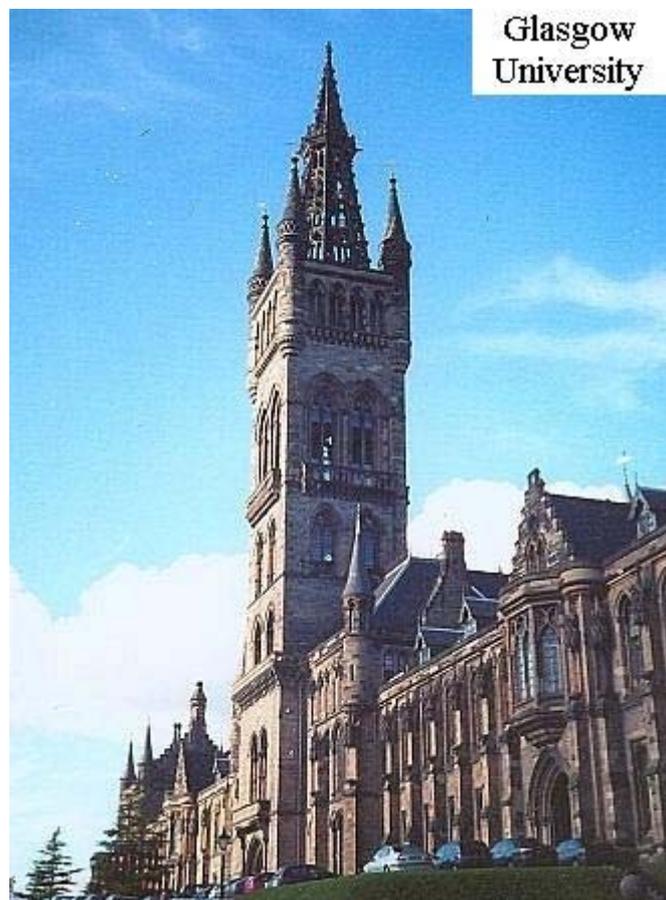
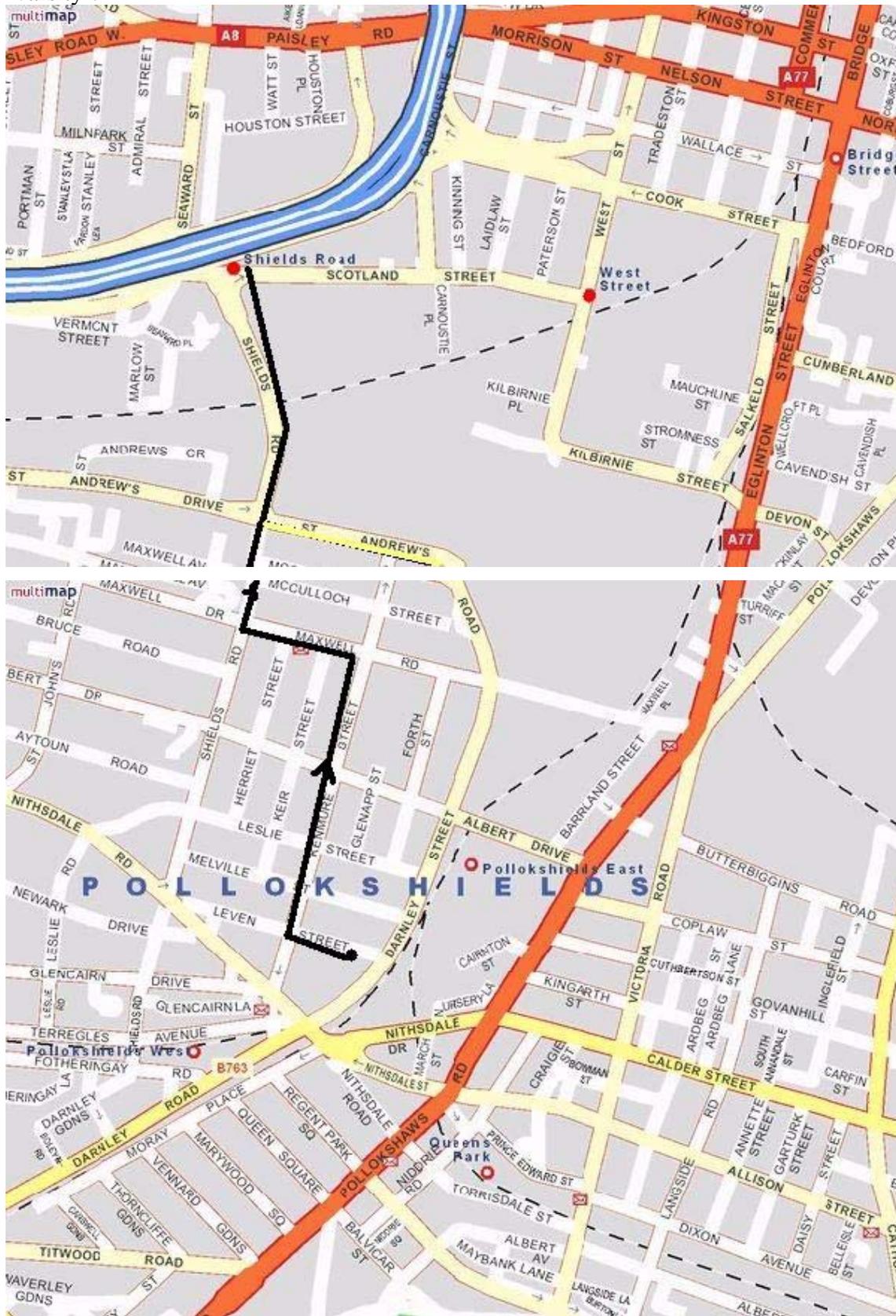


