This chapter of the clan history contains the text of “Clan Macnab, a short history” by James Charles Macnab of Macnab the 23’d chief, published in 1977. This version was known as the “green book” to distinguish it from a later reissue, the “red” book, from the color of their covers. It had been a long held ambition to share the clan history with my McNab relatives and since the clan history was out of print, I began in the year 2000 to convert it into a computer document. The intention at the time was to add it to our family history as background. As I went through the text I began adding footnotes to bring the history up to date and to explain terms that would not be familiar to my relatives who were not familiar with Scottish history or culture. Eventually I added other documents related to the clan history which has become the e-book “Clans of the Brea d”Alban”

The text is as presented in the Green Book, the footnotes are my own. There were illustrations and a map but those have been placed in their own chapters with, in some cases, extensive explanatory text.

David Rorer

**The Clan Macnab a short history**

**by James Charles Macnab of Macnab, J.P.**

There are a number of early Histories of the Clan, including that written by John McNab of Callander for the Clan Macnab Association in 1907, Roland Wild’s fanciful “Macnab the Last Laird” and “the Last Laird of MacNab - an episode in the Settlement of Macnab Township, Upper Canada”, edited and published by Alexander Fraser in Toronto. Some of what was in these early attempts has by subsequent research been found to be incorrect[[1]](#footnote-1)

In 1951, at the time of the Festival of Britain, my great-uncle Archibald Corrie (22nd Chief) produced a pamphlet on behalf of the Clan Society entitled “A Brief Outline of the Story of the Clan Macnab.” In 1954, he added a supplement to bring it up to date and to correct errors. While doing this, the supplement has also made it extremely difficult for the layman to follow!

Throughout his life, my great uncle corresponded with many clansmen around the world and collected much information about various Macnab families. Some of this he collated into a preliminary draft for a full Clan History but there still remains a lot more to be done, which will require a great deal of time.

Because of this, the Council of the Clan society has decided as an interim step that this new short History should be produced for 1977, the year of the International Gathering of the Clans. They asked me to edit it.

In this task I have been greatly assisted by great-aunt Alice Macnab of Macnab, who completely rearranged and corrected the text of the 1951 “Brief Outline,” much of which is included. I am also indebted to Peter A. McNab, a past President of the Clan Society and writer about things Scottish, who went through, typed and arranged my uncle’s notes and drafts. Both have done more work than I have.

This History is of necessity short and omits much that is of interest. This is particularly so in the account we give of the life of that most colorful of characters, Francis, the 16th Chief and of his nephew, Archibald, (17th Chief), about whom there are numerous stories. Also omitted are many accounts of Macnab families who emigrated to the Americas, Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the world. These will need to be pieced together and included in the full History which the Clan Society hopes to publish in due course.

Today, there are far more Macnabs living overseas than are left in the U.K. It is interesting to observe that although there are still some Macnab descendants living in Killin and Glen Dochart, my family is the only one of the “name.” The nearest other families of the name “Macnab” live in Strathyre or Aberfeldy.

We hope this “Short History will be of interest. Apart from the contributions made by Brigadier John McNab of Barravorich and the late Ian McNab of Barachastalain, all the material used has been taken from the writing and research left behind by my great-uncle, Archibald Corrie Macnab, 22nd Chief.

This publication is dedicated to his memory.

**Introductory Notes:**

For the benefit of those who may not be familiar with the terms “of” and “in” it should perhaps be explained that “of” indicates either the Head of a family or clan or the owner of a place whereas “in” indicates that the person is the tenant in a place. For example “Gilbert of Bovain” was head of the family which lived at and owned Bovain while “Iain McNab of Barachastalain” is the representer of the Macnab family which used to live at and own the place, Barachastalain. Patric Macnab “in” Acharn” indicates that he was only the tenant of the place Acharn. Titles to denote the Chief, such as “Laird of Macnab,” “Macnab of that Ilk” or “of Macnab” are of comparatively recent origin.

Except where inappropriate, we have used the spelling Macnab with a small ”n” which is the normal accepted modern collective spelling. It should, however, be stressed that the name has been spelt in the different variations over the centuries, all of which are equally correct. The name, when used collectively today, is spelt with a small “n” because this is the spelling used by the Lord Lyon[[2]](#footnote-2) when the Arms were first matriculated. There is perhaps some merit in the Argument put forward by some men of “letters” that the “n,” being derived from the second letter of the Gaelic “an” (of), should be small. Those who spell their name with a capital “N” and/or “Mc” should not however allow themselves to be in any way put out by those who advance such theories. They are in good company for we know that Francis (16th Chief) used to sign his name “Fran: M’Nab”.

The Clan Macnab Society, by whom this short History is published, was founded in 1904. In its early days, it had three branches: -- Glasgow (the parent body), Edinburgh and London and used to be very active with social functions, dances, etc. More recently, since the decline of public transport, the movement of the town’s populations to suburbs and the advent of television, the number of these functions have diminished.



The Society today is centered on Kinnell Estate Office. It has a fairly extensive membership throughout the United Kingdom and overseas and holds one major annual function, usually at Killin, in May or June. An annual Newsletter is published and sent out to every member. Membership is open to all Macnabs as well as those who are of any of the recognized septs of the Clan and to their descendants. Those interested in joining the Society should contact the Secretary, Clan Macnab Society at the current address: Kinnell Estate Office, Killin, Perthshire FK21 8SR.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**The Origins and Early History of the Clan**

The name Macnab, which is spelt in various different ways, is a rendering of the Gaelic Mac-an-Aba (or Abba), which in English means the children of the Abbot. In those days there were lay Abbots[[4]](#footnote-4) as well as clerical Abbots and even the latter were allowed to marry. It was the Celtic custom for abbots to be chosen from the Founders Kin, and the old Gaelic manuscript genealogies trace the mediaeval Macnab chiefs through some twenty generations from Saint Fillian’s brother Ferchar mac Feradach. Indeed the Chief of the Clan MacNab is still recognized by Scotland chief heraldic officer The Lord Lyon King-at-Arms as hereditary Abbot of Glendochart. One of two such titles still recognized.[[5]](#footnote-5)

According to tradition the original ancestor was the younger son of Kenneth McAlpine, the King of the Scots who united the Picts and the Scots. This younger son was Abbot of Glendochart and Strathern, and the Macnab’s derive from a holder of that Abbacy in his reign.[[6]](#footnote-6) Their early possessions lay in Glendochart the valley of the river Dochart the southern and western shore of Loch Tay, down to Killin, where the seat of the Clan was Macnab Castle on Eilan Ran, an island on the north bank of the River Lochay, at the western end of Loch Tay. A point of great importance when there were no roads and water was the quickest means of transport. Their castle stood where the Dochart emptied into the loch. The clan burying-place is the island of Innis Buie, in the River Lochay just before it issues into Loch Tay. The residence of the chief was at Kinnell house, on the south bank of the river Dochart near the town (see map of Killin).

The Macnab’s are members of a larger clan grouping; Siol-an-Alpine[[7]](#footnote-7) otherwise called Clan Alpine, together with the MacGregor, the MacKinnons,[[8]](#footnote-8) the Grants, the Mcquarries and the MacAulays.

Skene’s “Celtic Scotland” 1880, Volume III, pages 338 and 362-5 and Appendix VIII explains that the Books of Ballimote (1383 A.D.) and Leccan (1407 A.D.) appear to derive from the same original; but that the two former sources only give information about a few of the Clans. The manuscript of 1467 alone gives the descent of the Clan Macnab from Feradach, the father of Saint Fillan, through Ferchar Og Abraruadh the nephew of Saint Fillan, Donald Dom and Cormac to Gilbert of Bovain. These early manuscripts are, however, suspect and contain anomalies. Too much store should not be set by them. The genealogy as contained in the 1467 manuscript, if this is accepted, is set out in Appendix A. The number of generations shown would suitably fill the gap between St. Fillan and Gilbert the first Chief (i.e. 703-1336).

Other Clans shown as descended from Cormac are the Clan Andres (Ross), the MacKenzies, the Mathesons, the Macduffys, the MacGregor, the MacQuarries, the MacKinnons, the MacMillans and the MacLennans.

Shown as descended from Donald Donn are the MacLarens, the MacNaughtons and the Mackays, and from Ferchar Og Abraruadh the MacLeans, in addition to the Macnabs.

Clan Chattan, the MacKintoshes and the Camerons are shown as descended from Feradach, through Ferchar Fada, brother of St Fillan and King of DalRiada[[9]](#footnote-9) (died 697) and father of Ferchar Og Abaruadh.

Unconnected with these are the Campbells, MacLeods, Nicolsons, Macdonalds, MacAlisters, MacIans, MacDougalls, MacRorys, Lamonts, MacClachans, Somairle (unidentifiable), Mac Ewens and Lennoxes (MacFarlanes).

**St. Fillan**

There were two saints called Fillan[[10]](#footnote-10). The earlier was an Irish Celt of the race of Aengus, King of Leinster. He died on June 22, 520 A.D. His chapel and grave are at Dundurn at the eastern end of Loch Earn. His Font is in Dundurn Church and his “chair” is on St. Fillans Hill, where are also his spring and “basin.”

The later St Fillan was a Scot, the son of Eerach or Ferdach of the race of Fiatach Finn. He succeeded St. Mundus as Abbot of Kilmun and then moved to Glendochart whence his mother Kentigerna, the most devout of women, retired to the Nun’s Island on Loch Lomond and died in 734 A.D. The name Fillan (Faolan) means “Wolf Cub”. The ruins of his chapel are at Kirkton between Tyndurm and Crianlarich in Strathfillan. His “pool” and “stone bed,” which were supposed to cure the insane, are still there. His pastoral staff, or crozier, (the Quigreach), which was carried before the Clan in battle, and his bell are in the National Museum in Edinburgh. His left arm, which was luminous enough to help him to write at night, was enshrined in a casket after his death.

It is said that King Robert the Bruce wished to have the relic of his arm with him at Bannockburn.[[11]](#footnote-11) The casket was sent empty but the arm followed it miraculously and was considered by the King to have helped him greatly to gain the victory. His “healing stones” are at the Tweed Mill, Dochart Bridge, Killin[[12]](#footnote-12). He died on 9 January 703 A.D. Other relics of St. Fillan, important to the Clan still exist.

