebrated "Balm Well of St Katherine", lying to the south of Liberton, have been purchased from the trustees of the late Mr Maurice Lothian by Mr Robert A Ireland of Blackford Mount, whose lands of Stenhouse are in the vicinity.

02 April 1898, The Scotsman

MID-LOTHIAN- Gracemount, by Liberton- Fine old retired residence, now being altered with newest improvements; 4 public rooms, 7 bed rooms, kitchen, 2 servants' rooms, bath room, 3 w-c's, stable, offices, greenhouses, lodge, avenue, garden, policies. Apply J&T Scott, 10 George Street.

21 January 1905, The Scotsman

Mid- Lothian ST CATHERINE'S AND GRACEMOUNT and LANDS OF BURNHEAD, NEAR LIBERTON

For SALE, in Dowell's Rooms, 18 George Street, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 25th January 1905, at 12:30p.m (unless previously Sold Privately).

Two Desirable RESIDENTIAL and FEUING PROPERTY, consisting of ST CATHERINE'S and GRACEMOUNT MANSION-HOUSES and POLICIES. FARMS and LANDS of GRACEMOUNT MANSION-HOUSES and POLICIES, FARMS and LANDS of GRACEMOUNT, LANDS of BURNHEAD, with COTTAGES &c., extending to 129 Acres, and having a total Rental of £957. Feu duties nominal. Entries taxed. UPSET PRICE. £32,500. Failing Sale in One Lot, exposure in Seperate Lots may be arranged.

Apply to FYFE, IRELAND, & DANGERFIELD, W.S., 71 Hanover Street, Edinburgh for further particulars and for the Titles and Articles of Roup.

Same advertisement run again in 1907.

14 January, 1922, The Scotsman

DESIRABLE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE NEAR EDINBURGH FOR SALE

THE ESTATE OF GRACEMOUNT

In the Parish of Liberton, and within the Municipal Boundaries of Edinburgh is for Sale by Private Bargain. The Estate consists mainly of (1) the Mansion-house with Gardens, Greenhouses, Garage, and Policies (2) the Farm, and (3) various Cottages and Pertinents. The Mansion-house is commodious and convenient. It occupies a commanding situation, and is approached by two accesses, for which there are Entrance Lodges. The Farm, which is in the possession of the Proprietors, is well equipped with Buildings, and in every other respect. The whole property extends to about 112 Acres, and has an Assessable Rental of £783 5s yearly. Of this sum, £175 applies to the Mansion-house, &c., £406 to the Farm, and £202 5s to Houses. The Feu-duties are trifling. The whole Property is in an excellent state of repair and has unique and exceptional attractions for a Purchaser desirous of enjoying the pleasures of country life with the advantage of proximity to Edinburgh. For further particulars, application may be made to H. R. McDonald, Esquire, O.A., 27 Alva Street, Edinburgh or Messrs MORTON, SMART, MACDONALD, & PROSSER. W.S. 19 York Place, Edinburgh.