

The McCausland Family and Shandon Hotel

Marcus McCausland was born in Co Derry in 1831 and after his marriage to Lydia Green moved to Glasgow. He had 10 children but 9 died in infancy as a result of scarlet fever.

William was the sole survivor.

Marcus was for many years employed by Robert Napier, a shipbuilder who lived at “Shandon” on the Gareloch, Helensburgh, Scotland. After the death of Robert Napier in 1876 Shandon was extended with a swimming pool and Turkish baths and opened as a hydropathic establishment. Marcus was employed as “superintending the alterations in the Establishment, as well as practically assisting in hastening their completion”

Marcus’ surviving son, William married Rebecca McCausland of Milford in 1899. She was a sister of Robert McCausland whose family had the general store and post office in Milford since 1856.

William and Rebecca lived in Edinburgh where William was an electrical engineer. They had 3 children. Marcus, Frances and Ian.

In 1912 the family decided to immigrate to America but stopped off in Milford on route. They stayed in Milford with Rebecca’s brother and did not emigrate.

In 1927 William and Rebecca purchased 8 acres at Parkmore, Marble Hill from the late John McClafferty. A substantial three storey house was built on the land as their retirement home. It was named “Shandon” after the Shandon Hydropathic in Scotland where his father, Marcus had worked for so many years.

It was soon decided that this house would make a great guest house so their daughter, Frances and their son, Marcus ran a successful business there. A bungalow, small shop and extension to the house were added. Marcus married Betty in 1942 and they ran the guest house, upgrading it to a hotel in 1943 until it was sold in 1952.



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