

Grantown Heritage Plaques: Masonic Lodge

The low building next to the more ornate Rosehall, now offices, is home to the Craigellachie Lodge of Freemasons. Earlier, this was where Francis William Grant, later the 6th Earl of Seafield, first went to school. Rather than heading back to the castle at lunchtime he crossed the road to the Grant arms where he had his lunch.



Former shop on the site of the Rosehall

Close by, the double windows of the "Gallery" were designed to avoid Pitt's window tax. The next building housed Parish Council offices and next, No 2 the square is now Grantown's Co-op dating to 1942.



The Graham Bell gallery and to its left the Parish Offices

Previously the Co-op buildings were premises of Messrs McDougall and Co rebuilt after a disastrous fire around 1900. A newspaper report of the time tells that the fire was first observed about 3 am by Mr James Glass, chemist, who was preparing for a run to Forres on his cycle, and he proceeded quickly through the streets ringing a hand bell and shouting "fire!", and soon roused Miss Stewart, matron of the Speyside Charity School, who at once rang the bell of the institution. With the help of a fire hose from castle Grant the fire was brought under control by around 7 am.



Messrs McDougall & Co.