**The Clan**

The Macnab country stretched from Tyndrum, west into Argyll and east, down Glendochart to Killin, where the old Macnab castle of Eilean Ran was originally situated on an island on the north bank of the River Lochay.[[13]](#footnote-13) This was a point of great commercial importance at the western end of Loch Tay at a time when there were no roads and a boat was the quickest means of transport. Various Macnab families also possessed land at the beginning of the 19th century at Dundurn, Newton, Torry, Callander, Bochastle, Kilmahog in the neighborhood of Doune, and near Coupar Angus in East Perthshire. Others settled in the area of Ballinluig near Pitlochry.

The early history of the Clan is scanty. The name of Macnab as a surname was first found in a chartulary of 1124 AD in the reign of David I[[14]](#footnote-14). The records of the Abbeys were destroyed during the Reformation and the Macnab “Writs” were lost when the English burned the Castle of Eilean Ran in 1654. With the final breakup of the clan in the early 19th century, there was a further dispersal of the records.

In 1138 A.D., John de Glendochart witnessed a charter granted by Malduin, third Earl of Lennox. Later the Abbot of Glendochart and the Earl of Atholl governed a part of Argyle[[15]](#footnote-15). In 1296, Malcolm de Glendochart’s name was shown in the “Ragmans Roll”[[16]](#footnote-16) acknowledging Edward I of England as Lord Paramount of Killin, the village, which grew up around Eilean Ran.[[17]](#footnote-17)

Angus Macnab, incensed by the murder of his brother-in-law, The Red Comyn[[18]](#footnote-18), by Robert the Bruce,[[19]](#footnote-19) naturally joined the Red Comyn's son-in-law, MacDougall of Lorn[[20]](#footnote-20), the Bruce's bitterest enemy, and helped defeat the Bruce at the Battle of Dalrigh[[21]](#footnote-21) in Strathfillan in 1306 A.D. But they were defeated by him at the Pass of Brander, (1308 A.D.) and at Bannockburn[[22]](#footnote-22). When John Balliol[[23]](#footnote-23) and the English were driven from Scotland, the Macnab lands were forfeited and their writs burned; but in 1336 A.D., Gilbert received a charter from King David II. Gilbert belonged to Bovain, in Glendochart,[[24]](#footnote-24) and the Bovain family remained chiefs for many centuries. He is generally regarded as the first chief. The senior line -*Macnab Oire*- of Innishewan[[25]](#footnote-25) thereafter subsisted only as a cadet.

The history of the Clans before Bannockburn is chiefly derived from early Irish genealogies. If authentic, the Macnab genealogy is shown as going back from Gilbert through Ewen and Angus to Ferchar, nephew of St. Fillan and the late Archibald Corrie Macnab of Macnab C.I.E. (22nd Chief) suggested to the Lord Lyon that Gilbert should in fact be regarded as the 20th Chief. The Lord Lyon, however, has decreed that Gilbert should be regarded as the first authentic chief.

The genealogy, thus pieced together and reproduced in Appendix “A”, would suggest that Gilbert of Bovain was a direct descendant of the old chiefs, against the theory that the old chiefs before Gilbert were of the Innishewan branch. Be that as it may, as happened after 1745, those in authority must have found that only the old family could control the countryside, and its surviving representative was restored to power. Gilbert would have been alive when the genealogies were recorded. They show other Clans also descended from Ferchar, presumably through different sons.

**The Early Chiefs**

The early History of the clan after the charter of 1336, granting the lands of Bothmachan (Bovain) to Gilbert (1st Chief) is fragmentary. Some early historians suggest that Gilbert was succeeded by Finlay, then Patrick, followed by Sir Alexander. However, in 1954, the Lord Lyon when deciding the succession of the chiefs decided that Alexander should be regarded as 2nd Chief. He died before 1407, leaving three sons, John, Maurice and Alexander. John (3rd ) succeeded him and the next recorded name is that of Finlay (4th ), who was alive in 1450. In 1464, Patrick (5th ) succeeded and in 1487 conveyed his property to his son Finlay (6th), who was in turn succeeded by his son John (7th ) in 1499 and was in turn succeeded by his son Finlay (8th).

It seems that the Macnabs moved slowly down the River Dochart. Before Bannockburn, the Chief probably lived at Innishewan; Gilbert (1st), the grandson of Angus, lived at Bovain. About the year 1400, Macnab lands included Ardchyle,[[26]](#footnote-26) Invermonichele, Bovain, and Downich. Patrick (5th) died at Auchlyne[[27]](#footnote-27) in 1488. In 1522, the lands of Ewer and Leiragan were granted in life rent to Mariat Campbell by her husband Finlay Macnab (8th), who died at Eilan Ran on 13 April 1525 and was buried at Killin. His eldest son was probably killed at Flodden[[28]](#footnote-28) in 1513. The second son, John (9th) (who succeeded his father Finlay) granted a tack (lease) for nine years of Auchessan to John Campbell of Glenorchy. John Macnab (9th) died before 1558 and left a widow, Eleyn Stewart. In her probably lay the origin of the claim made by the Epping branch of the Clan Macnab to the Stewart Earldom of Strathearn.

John’s son Finlay (10th) married Katherine, a natural daughter of John Campbell of Glenorchy. Their tombstone is still to be found in the Burial Enclosure in the island of Inch Buie at Killin and it bears the inscription “This Burial Apertines to Finlay Macnab of Bovain”. Finlay’s son John died before him and he was succeeded by his brother Alexander (11th), whose extravagances greatly embarrassed the family.

Alexander had at least two sons, Finlay and Patrick Mor of Acharn. Finlay (12th) was the father of "Smooth John," famous warrior, and Duncan, by his first wife, Katherine, daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy. By a second wife, Alexander had ten more sons; from the eldest of these, John Roy or Baine, the present Chief is descended.

From Gilbert to Finlay, the father of Smooth John, the previously accepted descent may have had some gaps, but most of these seem to have been filled. (See Genealogy Appendix B)

**Smooth John -- The end of Eilean Ran – The Beginning of Kinnell House**

The Macnab country from Dalmally[[29]](#footnote-29) in the west to Killin in the east, vies in beauty with any part of the Highlands. The twin peaks of Ben More and Stob Buinlin[[30]](#footnote-30) near Crianlarich and of Ben Lawers to the east of Killin rise to nearly 4000 feet. Glendochart and the tumbling waters of the River Dochart falling into the great expanse of Loch Tay, attract many thousands of visitors each year.

The problem for the Macnabs was that their lands lay astride one of the main routes to the west and the north. Only two ranges of hills lie between Glendochart and the Lowlands. Stirling is less than forty miles away, Edinburgh about seventy-five and Glasgow, even less. Thus they lay in the path of advancing armies and the tides of war flowed disastrously over the Clan, culminating in Eilean Ran being burnt by the English in 1654. It was also difficult for a small clan to withstand their powerful neighbors, the Campbells of Breadalbane[[31]](#footnote-31) who enjoyed financial strength and influence at Court.

“*In Famed Breadalbane*”[[32]](#footnote-32) contains stories of the surrender of various portions of the Macnab lands to the “Lairds of Glenorchy” (i.e. the Breadalbane Campbells); but these tales and others before them do not take account of the practice of “subinfeudation”, whereby a landowner might recognize someone else as his overlord, who was strong enough to protect him and act as a buffer between him and the Crown.

Finlay, the 12th Chief, married Katherine, a natural daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy. They had a daughter and two sons, Smooth John (Iain Min) and Duncan. By a second wife (name unknown), he is believed to have had a further ten sons. The names of six have been traced. The eldest, John Roy or Baine (red or fair-haired) is the ancestor of the present chief’ the other five were Patrick, Archibald, Finlay, Donald and Alexander. Tradition has it that the weakest of the twelve sons could drive his dirk through a twelve-inch board.

If Finlay MacNab (d. 1556) was a man of peace and intervened successfully to protect the homes of the populace who were being plundered by the wild rabble that followed the Marquess of Montrose[[33]](#footnote-33) in 1644, his son, Smooth John (Ian Min), was a man of war. He and the fighting men of the Macnabs joined Montrose, during the wars between King and Parliament, and played a notable part in the victory of Kilsyth.

John was then appointed to garrison Montrose’s own Castle of Kinkardine. There he was so closely besieged by General Leslie that he found it impossible to stand out. He therefore sallied forth with his 300 clansmen, sword in hand, during the night, and all got clear off but the Chief and a private, who were taken prisoners and sent to Edinburgh. Macnab was condemned to die; but the night before his execution, he contrived to make his escape and joined King Charles in England. John was with the Royalist forces at the battle of Worcester, on 3 September 1651[[34]](#footnote-34) and survived the battle but not for long. Various Highland Chiefs and Lowland noblemen met in Killin in May 1653. A party of horse and foot from the Commonwealth Army in Perth came to find out what was going on. John Macnab found them lifting cattle and was killed in the ensuing affray. Thus fell the most heroic figure of the house of Bovain.

His father, Finlay, in 1633 had given Kinnell House to his daughter-in-law, Mary, who was the daughter of Duncan Campbell, fourth Laird of Glenlyon. After the castle of Eilian Ran was burnt by the English in 1654, and all the Macnab’s charters and other documents destroyed, the property then was given to Campbell of Glenurchai, who alleged that he had sustained heavy losses by the Macnab. So reduced was the family by these reverses, that during the minority of her son, the widow of Macnab made supplication to General Monk[[35]](#footnote-35) for relief, who directed the Governor of Finlarig castle to “preserve the rights that to them (those who were peaceable) belong, and to enter and receive them into their lands as if the said order (for depriving them of their estates) had never been made.” the widow and John’s eldest son, Alexander, were permitted to live in Kinnell House. This attempt to repair the injuries inflicted on the Macnabs had, unfortunately, little effect; but on the restoration of Charles II the Scottish parliament awarded them a portion of their estates, which they had so long enjoyed.

