

# ORDNANCE SURVEY 1858-61

## NAME BOOK OF THE PARISH OF FINTRY

### COUNTY OF STIRLING

*David Smith*

#### **Knockraich**

Various spellings: Knockreoc Knockcraigh  
Knockcraigh  
A farmsteading, two Storeys, Slated, and in  
good repair.  
The Property of A.G. Spiers Esqr., Culcreuch.

#### **Craigton**

An elegant and commodious Stone Mansion,  
situated on the side of the Fintry hills, and  
commanding an extensive and beautiful view.  
The building of it was commenced in 1847 but  
it is still in an unfinished condition and not  
inhabited. It is three storeys high. The  
property of Mr. Dunn Esqr., Fintry.

#### **Dunkessan**

A knoll in the Campsie Fells a little to the  
South of the farmsteading of Jaw. It has no  
remarkable features about it being covered  
with a rough kind of pasture interspersed with  
a few rocks.

#### **Culcreuch Mill**

A large Cotton Spinning Mill four and six  
Storeys high Slated and in good repair, and is  
now being thoroughly fitted with new  
Machinery. It is worked by a Waterwheel of  
Sixty horse power, there is also an auxiliary  
Steam Engine of the same power, in case the  
water runs short, but this is very seldom the  
case the water of the Endrick affording a  
regular and good supply and for the last 12  
months the mill has only been delayed 10  
hours for the want of water.  
There are now about 70 hands employed in  
the Mill and as soon as the machinery is  
completed it will employ about 100.  
It was built in 1795 and is the property of the  
Culcreuch Spinning Company.

#### **Stewart's School**

A neat Stone Building, with dwelling house  
attached, two Storeys high, Slated, and in  
good repair. The School is endowed to the

extent of £50.0.0 a year by the late John  
Stewart Esqr. of Fintry; the remainder of of  
the Teachers Salary is made up by the School  
Fees. Average attendance 70; ordinary  
branches taught, also Latin and Mathematics  
if required. The School was built in 1839 out of  
funds left by Mr Stewart for the purpose, and  
is now in the hands of Trustees.

#### **(Girls') School**

A two Storey house, the upper Storey of which  
is used as a School for girls, it is supported by  
Mr Spiers of Culcreuch who allows the teacher  
a Small Salary and a house the remainder of  
the salary coming out of the School fees.  
Average attendance 40.  
House Slated and in good repair.  
Property of A.G. Spiers Esqr.

#### **The Dun**

A Small hill on the Western face of the Fintry  
Range. It is chiefly remarkable for a range of  
basaltic columns on its front, which rise to a  
perpendicular height of some 50 feet. It is flat  
and circular on the top and like "Dunbeg"  
bears evidence of artificial work, and is  
supposed to be another in the line of beacons  
between Sir John de Grahams Castle in St  
Ninians Ph. [Parish] and the Castle in Balfron  
Ph. [Parish]. This seems probable as "Dunbeg"  
is in view of the Castle in Balfron Ph.,  
"Drumbeg" is in view of "The Dun", and the  
last again is in view of Fintry Castle, which was  
in communication with Sir John de Grahams  
Castle.

#### **Covenanter's Hole**

On the North Side and about half way up the  
hill is a hollow called the 'Covenanter's Hole',  
which is said to take its name from the  
circumstance of the Covenanters Meeting  
here in troublesome times; it has the  
appearance of an artificial ditch and  
embankment, but has been formed by a Slip  
of the rock from above, and is admirably  
adapted to the purpose for which it was said  
to be used, being completely concealed from  
view from the adjacent heights, with the

exception of one precipice immediately above it but which is difficult of access.

#### **Fintry Inn**

A two Storey House with offices attached, Slated and in good repair. The Property of the Trustees of the late John Stewart Esqr.

#### **Bogside**

A Farmsteading two Storeys, Slated, and in good repair, the property A.G. Spiers Esqr. of Culcreuch.

#### **Post Office**

A two Storey dwelling house, Slated, and in good repair. The Property of Mr McEwen of Blackhouse. The letters arrive here from Balfron, which is the principal office in the neighbourhood, at 10a.m. and leave at 12p.m. Glasgow is the head office. Not a money order Office.

#### **Buckingham Cottage**

A small one story cottage, forming part of the Gonachan.  
It is slated and in good repair.  
Property and residence of Mrs. Johnston.

#### **Lag**

A small farmsteading part of which is in ruins, all one storey and thatched.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

#### **Bridge-end Cottage**

A small one story cottage, so named from being at the end of the Low Bridge, slated and in good repair.  
Property and residence of William Dunn, Esqr.

#### **Gonachan**

A few one story, slated, houses; inhabited by agricultural labourers, and distant from the village of Fintry about a mile. House all in good repair. Property of various individuals.

#### **Gonachan School**

A parochial school, capable of accommodating 45 scholars, but the average attendance is only 35. The usual branches taught. The teacher besides the legal accommodation, has

the maximum salary - £34.0.0 Government allowance, £16.0.0 school fees, £16.0.0, and subscription £9.0.0. in all, £75.0.0.  
Slated and in good repair.  
Property of the Heritors.

