

Grantown Heritage Plaques: Grant Arms Hotel



Grant Arms Hotel

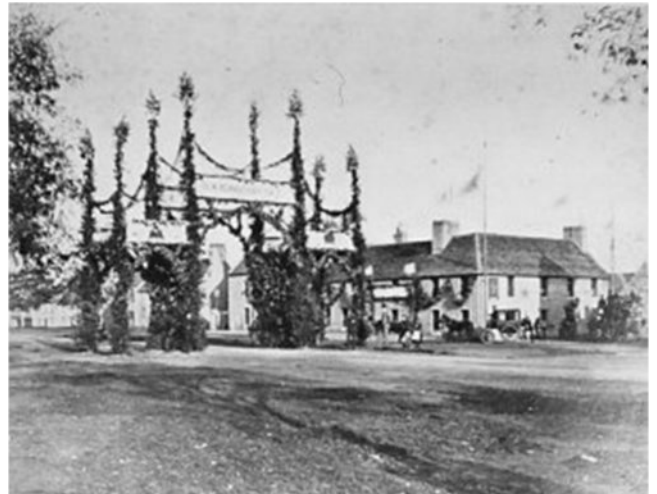
Originally this was a low two storey inn which had developed from an unsuccessful 1765 linen manufactory and then in 1766 a “brewing, baking and butchermeat” business.

It became famous on 4th September 1860 when it became the first inn in which Queen Victoria and Prince Albert stayed. In 1875, the present Scottish Baronial extensions were built.

Since then it has had many famous guests and many stories to tell. One such story was presented in a Grantown Society dramatic reconstruction of the Life and Times of the Grant Arms.

It was brought to our attention by someone who worked there as a porter when a student. He recalled that during preparations for a tennis club ball, trifles had been prepared the day before and left in a cool room. On the morning of the ball there was some kind of a fall of soot from the chimney of that room and the cream got covered. The morning task was to scrape off the soot covered cream. As we presented this live we found to our horror and amusement that the manageress of the day and the porter were both in the audience.

A much more serious incident occurred on the 17th July 1878 when constable James Fraser was stabbed by a deranged resident as he was being arrested. He died of his wounds leaving a wife, three sons and a six week old daughter.



The Hotel some 200 years ago



Opposite the hotel across the Square is the town's war memorial designed by architect Marshall McKenzie and erected in 1921.

The Hotel from the North Side of the Square showing the war memorial and Speyside House.