In 1655, Finlay (12th chief) gave his grandson a charter of his lands, and died after 1656. In 1662, Alexander, (13th Chief) obtained a charter from John Campbell, the first Earl of Breadalbane, of all the lands except the land of Eilean Ran (Ellanryne) which was never afterwards recovered. He had three brothers, Patrick and Archibald, who died unmarried and James who married Katherine, daughter of George MacFarlane of Roseneath and lived at Auchessan. He had also six daughters, three of whom married respectively Gregor MacGregor, John MacGregor and Black Sandie Campbell of Achallader.

Smooth John's widow later on married Malcolm MacGregor, tutor[[36]](#footnote-36) of the Clan MacGregor, an old comrade in arms of her husband and took the lands of Ewer in life rent in exchange for Kinnell, which from this time onwards was the seat of the family. Alexander (13th Chief), on November 14th, 1662 married Elizabeth, daughter of Duncan Menzies of Weem. We know he died before 1683, because his widow was then wife of Duncan, brother of Mungo Campbell of Kinloch. Alexander’s children were Robert, 14th Chief and John (who died without heirs before 1689) and two daughters, Jean and Anges, who died unmarried.

**The Neishes and the coat of arms**

Trouble with the Clan Neish produced the Chief’s crest, “a savages head erased,” and the motto “Dread nought,” or in Latin, Timor Omnis Abesto. After their defeat by the Macnabs in 1522 at the battle of Boultachan[[37]](#footnote-37) between St. Fillans and Comrie, the remnants of the Clan Neish, a sept of the MacGregor, took refuge on an island in Loch Earn near St. Fillans. Here they occupied the ruins of an old royal castle dismantled by the King for fear that some evilly disposed person might seize it, as had actually happened.[[38]](#footnote-38) They possessed the only boat on the loch and so were able to raid the surrounding countryside with impunity. In December 1612, they learned that a consignment of provisions for the Macnabs would be crossing from Callander past the west end of Loch Earn. Lying in wait, they intercepted the packhorses and their loads but the servants escaped and brought work of the loss back to Eilean Ran.

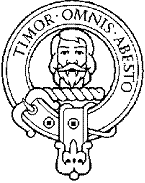
Finlay (12th Chief) and his second wife[[39]](#footnote-39) were very much incensed and in the heat of the moment, the Chief poured out his wrath on his sons: “The night is the night”, he cried, “if the lads were the lads”. Smarting under this reflection at least four of his sons took up the challenge and there followed the famous incident, which is commemorated in the Clan Crest and Coat of Arms. Afterwards, spiteful people said that as the two eldest were not her own sons and that as leaders of the expedition they might well be killed, the Lady would not have been too unhappy as that would ensure that one of her own sons would thus become his father’s heir.

Lead by Smooth John, or Ian Min Macnab, fiar[[40]](#footnote-40) of Bovain, the sons carried their boat own from the head of Loch Tay, overland some eight miles over the hills and a two thousand foot pass, through snow, to the head of Glen Tarken and down the glen to the shore of Loch Earn[[41]](#footnote-41). Here they launched the boat and rowed quietly along to Neish Island (as it is now called). There they destroyed the Neishes’ boat, thus cutting off any line of escape.[[42]](#footnote-42)

Within the ruined keep, the Neishes were holding carousal with the stolen supplies, deeming themselves safe from all attack, when a loud hammering at the outer door silenced the company and brought fear into every heart. The old Neish summoned up courage enough to demand who was there and what was his mission. In reply, there came the question – “Whom would you least desire?” Terrified, the Neish answered “Iain Min” (Smooth John). Then in the night came the great voice of Smooth John “He it is and a rough man you will find him tonight!” At this the Macnabs beat in the door of the keep and setting about the Neishes, who were in a poor condition to defend themselves, they quickly slaughtered them to the last man. In fact, a small girl and a small boy managed to survive by hiding among the overturned furnishings. The boy grew up and had a large family.[[43]](#footnote-43)

The Macnab brothers rowed back along the shore and began to retrace their outward journey up Glen Tarken. However, finding the boat too heavy, they set it down and continued their journey unencumbered. It remained where it was left for some centuries, until the remaining timbers were made into a cradle and walking stick by a member of the Clan Macnab.

When the undaunted brothers reached Eilean Ran after their incredible feat and were challenged by the look-out, Smooth John shouted out “Gun Eagal”, literally ‘Fear Nought’ or as the Clan Motto has it, *Timor Omnis Abesto*’[[44]](#footnote-44). It must not be forgotten that Gaelic would have been the universal tongue in those days and the English words quoted can be a loose translation of the original. As Smooth John entered the hall of Eilean Ran, he was asked what he had in the sack he was carrying on his shoulder. Opening it up he rolled out the heads of some of the Neishes, including the old Chief: “boules for the bairns”, he replied, implying that his little brothers could have them for playthings[[45]](#footnote-45). He is also said to have ended the night’s proceedings by stating proudly to his father, the Chief, “The night was the night and the lads were the lads!” There was no more trouble from the Neishes.[[46]](#footnote-46)

Later on, it was prescribed that by the Act of 1672; all who had a Coat of arms should register them in Edinburgh. The Macnab Arms were duly registered with a boat on water and a savage’s head and the motto, “Timor Omnis Abesto” (Dreadnought). They were matriculated afresh in 1765 and 1954. It is an interesting heraldic feature to note that in the differenced arms of Barravorich and Barachastalain, their motto is in effect a reply to that of the Chief. I.e. Barravorich’s is–“I fear no man” while Barachastalain’s is “Fear? I do not know it”.

The Highlands at that time were a very turbulent area. Acts were passed in 1587 and 1594 for dealing with the turbulent clans, of which the Macnabs were mentioned as one. Behind the school at Killin, there is a small eminence still known as Execution Hill, although most o the executions took place at the Glenorchy Castle of Finlarig, where the pit to receive the heads of the ‘Better sort’ is still shown and where the ‘lesser people’ were hanged on the branch of a sycamore tree. The branch – which has now disappeared – bore a deep grove cut by the rope thus used.

*Note:* Those who wish to study the early history of Clan Macnab and their powerful neighbors the Breadalbane Campbells should read “in Famed Breadalbane” [[47]](#footnote-47)by the Rev. William A. Gillies B.D. Unfortunately, this excellent book is no longer in print, but there are copies in some public Libraries.

**Robert the 14th Chief**

Robert, grandson of Smooth John and the 14th Chief, was apprenticed to Colin Campbell of Carwhin, Writer to the Signet, the Earl of Breadalbane’s man of business, on February 1st, 1686. His cautioner was Robert Menzies of that Ilk. He married first the daughter of Robert Campbell of Glenlyon. Their son died young. He then married Anna, daughter of Sir John Campbell of Glenorchy by his third wife. They were proclaimed in the Kirk at Killin on October 10th 1697. Her brother was John, the first Earl of Breadalbane. The Earl refused to rise for the Stuarts in 1715; Robert Macnab also held back; but many of the Clan were out in that brief incident. Robert had seven sons and five daughters. The eldest, John (15th Chief) was born in 1698. The second, Archibald, served in the Army, becoming a Major General on October 19th, 1781. He died in Edinburgh on January 2nd, 1790. These were the only two sons who were alive in 1769. The sixth son, Allan, died at the age of 19 on March 19th, 1735 and lies buried in the Church of Tarland in Aberdeenshire. The eldest daughter, Mary, married John Campbell, younger of Baleveolan in 1720. Robert himself died before November 17th 1725 but his widow survived until September 6th 1765.

**John the 15th Chief**

John, 15th Chief, was a major in the Hanoverian[[48]](#footnote-48) army and was taken prisoner at the battle of Prestonpans on September 21st, 1745 and confined to Doune Castle. His brother, Archibald, also fought for the Hanoverians. Some of the Clan supported the Rising,[[49]](#footnote-49) two of them afterwards being listed as rebels. After their earlier sacrifices and especially after the losses, which they had suffered at the battle of Worcester in 1651, many of the Clans held that they had done enough for the Stuarts and had received few tokens of gratitude. John's chief connection with the Stuart cause was his brother-in-law, Francis Buchanan of Arnprior, locally known as the “King of Kippen”, who accompanied Prince Charlie[[50]](#footnote-50) until he finally took ship for France, when the Prince gave him a ruby ring and a sword. (Miss Sarah Anne Macnab of Macnab, 18th Chief du jure subsequently presented the ring to the National Museum in Edinburgh.[[51]](#footnote-51) The sword went with her father, Archibald, 17th Chief, to Canada, was subsequently purchased by Donald, brother of James William, (19th Chief), and is in family hands. Francis Buchanan was later captured and beheaded at Carlisle on October 18th, 1746. John Macnab married his sister, Jean. They had two sons, Francis and Robert (who was a doctor and married Anne Maule and lived at Bovain) as well as two daughters; Elizabeth, who married Dick Miller and Marjory, who married Colonel Campbell of Baleveolan. John Macnab died at Kinnell on February 19th, 1778 and his widow on April 20th, 1789.

**Francis the 16th Chief**

John’s son, Francis, (16th Chief), was born in 1734 and is the best known of all the Chiefs of the Clan. The famous picture of him by Raeburn "The MacNab." is now to be seen in John Dewar & Sons’ office in the Haymarket in London, where some of the best Scotch whisky in the world may be purchased. Francis was notable both as a producer and as a consumer of whisky[[52]](#footnote-52). He lived in Kinnell House, battling manfully against the rising tide of indebtedness, which for some generations past had crippled the family. The rich lands, which he had inherited from his mother at Arnprior and his successful enterprise in founding the Dreadnought Hotel in Callander,[[53]](#footnote-53) could not for long support the weight of his extravagance. He lived the life of an old fashioned chief at Kinnell House, admired and reverenced by all around him but sinking deeper and deeper into debt.[[54]](#footnote-54) The story is well known how his housekeeper suspended a dummy by a rope round its neck from the branch of a great wych elm[[55]](#footnote-55) near the house, while the Larid made a temporary disappearance. The bailiff who had come to serve a writ upon him was lavishly entertained overnight. When he woke with a splitting headache and bleary eyes the next morning and asked what was the grisly sight, she told him: “Oh, that’s just a wee bit baillie body that angered the Laird”. Whereupon, the Bailiff fled without daring to serve the writ. Many other stories have been told about and against him.

