

Grantown Heritage Plaques: The Garth.

The building now known as the Garth and previously the White House and The Corner House was built for Sir James Grant's clerk in 1769. This building was soon turned into a woolen manufactory once employing 42 people. The town's first physician, William Moffat, stayed here as, at one time, did the town's minister.

Later it was, briefly in 1907, the summer residence of Victorian best selling novelist, Marie Corelli, favourite of Queen Victoria. She was in fact the only author invited to the coronation of Edward VII. Amusingly many of her then devoted public would have been quite horrified by her private life with her lover Bertha Vyver.



The Garth Hotel



Bruce Lockhart tells that whilst in Grantown "she took herself very seriously. When she drove down the High Street with her ponies and her Pomeranians, she made Grantown take her seriously. Perhaps that is why", he wrote, "although she inspired me in no way to write, she gave me the impression that authors were not only rich but very important people."

An early photo of the Garth and Castle Road.

During WWII the building, like many in Grantown, was requisitioned for military use. In 1940 it was commandeered for remnants of the 51st Highland Division who were billeted here.

View from the grth across burnfield Garden

