Address 2 High Street
Name The Diamond Bar
Map Reference
Griffith’s Valuation 35/36
Listed Building No
Reference N/A
Grade N/A
Conservation Area Yes
Reference Ballymoney
Building at Risk No
Reference N/A
Date of Construction Late 18th century (?)
Former Use Inn/Grain Merchants
Present Use Public House/Butchers

Description
Late 18th century (?), three-storey, three-bay wide and two bays deep, stone built corner building, detached from neighbouring properties and set back from the building line of High Street. Building set at the back edge of the pavement on the corner with Charlotte Street. Natural slate, twin gabled roof with central valley, parallel to High Street façade and one brick chimney positioned centrally on the ridge, located on the right-hand gable wall (left-hand chimney removed). Quarry faced, square cut, uncoursed stone façade to High Street and Charlotte Street but now painted render at ground floor facing onto The Diamond. Regularly arranged window openings at first and second floors on High Street elevation only, with red brick window surrounds and flat arched heads at first and second floors. Flat, stone arched head to second floor central window only, original opening width reduced. Ground floor window openings enlarged during the 19th century. Replacement top-hung uPVC casement windows installed throughout, originally six-over-six traditional vertical sliding sash painted timber windows.

History
The site is indicated on the 1734 map of the ‘Town of Ballymoney’ by Archibald Stewart, naming the owner or tenant as David Gardner. In 1796 the ‘old established Inn,’ then called the Head Inn, (High Street was at that time called Head of Town, later Townhead Street) was taken over by Archibald M’Aloanen from a Mr Alexander Eslar. By 1804 the building was occupied by Doherty & Mitchell, Pork and Butter Store. The 1814 town map surveyed by William Martin Junior on behalf of Lord Mark Kerr, head of the Antrim estate, identifies the tenant at that time being Doherty (Dogherty) & Mitchell and the proprietor as Archibald McAlonan. The site is indicated as being occupied by a building on the 1833 Ordnance Survey map and all subsequent OS maps. From before 1814 until circa 1895 the tenant of the building was John Doherty (John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants) and subsequently Andrew and William Doherty (Andrew and William Doherty Provision and Butter Merchant). The section of the building facing on to The Diamond appears to have been converted back for use as a public house circa 1898, the publican at the time was Thomas Kelly. The building continues to be used as a public house and is currently The Diamond Bar. The rear of the building was later converted for use as a butcher’s (The Pork Store) at ground floor, and bookmakers on the first floor (Stanley Racing), now vacant at first floor.
Leaseholders/Tenants /Owners

1734  David Gardner
1795  Alexander Eslar (before 1796) (Newspaper Article December 1796)
1796  Archibald M’Alonan, Head Inn (Head of Town?) (Newspaper Article December 1796)
1804  Doherty & Mitchell, Stores: Pork and Butter, Head of Town (George Miller, list 1804-1810)
1804  Archie McAlonan, 1 Church Street, Publican (George Miller, list 1804-1810)
1812  Archibald McAlonan with John Mitchel took a contract to make 29 perches of ditches on the road from Ballymoney to Coleraine (Presentments Grand Jury)
1814  Doherty (Dogherty) & Mitchell, proprietor: Archibald McAlonan, Piper Row (1814 Valuation)
1816  Archibald McAlonan made sub-constable of Lower Antrim barony (?)
1842  John Dogherty & Co. provision, butter, flax and grain merchants, The Diamond: Mr Dogherty’s residence, Ballybrake (Martin’s 1842)
1846  John Doherty & Co. (B&PUD)
1852  John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1858-9  John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1859  Occupier: Andrew & William Doherty, High Street (35 & 36) (GV)
Leaseholder: Reps. James Boyle, Earl of Antrim
Description: Stores and Yard
1859  Occupier (adjoining property): William A Cochrane (GV)
Leaseholder: William and Andrew Doherty
1863-4  John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1866  John Doherty & Co. Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
John Doherty & Co. Butter Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1870  John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1877  John Doherty & Co. Flax, Grain and Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1880  A & W Doherty, Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1884  A & W Doherty, Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1890  A & W Doherty, Provision Merchants, High Street (B&PUD)
1892  A Doherty, Provision Merchant, High Street (B&PUD)
1894  Andrew and William Doherty, Provision and Butter Merchant (B&PUD)
1896  (John Doherty, farmer, Ballybrake (B&PUD))
1899  Thomas Kelly, Publican, High Street (B&PUD)
1901  Thomas Kelly, Public House/Spirit Merchant (Head of the Family, aged 56, Roman Catholic, Widower) (1901 Census)
1901  Rose Kelly (Daughter, Scholar, aged 14, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
Thomas Kelly (Son, Scholar, aged 13, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
Bernard Kelly (Son, Scholar, aged 10, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
Patrick Kelly (Son, Scholar, aged 8, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
Michael Kelly (Son, Scholar, aged 5, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
Bella McCambridge (Servant, aged 24, Roman Catholic) (1901 Census)
1911  Bridget McClements, Barmaid (Head of the Family, aged 64, Roman Catholic) (1911 Census)
1911  Bernard Kelly (Lodger, Carpenter, aged 20, Roman Catholic) (1911 Census)
Patrick Kelly (Lodger, Scholar, aged 18, Roman Catholic) (1911 Census)
Michael Kelly (Lodger, Scholar, aged 15, Roman Catholic) (1911 Census)
1938  P. Donaghue, Publican, The Diamond
1952  Donaghue, Publican, The Diamond
1964  The Diamond Bar, Leo Doyle
2000s  The Diamond Bar, Martin Doyle/ The Pork Store/Stanley Racing Bookmakers?
2011  The Diamond Bar, Martin Doyle/ The Pork Store
2013  The Diamond Bar, Martin Doyle/The Pork Store
Archive Maps

Town of Ballymoney by Archibald Stewart, 1734

Ballymoney map by William Martin Junior, 1814
Archive Images

2 High Street, circa early 1900s

2 High Street, circa early 1900s
Archive Documents

Newspaper article, 16th December 1796

HEAD INN, BALLYMOUNT.

ARCHIBALD M‘ALGANEN,

INFORMS his Friends and the Public, that he has now taken that old established Inn, situated in the Diamond of Ballymoney, lately occupied by Mr. Alexander Eslar, where he is determined to pay the strictest attention to the Comfort and Accomodation of all Travellers who are so good as to call with him. He has on hand a quantity of excellent Hay and Oats, also very good Beds and a Chaise for hire.

Ballymoney, 16th Dec. 1796.