Six foot three in height and of herculean strength; he was one of the most notable figures in that part of the country. He never married[[56]](#footnote-56), but his numerous pogeny acquitted themselves nobly on many a battlefield. There is a tablet to one of them. Lieutenant Allan Macnab, outside the burial enclosure on the island of Inchbuie. When he died at Callander on May 25th, 1816, he left thirty-five thousand pounds worth of debts.

His brother, Robert, had died at Killin on June 8th, 1814. Robert left a son, Archibald (17th Chief) and a daughter, Anne Maule, who married Robert Jameson, an Advocate, in Edinburgh on July 28th, 1811 and died there on October 4th, 1814.

**Archibald the 17th Chief**

Archibald (17th Chief) was born in 1778, in which year the Macnabs had acquired the property of Easter Torry. He married Margaret Robertson, the daughter of a Writer to the Signet and of Miss Murdoch of Gartincaber. Their three sons and three daughters died unmarried. Alexander died in Edinburgh aged 11 on May 20th, 1828. William died at Pisa aged 20 on November 23 1833. Margaret died at Florence aged 18 on January 31st, 1834. Two other children died as infants. Alexander was buried in Edinburgh in the Greyfriars Churchyard. William and Margaret were buried in the Protestant Cemetery in Florence, as was their mother who died on June 20th, 1868. Sarah Anne, the eldest of the children, who was born on November 3rd, 1803 and died at Florence on January 19th, 1894.

Archibald had studied law in his youth and traveled on the Continent. His uncle had made a disposition of the Macnab lands in his favor in 1812. When his uncle died, Alexander found that the estate was hopelessly encumbered. He made desperate efforts to extricate it; but in 1823, a writ of foreclosure was issued. Part of the property had already been sold. An effort was then made to sell the remainder but no purchaser could be found. Archibald went out for a walk one morning with his gun and his two dogs as if all was usual and then disappeared. He took refuge with his cousin, Dr. Hamilton Buchanan of Leny but was discovered and fled to London and thence to Canada, where eventually he obtained a grant of 81,000 acres of land in the Valley of the Ottawa River. Eighty-five men, women and children arrived at Montreal on May 25th, 1825 and were settled by him in the estate to which he had given the name of Macnab. As in all such cases, the early years of such a settlement were full of difficulties and discomforts and Archibald had promised more than he could perform. The settlers had to endure many privations.[[57]](#footnote-57)

It is one of the lessons of history that when the Highland Chiefs lost their lands they lost everything. Archibald’s dominant idea was that some day he might redeem his ancestral lands. In 1828, these lands were sold to the fourth Earl of Breadalbane, the principal creditor, including Kinnell House, the farms of Sleoch, Achrine, Bovain and Craitchur, the Grey Street and Clachaig houses on the south side of the River Dochart and parts of the village of Killin on the north side, together with the superiorities over Ewer, Suie, Craignave and Arnfinlay. Even the islands of Garbh-innis and Inch-buie (which contains the burial ground of the Clan Macnab) in the River Dochart, were sold. Nothing was left. The contents of Kinnell House, which remained in Campbell hands until 1949, were included in the sale and for long were an object of interest to visitors to the house until hey were auctioned in the year 1935. Some are now in the possession of John Dewar & Son Ltd. at their London office in the Haymarket as is Raeburn’s portrait of Francis.

Archibald was no exception to the rule that when the Highland Chiefs lost their lands they lost everything. Once his estates were finally lost to him, everything went from bad to worse. He had established friendly relations with those in authority in Canada; but he tried to use his influence to oppress the members of his Clan and to extract rents from them, which were not due. Lord Durham took over charge as Governor General in 1838 and ordered an enquiry to be held. Archibald was compelled to refund his illegal exactions and was left a ruined man, in 1853 he returned to Britain. His wife, who had left him when he fled to Canada, made him a small allowance. He lived for a while at Rendall in the Orkneys, made a bigamous marriage in London, and then moved to France where he died at Lanion in the Department of Cotes du Nord on August 12th, 1860 at the age of 83.

His daughter, Miss Sarah Anne Macnab of Macnab (b 1803), was recognized as the 18th chief, *de jure* until her death in Florence in 1894; thereafter it was dormant.

The ‘Houses’ or Branches of the Clan

**Auchessan Branch[[58]](#footnote-58)**

It is indeed unfortunate that the ancient records of the clan were destroyed, first as a result of the punitive measures adopted by King Robert the Bruce against the Macnabs and again following their active support of Montrose during the Civil War. In 1654, Eilean Ran was destroyed with all the remaining writs and records and the clan is said to have been driven to a last foothold on the burial island of Inch Buie at Killin. The oldest record available states that in 1336, Gilbert Macnab of Bovain achieved reconciliation from King David II, who granted a Charter under the Great Seal, of the Barony of Bovain. Further charters were granted to successive chiefs until a sizeable number of their former holdings were restored.

The extinction of those holdings during the Civil War of the seventeenth century was temporary, for much was again restored through legal processes and other portions came as marriage settlements from neighboring influential clans.

From Gilbert in 1336, successive chiefs followed in the direct line of the House of Bovain until Archibald, 17th chief and last of his line, for when he died in 1860 he left no successor. It will be shown how the restoration of a Chief *de jure* involved research going back the family of Finlay (12th Chief).

Next in seniority to the House of Bovain is the Auchessan Branch but no records at all remain to tell us their history. The next in order of remoteness is the Innishewan Branch but before tracing its history, perhaps we should consider the Arthurstone Branch, which is the line of the present chief.

**The present Chief and the Arthurstone Branch**

With the death of Miss Sarah Anne Macnab in Florence on January 19th, 1894 the old line of Chiefs ends. The question of who should succeed is one, which caused a lot of discussion and argument within the clan for many years thereafter.

We know that Archibald (17th Chief) considered he should be succeeded by Sir Allan Macnab of Dundurn and handed certain record and documents over to him. We know also that these papers were lost by Sir Allan when shipwrecked in the *North Briton* and he had intended to hand them over to James Munro Macnabb of Arthurstone.

The matter was not finally resolved until 1954 when James Munro’s grandson, Archibald Corrie, completed several years of research and was recognized by the Lord Lyon as 22nd Chief.

The following is a brief account of the story of the Arthurstone family. A table showing their descent from John Roy or Bane, third don of Finlay (12th Chief) will be found in Appendix C. (A much more detailed account of the family is contained in a book “Unto the Third and Fourth Generation” by A.C. Macnab of Macnab C.I.E., copies of which may be purchased through the Secretary of the Clan Society).

Katherine, first wife of Finlay (12th Chief), a natural daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy, had a daughter and two sons, Smooth John who was Baillie to Sir Duncan, and Duncan, who was referred to as the “brother german”[[59]](#footnote-59) to Smooth John. The name of the second wife is not known but she was responsible for inciting the young men to the extermination of the Neishes. The third son, John Roy or Baine, was the servitor, baillie[[60]](#footnote-60) and eventually son-in-law of Sir James Campbell of Lawers, the cousin, brother-in-law and rival of Sir Duncan. His wife, Janet, brought him a dowry of land in Carie and Carwhin, on the north side of Loch Tay. Captain John Baine commanded the Castle of Garth, which was the obstacle to the advance of Montrose from the north by the pass over the shoulder of Schiehallion into Glenlyon. His widow applied in 1649 for the payment of the grant of £3,000 sanctioned by the Scots Parliament in compensation for the damage of £15,000 caused by the Irish soldiery of Montrose; but it appears that, although several times sanctioned, this was never paid. Archibald, their eldest son, succeeded to a load of debt, including a loan of a thousand marks[[61]](#footnote-61) from his brother Robert, who had married the heiress of Hew Campbell of Lix[[62]](#footnote-62). Archibald married Isobel, the daughter of William Anderson in Ceres. He married a second wife, Marie Carmichael, before 1687. His son John married Anne, the daughter of Alexander Robertson of Balnaguard in 1680. Both Archibald and John died in about 1697, leaving John’s sons, Archibald, Donald and Patrick (b.1697). In 1714, Archibald had to surrender the feu[[63]](#footnote-63) of Mullion in Redgorton Parish to liquidate debts over £3,000 owed by his father and grandfather to Sir Thomas Stewart of Grantully. Archibald left no descendants, except perhaps a daughter Katherine, who married, as her second husband, Archibald MacNab of Newton. (See below)

Donald the second son married Margaret Ferguson and lived first at Donavourd and then at Balindrome. He was probably “out”[[64]](#footnote-64) in the “45". He died in 1750, aged 60. His wife had died in 1747. Both were buried in the churchyard at Logierait. The gravestone in Logierait Churchyard is surrounded by a low iron chain railing. Originally, such a railing enclosed a large lair running down to the river. The inscription reads *“Here lyes the Dust of Donald McNab, husband to Margaret Ferguson, who departed this life June the 3rd day 1750. Aged 60 years. She died November 13 day 1747? Years. This stone is erected by James McNab and Anne Cowan his spouse in Argyle in memory of his parents.”* They had two sons, James and Robert, the latter of whom lived on at Balindrome, while his elder brother lived first at Balnald and then at Argile, where he died in 1798. He married Anne Cowan in 1749, when he was 18 and she was 16, and they both died on the same day. Of their ten children, a daughter, Grizel, married Thomas Butter in Craigbea and is still represented in the female line by Lt.-Col. Elliott Carnegy of Lour, Angus; Donald was a successful attorney in Calcutta but died soon after retiring to England. James, born in 1759, succeeded his father as the eldest surviving son. He married Mary, daughter of Alexander MacLaren of East Haugh in 1788 and was a surgeon in the East India Company’s service from 1789 to 1816 when he retired and bought, first East Haugh and Dalshian and then Arthurstone, the former residence of the abbots of Coupar Angus. He died in 1826. East Haugh and Dalshian were settled on his daughter, Eliza Ann, the wife of Major General Sir Robert Dick, the son of Dr William Dick of Tullymet and of Charlotte, the eldest daughter of Alexander MacLaren.