#### **Fintry Castle**

The remains of an old castle supposed to have been erected about the 12th century, and which from its position on the south side of the Fintry Hills, must have been a place of great strength. Very little information can be obtained regarding it, and its present appearance affords none, as only a small part of the foundation remains.  
It is supposed to have been surrounded by a fosse, and the appearance of the ground helps to bear out that supposition. It was inhabited by the Grahams of Fintry.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

#### **Spittalhill**

A large farmsteading, all one storey, slated and in good repair.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

#### **Tinto Myllie Knowe**

This name is applied to a very prominent knoll a short distance east from the farm of Spittalhill. It has an artificial appearance, but tradition does not state for what purpose it was raised.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

#### **Todholes**

A small farmsteading, all one storey, partly slated. In good repair.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

#### **Randieford Bridge**

A small one arch stone bridge, on the statute labour road, between Denny & Fintry.  
It is in good repair.  
Property of the Road Trustees.\*  
This name is supposed to be derived from the word Rendezvous (the place where John de Graham used assemble his men), but Randyford is the more modern way of spelling

and pronouncing the word.

\* It is a Turnpike road from Denny to a small public house half a mile west of Carron Bridge: from which it is a Trust or Parish road until it joins the Turnpike road from Fintry to Campsie.

### **Lurg**

A large farmsteading, slated, and in good repair.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Townhead**

A large farmsteading, slated, and in good repair.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Finnich-Haugh**

A large farmsteading, dwellinghouse two stories all slated and in good repair.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Gowk's Stanes**

A number of boulder stones situated a short distance north from the Loup of Fintry. Some of the stones are of a considerable size. The name is derived from the word Gowk, the scotticism for Cuckoo.

### **Gallows Knowe**

A small knoll situated about a mile east from the farm of Spittalhill. It is supposed to have been the place of execution in connection with Fintry Castle, during the feudal times.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Kill Knowe**

A small circular Knoll situated near the farm of Spittalhill. It receives its name from a battle having been fought near it, during the feudal times.  
Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Meikle Bin**

The highest hill in the parish it is very conspicuous being isolated. The ascent is gradual on all sides and covered with fine

sheep pasture.  
Second class hill.

### **River Carron**

The River Carron rises on the S.W. [South west] boundary of the Ph. [Parish] a little above Campsiemuir T.P. [Turn Pike] - not on the hill immediately South of the church as alluded to in the Statistical Account -, for the first 3 miles of its course it forms the boundary between Fintry and Campsie. It then enters the Ph. [Parish] and has a level course of about other 3 miles; after leaving the parish it has a long course before it joins the Firth of Forth at Grangemouth.

### **Campsiemuir Toll Pike**

A one storey slated house in good repair.  
Property of the Road Trustee - full rates leviable.

### **Jaw**

A farmsteading two Storeys high offices one Storey, Slated and in tolerable repair the Property of A.G. Spiers Esqr. of Culcreuch.

### **Church**

A plain commodious Stone building, with a tower at the West end, Slated and in good repair. It contains sittings for 500 and was built in 1823. It is the only place of worship in the Parish.

### **Manse**

A commodious dwelling house with offices and a large garden attached; the dwelling house is two Storeys high Slated and in good repair.

### **Newton**

Newtown is pleasantly Situated on the banks of the Endrick, in the entrance to a glen formed by the Campsie Fells on the South and the range of the Fintry Hills on the north. The Situation is rather damp and unhealthy owing to the hills rising abruptly behind the houses.

There is a large mill Situated close to the village for Cotton Spinning which when complete will give constant employment

to upwards of a hundred of the inhabitants. Newtown contains besides, two Schools, a Post Office, Public House, & Toll Bar whole rates levied.

The village contains about 400 inhabitants; the houses composing it belong to various proprietors, they are one and two Storeys high, principally Slated but a few of them thatched; and are, with a few exceptions, in only moderate repair.

### **Fintry**

Fintry consists of a few Scattered houses, one and two Storeys high chiefly Slated and in good repair one or two of them thatched, & in bad repair. The Parish Church is Situated here, also the Manse and a Public House. There are about 30 inhabitants. The houses belong to various proprietors.

### **Balhennan**

Formerly a Farmsteading, now uninhabited and partly in ruins the property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchannan House.

### **Walton Reservoir**

A large Reservoir made for the purpose of Supplying the Culcreuch Mill, but at present not used for any particular purpose it is Supplied from the Endrick. The Property of the Duke of Montrose, Buchanan House.

### **Fintry Mill (in ruins)**

The name applies to what was once a corn mill but on the property changing hands about fourteen years ago, the new proprietor sold the machinery and allowed the buildings to fall into their present state - a heap of ruins. Property of William Dunn Esqr. Craigton

### **Broomhole**

A small farmsteading one story, slated and in bad repair. Property of the Duke of Montrose Buchanan House

### **Woodfoot**

A small one story cothouse thatched and in good repair. Property of William Dunn, Esqr, Craigton.

### **Lowbridge Mill**

A two story building where the carding and spinning of wool is carried on. The machinery is propelled by water. Water Wheel 10 horse power. Dwelling house attached. All in good repair and slated. Property and residence of Mr. Robert Duncan.