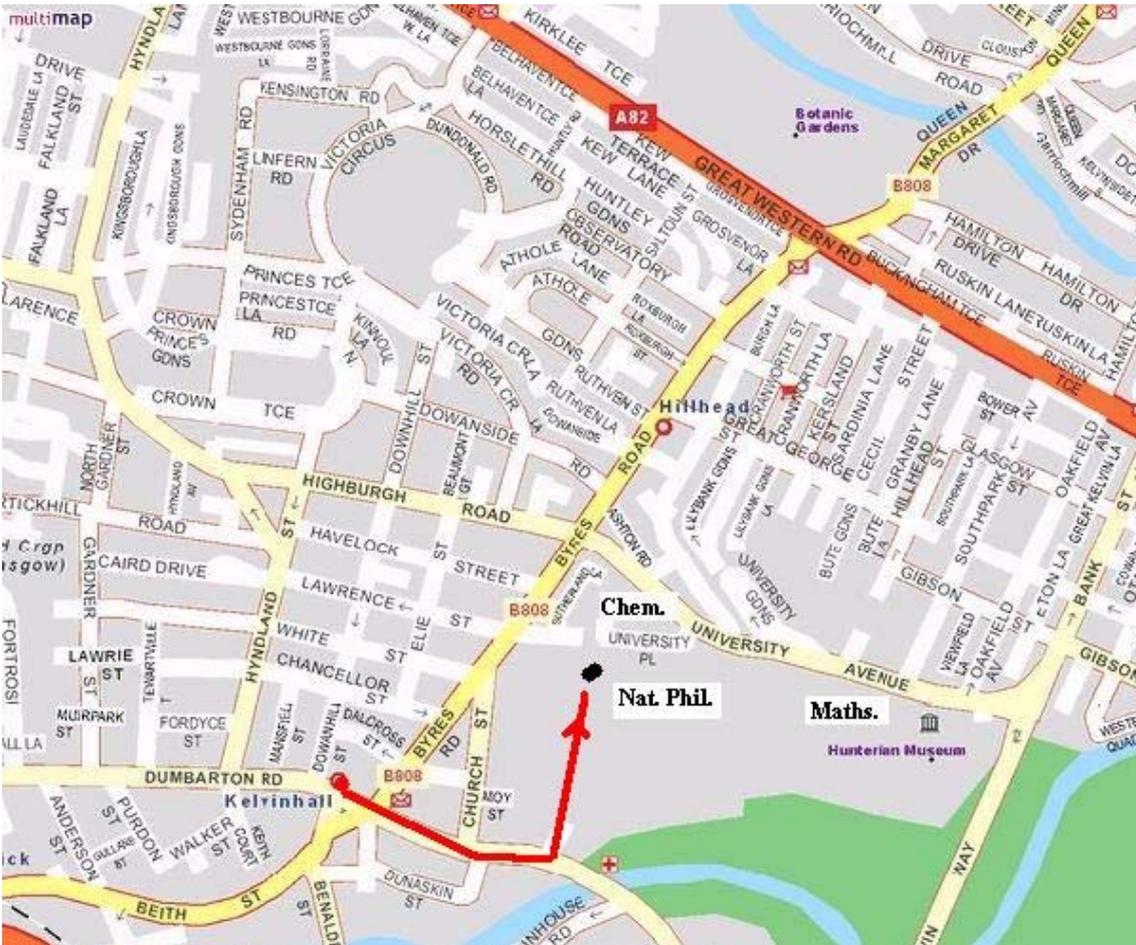
Chapter 39
1957 – 1958
Bannockburn / Glasgow University – 1957/58

Having been accepted for admission to study for a BSc within the Faculty of Pure Science at Glasgow University from October, 1957, a September search for ‘digs’ for me in the city was undertaken by my parents. However, very quickly, on the recommendation of a family friend, we chose 21 Leven Street, Pollokshields as my term-time home, and its elderly widowed owner, Mrs Hutcheon, as my ‘surrogate’ mother! And what a caring person she was! And what a pleasure it became being another ‘son’ to her while her own grown-up son Ewan, was away living and working for a Building Society in Aberdeen. She offered, bed, breakfasts and evening meals, and all the study time I wanted in my own chair by the warmth of the kitchen fire. She insisted on my having cereal and a cooked breakfast every morning, Monday to Friday, and, every evening, Monday to Thursday, she cooked me a three course ‘high tea’ of such gargantuan proportions that I often found my eyes drooping long before my normal three hour home-study stint thereafter could be completed! As I went home to Bannockburn every Friday after classes, my mum quickly learned of her generosity, so on my Sunday evening returns to Leven Street, I was usually weighed down with the best of her baking to augment the tins there, and thus try to prevent Mrs Hutcheon from spending more money on me than we were actually paying her for my keep!



For each of the three, ten week terms, my week-day programme comprised a daily diet of three, one hour classes in Nat. Phil., Chem. and Maths. From 9a.m. till 12 and, in addition, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Chem. Labs. From 2-5p.m. and on Fridays, Nat. Phil. Labs., also 2-5p.m. My morning target was to be seated in the Nat. Phil. Lecture Theatre by at least 8.55 a.m., but to get there from the other side of the Clyde, I had to leave home at 8.15 a.m., walk a mile to catch the 'subway' from Shields Road to Partick, and then walk the further quarter mile past the Western Infirmary up to the 'varsity'.





Nat. Phil. Faculty Building at Glasgow University in 1957-58