The only surviving son, James Munro, was born in 1790. He was brought up by his grandfather at Ardigie until 1798 when he went to England under the guardianship of Mr. Neville Reid, the banker. After leaving Harrow School, where he was a contemporary of Sir Robert Peel[[65]](#footnote-65) and the poet Byron, he went to India in 1806 and later became City Magistrate of Calcutta, where in 1820, he married Jane Mary Campbell, the daughter of the Reverend Dr. Donald Campbell of Kilninver and Mary, the ninth daughter of John McLeod of Raasay. She had been brought to India by her cousin, Flora, Countess of Loudon, the wife of the Marquess of Hastings, the Governor General of India, to whom James Munro later became Private Secretary. He left India in 1829 and settled at Arthurstone until 1837, when he sold the property. In 1847, his mother died and he rented Highfield Park, the dower house of Strathfieldsaye in Hampshire, in 1850. There he was visited by Sir Allan Macnab and his daughter Sophia. Sir Allan had brought over the Clan Records to hand them over to James Munro, as the next in succession to himself. He was the grandson of Robert Macnab of Dundurn, who’s father Robert was a younger brother of John (15th Chief). Unfortunately, Sir Allan had lost his luggage in the wreck of the *North Briton*. It is fortunate that Sophia’s grandson, the present Earl of Albemarle, has discovered a letter from Archibald (17th Chief) to Sir Allan, giving a list of the cadet houses of the Clan in order of nearness to his own line and mentioning the House of Arthurstone.

James Munro spent much of his time, to the great detriment of his health, as executor and trustee of the Marquess of Bute, who had married Lady Sophia Hastings and left an infant son. James Munro died in 1860. Of his ten children, his four surviving daughters, Mary, Charlotte, Flora and Sophia married James Erskine of Linlathen, William Fuller Maitland of Stansted Park, Essex, John Walter (III) of Bearwood and “The Times”, and Henry Hugh McNeile of Parkmount, Belfast. His widow died in 1886.

Of his sons, the youngest, Campbell, was murdered at Meerut on May 10th 1857 at the age of 19 as a young Indian Cavalry officer. The second surviving son, Sir Donald Campbell Macnabb, K.C.I.I, C.S.I., born in 1833, died in 1913. The eldest surviving son, James William, served like his father and younger brother, in the East India company. He has been recognized by the Lord Lyon King of Arms as, *de jure,* 19th Chief of the Clan, following upon the decease of Miss Sarah Anne in 1894. In 1860, he married Amy, daughter of Sir James Weir Hogg, the last Chairman of the East India Company and secondly Alice Mary, daughter of William Byron Corrie, who was descended in the female line from James II of Scotland and thus from the victor of Bannockburn. James William was born in 1831 and died in 1915.

James William Macnabb was succeeded, *de jure*, by his eldest son, James Frederick, at one time Vicar of Isel, Cumberland and later for many years Rector of Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire. He was born in 1863 and died in 1937. There were three other sons; Donald, who is survived by male issue; Rawdon who’s only son died in 1943 without issue and the youngest Archibald Corrie (22nd Chief).

James Frederic was succeeded, *de jure*, as 21st Chief by his only son James Alexander, born in 1901. He also had three daughters who are still living (1977) and have issue: Mary Margaret who married R.P.R. Brocklebank; Jean Elizabeth who married Richard P. Holland, Dorothy Campbell who married Lt. Col. Victor Elsmie.

James Alexander Macnabb, OBE, TD, (de jure 21st Chief), was educated at Eton and Cambridge. He qualified as a chartered accountant ant then spent most of his working life in the field of Charitable Housing in London. He was famous in rowing circles. He was in the Cambridge eight which one the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race in 1924 and then went on to the Olympic Games in Paris where as a member of a four, he won a Gold Medal. He served in WW II in the Royal Artillery in West Africa and Burma, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

James Alexander had four children; James Charles, the present chief (1977); Francis David, born 1927, killed 1972, who has left a son Ian and a daughter Alexandra; Charles Robert, born 1929 who has one son Jonathan; Angela born 1929 who married David Goschen and has two sons and two daughters.

In 1949, Archibald Corry MacNab bought back Kinnell House (whose wife on this event renounced the tainstry[[66]](#footnote-66) of Macleod); and 7,000 acres from the Breadalbane Estate. In 1954, James Alexander surrendered his claim to the succession in favor of his uncle and on the evidence of a letter from Archibald (17th Chief) to Sir Allan Macnab of Dundurn and of information detailed in the foregoing and derived from the records of Sasines etc. in Register House Edinburgh, Archibald Corrie was recognized as Archibald MacNab of MacNab, 22nd chief of the clan, *The MacNab*.

Archibald Corrie was born in London on 1st December 1886. He was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford. He entered the Indian Civil Service in 1911. Except from 1914-17 when he was in Delhi as City Magistrate and Municipal Secretary, all his service was in the Punjab. He was Deputy Commissioner of Karnal, Ampala Shahpur and Attock Districts; Commissioner of Rawal Pindi 1934-36; Administrator of Lahore Municipality 1937-40; Commission of Jullunder 1940-45 and Financial commissioner of the Punjab 1945-46. He left the Service on leave prior to retirement in December 1946 but returned in 1948-49 to help displaced persons and refugees after the Partition of India and Pakistan. He finally retired to Kinnell in April 1950 where he devoted most of his time to clan and family affairs and to running his estate. He died on November 13th 1970 and is buried on the Island of Inchbuie just outside the old enclosure.

In 1931, he married Alice, elder daughter of Hubert Walter (son of John Walter III of “The Times” and of Flora Macnabb, sister of James William, *de jure* 19th Chief) and of Dame Flora MacLeod of Macleod D.B.E. They had no children.

James Charles, the present chief was born in 1926 in London. He was educated at Radley College and at Ashbury College, Ottawa, Canada. From 1944-45, he served in the R.A.F. and the Scots Guards. In 1945, he was commissioned into the Seaforth Highlanders and served in India, Java and Singapore. In 1948, he joined the Colonial Service and served in the Federation of Malaya Police Force as an Assistant Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent. He retired in 1957 after the independence of Malaya and has been farming at Kinnell since then.[[67]](#footnote-67)

In 1959, he married the Hon. Diana Mary Anstruther-Gray, elder daughter of Lord and Lady Kilmany, Kilmany, Cupar, Fife. They have four children: Virginia Mary born 1960; James William Archibald born 1963; Geoffrey Charles born 1965' Katharine Monica born 1968.

**The Innishewan Branch**[[68]](#footnote-68)

In a letter from Archibald (17th Chief) to Sir Allan Macnab written in 1847, the Chief gives a list of the cadet branches of the family in order of seniority. Next to the Auchessan Branch, of which there is now no trace, the most remote is the Innishewan Branch, which was dispossessed by the Bruce and became a cadet family.

The earliest specific reference is to Finlay, the son of Ian, who was tenant of Innishewan in 1599. In 1661, Alexander, the son of Finlay and grandson of Ian, gave his bond to Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy for himself and his two brothers Duncan and John Dow in Ardchyle.[[69]](#footnote-69) This Alexander was a juror in the Barons’ Court held at Killin in 1615. In 1618 he was fined by the Privy Council for illegally carrying arms. In 1661 his name appeared in a list of landlords and chiefs who had failed to report to the Privy Council and eight years later he and his sons were required to give their bonds to the Privy Council.

Innishewan was not shown in the Perthshire Rent-roll of 1649-50 as a separate property. It is today part of Auchlyne Estate as is Bovain.[[70]](#footnote-70)

Alexander’s son Finlay married the eldest daughter of Finlay Macnab of Bovain and his wife who was the eldest natural daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy.[[71]](#footnote-71) He was thus the brother-in-law of ‘Smooth John’ and of his brother german Duncan in Tullochan. This Duncan had a son also Duncan by name, but there is no trace of further descendants of this brother-german of Smooth John.

Finlay’s eldest son John married Catherine, daughter of George MacFarland of Roseneath in 1658. John died in 1676 and his widow married James Macnab in Auchessan,[[72]](#footnote-72) the fourth son of Smooth John.

Finlay’s second son Alexander married a Miss MacFarlane and had four children. There is no trace of the third son, but his daughter married Duncan Campbell son of Archibald McCarlich in Morenish.

On 28 March 1683 John’s eldest son Finlay made over his lands of Innishewan and Bothuachdar to his brother Alexander, who had also married a Miss MacFarlane.

On 26 April 1703 Alexander assigned a bond of 2,000 merks[[73]](#footnote-73) from the first Earl of Breadalbane to his sister-in-law Catherine, to his elder son John and Duncan in Succession, and then to Robert. The two elder sons died without issue. In October 1724, he applied to the second Earl of Breadalbane for a “precept of Clare Constant” as heir to his brother John, who married Jean Campbell in December 1714.

On 20 December 1732 Robert Macnab of Innishewan was prosecuted for marrying Jean Campbell irregularly, and without proclamation of banns, and was fined 500 merks Scots.

Robert appears to have been succeeded by John, ‘Possessor of Inchoane’ who erected in 1759 the burial enclosure at Suie in Glendochart. John’s tombstone shows that he died in 1766.

Alexander, younger of Innishewan, fought in the battle of Falkirk for Prince Charles Edward as a Captain in Keppoch’s regiment. In 1759 he was listed as a man ‘fit for service’. On 22 November 1767 it was recorded that his father John had bequeathed four guineas for behoof of the poor of the parish of Killin.

A notice appeared that on 2 July 1810 Alexander Macnab, late of Innishewan, had died aged 91 years, ‘the last of that family of residence who have been proprietors and wadsetters[[74]](#footnote-74) and leaseholders of it for upwards of 400 years’.

Robert Macnab, late at Innishewan, married Catherine, fourth daughter of John MacDiarmid, tenant in Kenkock in Glenlochay, and had two sons and three daughters, who were baptized at Killin between 1762 and 1778.

It is believed there are descendants of this branch in the male line who might be able to give more information. They have not matriculated their Arms as a cadet branch, as has been done by the Barravorich and Barachastalain branches.**[[75]](#footnote-75)**

**The Cadet House of Barravorich in the Clan Macnab** from notes by Brigadier John Francis Macnab of Barravorich, CBE, DSO

The letter written by Archibald Macnab of Macnab to Sir Allan Macnab of Dundurn, Hamilton, Ontario in 1847 sets out “A true record of the different Houses and Families of the Clan Macnab as they descend from the original stock and by whom are now represented”. In this record, the Barravorich House is placed as the third senior cadet preceded by Innishewan and followed by Barachastalain.

We know from the interesting account written by Iain Macnab of Barachastalain that his house claims descent from Duncan, second son of Finlay of Macnab who’s father was Gilbert of Bovain who was granted the Barony of Bovain in 1336. Gilbert was counted as the 1st Chief of the Clan after the events following the Battle of Bannockburn. Although the writer[[76]](#footnote-76) has so far been unable to substantiate this, it would appear that the Barravorich Macnabs are descended either from a younger son of Gilbert or from the Innishewan, traditionally the Chief’s family, prior to the Macnab lands being forfeited after Bannockburn.

Barravorich (Barr a Bhuridh – The point of Roaring) is some two miles North East from the main road as it passes East of Loch Tulla on the way to Glencoe. The house, when it existed, was on the right bank of the water of Tulla, the best approach to it being through Achallader. The railway after skirting Beinn Dorain and Beinn Achaladair follows this valley today. The origin of the name – The Point of Roaring – could either have been due to the noise of the water of Tulla in spate or the roaring of the wind in the corries of Beinn Achaladair to the East. Both are equally appropriate. As with Barachastalain,[[77]](#footnote-77) also in Argyll, the original stones of the house were used for the building of shelter for the laborers building the railway.

Unfortunately, up to the present time, nothing is known for certain about the Barravorich family prior to 1753 when the records of Glenorchy begin. By 1763 there are no further references to Macnabs of Barravorich in the Glenorchy records and the writer assumes that his great-great-great-grandfather Doctor James Macnab emigrated to the New World about that year.

From this date onwards, thanks to the kindness of Dominion Archivist, Ottawa, Canada, Doctor H. Townely Douglas M.D. also of Ottawa, and Mrs. Eleanor Macnab, widow of Canon Arthur Wellesley Macnab of Toronto in Canada, there is a great deal known about the family. Most of the information comes from Photostat copies of pages from volume one of “Ontario Families of Upper Canada (Toronto 1894)” by Edward Marion Chadwick. The Barravorich Macnabs appear in this volume as Macnab of Belleville U.E.L.[[78]](#footnote-78)

Doctor James Macnab, having emigrated circa 1763, took up land in Vermont and was the then Representer of the family. On the outbreak of the American War of Independence he became a surgeon to His Majesty’s Forces serving under General Burgoyne, and upon the failure of that expedition, rather than foreswear allegiance to the British Crown, retired to Canada, suffering a total loss of property in the state of Vermont, America. He died at Machiche, Quebec in 1780 leaving four sons.

The sons had a mill at Niagara on the lake. Colin became a collector of customs at Niagara and died in 1810 having had a daughter Maria who married George Phillpotts, Captain R.E. and Lieutenant Colonel, A.D.C. to Sir John Colborne. He was the son of John Phillpotts of Gloucester, England and a brother of a well-known Bishop of Exeter.

James of Belleville, the writer’s great-great-grandfather, served in the Commissariat Department in 1812, became a member of the legislative assembly for the County of Hastings and died in 1820 having petitioned for and received 600 acres in Belleville in compensation for the loss of property sustained by his father during the American War of Independence. He left one son, James the writer’s great-grandfather, who became a Captain of Militia and was killed in the Canadian Rebellion of 1836-38. He had married a Miss Harriet Clark of Fredericksburg, Upper Canada and had one surviving son, Alexander, the writer’s grandfather. Sir Allan Macnab (Dundurn) had distinguished himself in command of the loyalists in this same rebellion meriting the eulogy from the Duke of Wellington “that owing to the loyalty, zeal and active intelligence of Sir Allan Macnab the Canadas had been preserved to the British Crown”. As the result of the widowhood of Harriet Macnab, Sir Allan took on the guardianship of her son, Alexander and helped him considerably in his career, but alas, the 600 acres in Belleville had to be sold!

To return to the two other sons of Doctor James Macnab, Simon Fraser became a Lieutenant Colonel of Militia and died in 1821 leaving an only son, Alexander born 1810, died 1891, who became Canon of St. Albans Cathedral, Toronto. In 1868 he was one of the founders of the Royal colonial Institute, England. He married Eliza-Ann daughter of James Dougall of Picton County and they had two sons, both in Holy Orders, and two daughters. The eldest son was accidentally drowned at Montreal in 1872. Alexander Wellesley, the second son, traveled extensively in Europe as preacher and then became Rector of St. Matthias, Omaha, Nebraska and finally Canon of Toronto Cathedral. There are no descendants of this family in the male line but the eldest daughter, Mary, married Frederick Roche. They went to Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia and she died in 1870 leaving four sons and two daughters. The second daughter, Matilda married John Carter of Toronto and founded a large family.

Alexander, the remaining son, but not the youngest, of Doctor James Macnab, was clerk to the Executive Council of Upper Canada in 1797, entered the Queen’s Rangers in 1800, transferred to 26th Regiment, 1803; was gazetted Lieutenant in 30th Regiment 1804 and Captain 1809. He served with distinction in the Peninsular War and was A.D.C. to General Picton[[79]](#footnote-79) at the Battle of Waterloo where he was killed along with his General. A plaque was subsequently put up in 1976 in the crypt of St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, to his memory by his nephew and great-nephew and he is believed to have been the only Canadian United Empire Loyalist to have been killed in the Battle of Waterloo. This is the first instance of allowing any colonial monument to be erected in that great Valhalla of the British Empire. His Waterloo medal has been presented to the Toronto Museum by Mrs. Eleanor Macnab, widow of Canon Alexander Wellesley Macnab of Toronto, his great-nephew. Also in the museum on Bloor Street, Toronto are Captain Alexander Macnab’s watch and sword worn at Waterloo and some buttons worn by Archibald Macnab of Macnab handed down to his daughter, Sarah-Anne “Miss Macnab of Macnab” and given to Canon Arthur Wellesley Macnab when visiting her in Florence. Captain Alexander had no heirs other than his nephews.

Alexander, the writer’s grandfather, previously mentioned, became a Civil Engineer in Canada. He was born at Belleville, Ontario in 1836. He began his career in 1853 on the engineering staff of the Great Western Railway (now forming part of the Grand Trunk) then in course of construction. In 1861 he received from the Imperial Government the appointment of surveyor of Public Works in the Island of Grenada, West Indies. In 1865 he became Chief Engineer to the Government of the Province of Nova Scotia. In 1872 he received the additional appointment of chief Engineer of the Maintenance of the Way Department of the Inter-colonial Railway, about 750 miles in length. After a visit to England for his health he returned to Canada to run the management, engineering and otherwise, of the Prince Edward Island Railway, but he was obliged to take a rest for the sake of his health and for ten years lived in England. In 1887 he became chief engineer to a Mr. T.G. Walker then engaged in heavy contracts concerning the Berry Dock and Railways, the Buenos Aires harbor works, the Preston Docks and the Manchester ship Canal. He died in 1891 whilst engaged on the Manchester Ship Canal contract. He had married Elizabeth Gilpin Smith, daughter of a St. John’s New Brunswick Banker in 1863 and had three sons and a daughter. His wife and family all accompanied him to England and never returned to Canada, except for visits, after his death.

His eldest son Colonel Allan James (the writer’s father) was born in 1864 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and was educated at Winchester College, England. He received his medical training at King’s College Hospital where he was a House Surgeon to Lord Lister. He became an F.R.C.S. and joined the Indian Medical Service in 1890. He saw active service at Hazara 1891, the relief of Chitral 1895, N.W. Frontier Campaign of 1897-98 and Somaliland in 1902-03; was surgeon to the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, Regimental medical officer to the Guides’s Infantry; and on the outbreak of World War I he saw service in France, Palestine and Syria where he was successively A.D.M.S of the division and D.D.M.S. of a Corps, the Desert Mounted Corps and Northern Force. He was mentioned three times in dispatches and was made a C.B. in 1918 and a C.M.G. the following year. He returned to India after the war on Sir Charles Monro’s staff, then C-in-C in India, and retired in 1921. He married in 1895 Honora, daughter of Lieutenant General Sir Lewis Dening, K.C.B., D.S.O., and had two daughters and two sons. Only two survive with heirs; Mrs. Elsie O’Neill and myself. In World War II he returned to work in uniform with various duties in connection with the training of medical personnel and met the writer and his family at Southampton on their arrival from abroad in 1946. He was still in uniform at the age of 82. He died the following year.

The second son Arthur Alexander, born 1867, died 1936, was a solicitor[[80]](#footnote-80) in the City of London who never married. The third son Colin Lawrence, born 1870, was gazetted into the Border Regiment, specially promoted into the Northumberland Fusiliers and again specially promoted to command the Royal Sussex Regiment. In the South African War of 1899 – 1901 he took part in the relief of Ladysmith and the battles of Colenso, Vaal Krantz, Spion Kop and Pieter’s Hill, being mentioned three times in dispatches and given the Brevet[[81]](#footnote-81) of Major for his services. In India he took part in operations against the Afridi and Mohmand tribesman 1912 – 1913. Promoted Brigadier General in 1915 he commanded the 16th Infantry Brigade in the Mesopotamia Campaign and later 201 Infantry Brigade in France, and was awarded the C.M.G. before illness – from which he died in 1917 at the early age of 47 – put an end to what had promised to be a very distinguished Army career. He married Beatrice, daughter of the Reverend W.B. Bliss of Wicken, Essex, descended from a well known Canadian Branch of the family, and had two sons, the late Brigadier Sir Geoffrey Macnab K.C.M.G., C.B. and Maurice who farmed for many years in Anglesy and died in 1963.

Geoffrey, born 1899, was gazetted into the Royal Sussex Regiment in 1919 and was given accelerated promotion into the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders in 1931. At the outbreak of World War II he was British Military Attaché in Bucharest. From there he rejoined his regiment as second in command taking part in operations in the Western Desert, Greece and Crete where he was taken prisoner. After severe Illness and operations in Germany he was repatriated and subsequently commanded the School of Military Intelligence and the British Military Mission to Hungary, having been promoted Brigadier. He then became Brigadier General Staff Intelligence at Middle East Headquarters and then successively British Military Attaché in Rome and Paris. He retired in 1954. He was awarded the C.B. in 1951, C.M.G. in 1955 and K.C.M.G. in 1962. In 1930 he married Norah, daughter of H.A. Cramer Roberts of Folkestone, Kent. They had no children. From 1957 he was for sometime employed by the British Government as Secretary of the Government Hospitality Fund.

The fourth and last child of Alexander (the writer’s grandfather) was Mary Winifred, born 1873, died 1947. She married Walter Bellhouse of Altrincham, Cheshire and had one daughter, Betty, and a son, Michael who is a steel executive married and with children.

To return to the direct line: Colonel Allan James’ (my father) eldest surviving daughter, Elsie, married Squadron Leader W.H.L. O’Neal who was killed in the R 101 disaster in 1932. They had a daughter Molly, (since married to Peter Earle of Itchen Abbas, Hampshire, with three daughters and a son), and a son, Patrick, killed in action in the R.A.F. during the war. The Colonel’s second daughter Barbara (deceased) married Lieutenant Colonel Stockley of the Indian Army and had one son John Allan Veasy D.F.C. also killed in action in the R.A.F. My father’s eldest son Alex died unmarried in 1934.

This leaves the writer as the present Representer of the Barravorich Macnabs. He is married to Margaret, only daughter of C.M. Treadwell, late of Meopham, Kent, and they have a son John Alexander Hamish at present unmarried, and a daughter Margaret Ann Honoria married to Captain Edward Arundell of the Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry.

It will be seen from this record that the writer’s son, Hamish, is at present the last of the Barravorich Macnabs in the male line.**[[82]](#footnote-82)**

**The House of Macnab of Barachastalain**

This account is a shortened version of the one written by the Late Ian Macnab of Barachastalain, P.R.O.I., R.E. for the Clan Society Newsletter of 1961

The Macnabs of Barachastalain, Hereditary Armourers and Standard Bearers of the Chiefs of the Clan and fourth senior Cadet Branch are together with Barravorich one of the two Argyll Branches of the Clan. They claim descent from Duncan, second son of Finlay, who succeeded Gilbert of Bovain, the 1st Chief (See “note” in Appendix B)

Duncan was born c.1400. When his elder brother Patrick (see Appendix B) succeeded Finlay, Duncan and his brothers had, in accordance with custom, to fend for themselves. Tradition says that having great natural skill, he chose to become a maker of swords and armor and went to Italy to perfect his craft.

His younger brother, Malcolm also went abroad, accompanying “The Laird of Glenurchy”[[83]](#footnote-83) to fight the Moors in Aragon.

On completion of his apprenticeship, Duncan returned to Scotland and in 1440, he was commissioned by the Lady of “Glenurchy” to make the iron work and to supervise the building of Kilchurn Castle, while Sir Duncan Campbell was still in Spain crusading against the Moors. So he built his house and forge at Barr-a-Chaistealain, the Hill of the Castles, above where Dalmally now sands. The castles were three Pictish Brochs,[[84]](#footnote-84) one of which can still be traced and is marked on Ordinance maps as a fort. He achieved a considerable reputation as an armorer and sword smith and is said to have made swords for the Kings of Scotland.

It is sometimes claimed that Duncan was the son of an earlier chief and that his descendants practiced their craft for seven centuries. The guidebook to St. Conan’s Kirk, Loch Awe, describes the carved stalls in the chancel, which “show the full coat-of-arms complete with crests and badges of the chiefs who in the old days held land in the neighborhood” and included in the list of eight is Macnab of Barachastlain. After the name, it adds in parenthesis “a family of Smiths who lived above Dalmally for 600 years and helped to build Kilchurn Castle”.

On the other hand, John Hay Allan, who published “Bridal of Caolchairn” (Kilchurn) in 1822, speaks of a visit to Glenorchy Kirkyard where he saw Duncan’s gravestone incised and then still decipherable with his initials, a hammer, a pair of pincers and a Highland galley as indeed were the gravestones of such of his descendants who were buried there. He describes it as “a stone who’s device, aided by oral tradition, has perpetuated the memory of him over whom it was laid. Duncan Macnab the Smith, who in 1440 assisted in the rebuilding of the Castle Caolchairn and was ancestor of the Macnabs of Barachastlain. His memory is still remarkable in the glen”. The words “oral tradition” are important, for Malcolm, the last of the race of sword smiths to live on the hill was still there. He died in 1828 aged ninety.

This agrees with the tradition I had from my father. My father was born in 1847 and when a boy in Oban, knew Glenorchy well and many of the old people; and Highland memories are long. For nearly four hundred years, Duncan’s descendants practiced the art and craft of armory, handing it on from generation to generation. Some accounts say they were hereditary armourers and jewelers to the Campbells of Breadalbane. They certainly worked for them as indeed they did for all who wanted good craft.

Their young were unruly at times. In 1621 Patrik McAgowin (Mac-a-Gobhainn, son of the smith), was sued by Malcolm McOldonycat (Mac Mhol Domhaich, son of the servant of the Lord) *“for striking him with ane sword and for hurting of his hand, also for spoyleing him of his bow and durk and taking away Xxs from out of his purse. The Assysis having tryit and examinit this blood and wray, convictit the defender in blood and the persewar in trublance”*. The Black Book of Taymouth records two more such misdemeanors for which Patrik had to find canton for his good behavior in “*fourtie pundes[[85]](#footnote-85) money*”.

Eleven years later when he had succeeded his father and become Patrik Gow (Gobha, the smith) another entry states: *“Sir Colin Campbell of Glenurqhay, Kinght sets to Patrik Gow – for the shortest liver of the two – the two merklands of Barrachastellan”*.

Patrick’s son styled himself Donald McNuer of Barachastalain, Clachan Dysart McNeur is possibly some variant of Mac Dighre or perhaps McNair (Heir) for Patrik his father must have been approaching eighty or more when he died in 1681. Clachan Dysart means the place of the High Gods and is the old name for where Dalmally now stands.

Donald McNuer died in 1690, leaving three sons, Patrik, John and Calum. It was this Patrik’s son, another Donald; on who’s death the prophecy of the tree came true. There was a vast elm by the smithy at the foot of the hill and it had been prophesied long before that when this tree fell, then would the last of the sword smiths die and his sons and their sons would scatter, some even to the ends of the earth. Donald grew old. One night, there arose a mighty storm. The gale came sweeping down the glen while up on Barachastalain, at the height of the storm, the old man lay dying. In the morning, the tree lay before the smithy and the sons mourned their father.

Donald died after the Forty-five and by then, with the ban on wearing of swords and of the kilt, the day of the Highland swordsmith was over. Before the Forty-five, there were sons, brothers, nephews and cousins all working, some in the foundry and others on the farm. Some went to fight for Prince Charles with a body of Breadalbane men under Campbell of Glenlyon, for there were Campbells on both sides as there were Macnabs. Others settled elsewhere or went soldiering.

Donald had four sons, Patrik Dow, Donald, Alexander (my great-great-grandfather) and Malcolm. Patrik Dow’s daughter married a Duncan Ferguson and they went to North Carolina. Their great-grandson, General Willard Ferguson of the U.S. army, died in 1937. Donald’s son, Duncan, served at Waterloo and was made Deputy Commissary General on going to Canada in 1832 in connection with the building of the Rideau Canal. His grandson, Colonel Alexander James Macnab Ret. U.S. army, died in 1956. He was *de jure* Representer and Chieftain of the House of Barachastalain, although he never matriculated the arms.

Alexander (my ancestor) went no further than Oban but his grandson, my grandfather was shipwrecked and drowned on his way to the Far East in 1869. Another grandson, John, was Chairman of the Oriental Bank while my father spent a great part of his life with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank in China and the Philippines, where I myself was born. Incidentally, my great-uncle Peter built most of Oban on the coming of the railway.

Of the youngest of the four brothers, Malcolm, I know little except that he wrote Gaelic verse and was a friend of Duncan Ban MacIntyre.

The other Duncan who fought at Waterloo as an ensign in the 52nd Foot, was I believe, Malcolm’s grandson but I have no written evidence of this. However, he is buried with his forebears in Glenorchy. He left a daughter Christina.

In 1792, Robert Heron in his “Observations” tells of being shown by Donald and Malcolm a coat of mail and two headpieces made by their forefathers. These may have been taken away by Patrik Dow’s son, Alexander, who lived in Barran. As head of the Family, he was justified in doing so. He too, is buried in Glenorchy with the Macnab Arms carved on his tombstone. It is said that at one time he possessed the m/s of Macpherson’s Ossian.

This Alexander’s son, John, left the forge and smithy to a McNichol one of who’s descendants once told me that when he was a boy, he used to see in the smithy an old broadsword hanging on the wall and left there by the Macnabs. John’s family died out, except for a Peter, the illegitimate son of one of his daughters. Peter took the name of MacNab although his father was a McGregor. He had a son, the Rev. John McNab, Minister of Skegness, who died in 1939.

Years ago, I used to have a cutting from the “Oban Times” reproducing a drawing of the interior of the house by a geologist, St. Foud, who went there to see the chain mail and other relics. Now the house has gone for its stones were used for the cottages of the Irish Navvies who built the railway. These too are now in ruins with most of the stones taken away. The descendants of Duncan are scattered, the railway runs over the land they farmed and sheep and cattle graze among the ruins on the hill. The prophecy of the tree has been fulfilled.

Iain, the author of this story was born on 21st October 1890 in the Philippines. He matriculated the Arms of Barachastalain in 1958. He died on 24th November 1967 in London. During the First World War, he served with the Glasgow Highlanders until commissioned into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In 1916, he was invalided out after being blown up at the battle of Loos. In the Second World War he was an Air Raid warden during the blitz on London and then served in the Royal Air Force until once again invalided out in 1944.

He took great pride in the fact that there had been an artist-craftsman in every succeeding generation of his family for certainly over four hundred years. He was himself an artist and engraver of great repute. Those who would like to know more about him and the Barachastalain family, should acquire the book by Albert Gerrett called “Wood Engravings and Drawings of Iain Macnab of Barachastalain” published by Midas Books

The present representer of the family is Ian’s brother, Hector Archibald Macnab of Barachastalain.

**Other Notes on the House of Barachastalain**

**Waterloo:**

Four Macnabs were officers at Waterloo. In addition to the two Duncans of the Barachastalain family, there was Captain Alexander Macnab of the 30th Foot, who belonged to the Barravorich House. He was A.D.C. to Picton[[86]](#footnote-86) and was killed with him.

Fighting on the other side was the head of the French Macnabs who, it is said, was A.D.C. to Napoleon[[87]](#footnote-87). He was taken prisoner and there is a nice story that the English regiment, who had captured him, wanted to shoot him as a traitor. Duncan then a Captain in the Commissariat, stormed into their mess full of indignation. They said *“But he was fighting against the English”*. Duncan replied: *“Dammit. We’ve always fought against the English since the days of Wallace”*. Not quite a true statement but it worked. One likes to think this story is true.

In the census return for 1872, there were at Barachastalain: Males 9, Females 16. So it must have been a sizable place.

**The Dundurn Branch**

Robert Macnab (14th Chief) and Anna Campbell of Glenorchy (sister of the first Earl of Breadalbane[[88]](#footnote-88)) had seven sons. One of them, who’s name probably was Robert, had a son also called Robert, who while serving in the Army in Canada left behind him a son called Allan (after his grandfather’s brother Allan, who died as an officer in the Army at the age of nineteen and was buried in the churchyard at Tarland, in Aberdeenshire). Robert, on his return to Scotland, became the Forester of the Royal Forest of Glenartney, and lived at Dundurn. He married Jean Stewart of Ardvorlich; they had a son who married and three daughters who never married. The last surviving member of this family accompanied her half nephew Sir Allan to the Burial Island at Killin in 1842 and pointed out to him who was buried in which grave. The portrait of Jean Stewart and her Macnab tea service, comprising a teapot, sugar bowl and milk jug are now in Ardvorlich House. There are letters in the MacGregor collection in Register House in Edinburgh from Robert to his uncle, General Archibald, brother of John 15th Chief) expressing the hope that his cousin Francis (16th Chief) would begin to behave himself; also reference to his sending money for the support of ‘the boy’ in Canada.

The son Allan married Ann Napier in Quebec in 1792 and their son Allan Napier Macnab was born on 19 February 1798. In the war of 1812--13, he served with his father and then became a sailor, a carpenter, an actor, and finally a lawyer. His father, who died in 1830, became Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Assembly. He married Elizabeth Brooks, and his children Robert Allan and Anne Jane were born in 1823 and 1825. Their mother died in 1825. In 1832, when Cholera broke out in Hamilton Jail, he stood bail and secured the temporary release of the debtors.

In 1829 he refused to answer questions in the House of Assembly about an effigy of the New Governor, Sir John Colborne and was sent to prison for a fortnight. This made him a martyr and helped his election to Parliament of the United Canadas as member for Wentworth, which he represented for the next 27 years. He became leader of the Opposition in Parliament from 1841 to 1854 when he became Prime Minister, until Sir John MacDonald replaced him on the resignation of the Cabinet in 1856. He then became Speaker of the Assembly.

In the Mackensie rebellion of 1837, a clash between the landed gentlemen and industrialists, with their vested interests, he gathered together the “Men of Gore” and routed the rebels in Toronto. He then went to the Niagara frontier and saw the American ship *Caroline* moored off the American fort. He ordered it to be cut out, which was duly effected and the ship sent in flames over the Niagara Falls. That was the end of the rebellion, despite American indignation. In 1838 Queen Victoria knighted him and made him a baronet. The Duke of Wellington in the House of Lords said that it was owing to the ‘loyalty, zeal and active intelligence of Sir Allan Macnab that the Canadas had been preserved to the British Crown.’

In 1834 his only son was killed in a shooting accident. In 1831 he had married Mary Stuart. Earlier, in 1830 onwards, he had started and completed the building of Dundurn Castle[[89]](#footnote-89), where in 1855 his daughter Sophia married Viscount Bury, later the Earl of Albemarle. Six years later his youngest daughter married George the second son of Sir Dominick Daly. In 1860 he entertained the Prince of Wales at Dundurn. He died on 8 August 1862, being looked after at the end by his sister-in-law, wife of his brother David and sister of his wife who had died in 1842.

In 1859, on 28 February, he had called on James Munro Macnabb and invited him to return with him to Canada in June. A hundred and eight years later, James Munro’s grandson, Archibald (22nd Chief), attended the reopening celebrations of Dundurn Castle, for which the Corporation of Hamilton had voted about half a million dollars, in gratitude for the bringing of the Great Western Railway to the City and the foundation of its prosperity – negotiations in which Sir Allan had played a considerable part.

A full account of the colorful life and varied career of this famous man appears in two books, (1) by Rev. T.M. Bailey, published by W.L. Griffin Ltd., of Toronto, (2) ‘Macnab of Dundurn’, by Marion Macrae – Clarke Irwin & Co. Ltd., – 1971, Marion Macrae’s book is based on information supplied by the ninth Earl of Albemarle and from two deed boxes of Macnab papers missing for over sixty years.

A man exceedingly proud of his heritage, Sir Allan fought against and overcame the financial hardships of his early years, finally acquiring a fine piece of ground where he set himself up as a landed gentleman, building the magnificent Regency type mansion he called Dundurn. This was a fitting residence for the lineal head of the Macnabs of Dundurn; he even constructed a family burying place nearby that he called Inchbuie.

His pride and ambitions were certainly influenced at an impressionable age by meeting The Macnab – Archibald, the 17th Chief – who traveled in full Highland dress, accompanied by a piper and two personal bards, much impressing Montreal society. However, Sir Allan was aware of and secretly deplored the true character of the exiled Chief. The incident is quoted where on seeing the bold signature ‘The Macnab’ in a hotel register where the Chief had stayed, Dundurn signed himself ‘The Other Macnab’. By 1850 their friendship became strained over financial transactions and soon after that the Chief left for Scotland.

In 1861 he turned his enthusiasm to the affairs of the Clan, Seeking to establish his claim to the Chiefship, following the death of Archibald, in Florence. Packing all the relative documents in a tin box he sailed for Britain in the North Briton, which was wrecked in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Although Sir Allan was safely rescued, the valuable papers were lost, a tragedy for Clan Historians as well as for his own ambitions. He died in 1862. Perhaps the Clan motto *“Timor Omnis Abesto”* gave him that sublime confidence and doggedness that brought realism into almost all his dreams.

The masionhouse – or castle – of Dundurn stands today as a monument to Sir Allan, restored, renovated and housing every relic of his life’s work that could be preserved in the interests of the history of Canada.

**The Acharn Branch[[90]](#footnote-90)**

On 28 July 1553 Donald Macnab, son of Archibald Macnab in Acharn, was in possession of Acharn. On 18 April 1568 John Bane McGillespie Macnab married Isobel MacFarlane, ‘mayer’ of Patrick Dow Mor; and on 12 November 1573 John Bane was sued by Finlay (10th Chief) and on 12 October 1574 by Finlay’s brother and successor, Alexander Macnab of Macnab (11th Chief) for the rents of Sleoch and Acharn. Alexander’s younger son, Patrick Dow More, then succeeded to the two-merk land of Acharn and the twenty-shilling[[91]](#footnote-91) land of Sleicht (Sleoh), of which John Bane McGillespie had received a tack[[92]](#footnote-92) on 18 April 1568. This had been surrendered to Patrick and on 15 April 1605 Gilbert succeeded his father in this tack.

The eldest of Gilbert’s three sons, Archibald, is shown in the Perthshire Rent-roll of 1649 as being assessed to £45 for Acharn. He married a daughter of Grahm of Duchray Castle and Rednock and Blairinack.

Archibald had two sons, John and Duncan. John was infeft on 6 October 1655 in the two-merk land of Achaharne on a charter dated 4 October 1655 from Finlay Macnab of Bovaine (12th Chief). The Acharn Bowl of 1672 in the Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh, dates from this time. Failing John, the grant by Alexander Macnab of Bovain (13th Chief) was to John’s half brother Duncan, by his father’s second marriage. The boys must have been very young at the time. It was not until 13 July 1731 that Patrick, John’s son, was granted a Precept of Clare Constal by John Macnab of Bovain, (15th Chief).

On 15th February 1731 Patrick was prosecuted for a clandestine marriage performed by Mr. Alexander Comrie, the deposed minister of Kenmore. There is no further trace of this family.

Gilbert’s second son James was the ancestor of the Macnabs of Newton.

His third son Duncan Dow, on 25 February 1619, received certain lands in the lordship of Stragartney from Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy, through Finlay Macnab of Bovain as attorney to Sir Duncan. Duncan Dow married a daughter of Campbell of Linia and had two sons, James and John.

James married his cousin Helen Macnab of Innishewan. His son John had three sons, the eldest of whom married a Miss Macdonald of Glenaladale. This son (Alexander) died young. James also had two daughters, Margaret and Catherine, one of whom married John Macdonald of Bunadap and had four sons and three daughters.

John’s second son Donald was the ancestor of the French Branch. His third son Duncan married Mary, daughter of Campbell of Drumsynie, and Mry, sister of the first Earl of Breadalbane. Duncan’s daughter was alive in 1787.

Patrick, who was granted the Precept in 1731, may have had a brother John in Acharn who married Anne Campbell of Tuerachan and Innisdamsh. She was baptized in 1692. They had six sons and two daughters; both daughters died unmarried. Of the sons, Duncan (baptized 1728) married Janet McNaughton of Glendochart and had four sons, John, Robert, Alexander and Peter, and two daughters, of whom one died young and the other married a McCallum in Kintyre. The second son James died unmarried. John, the third son, married a daughter of James Walker in Acharn and had three sons, Alexander, Patrick (deceased) and Robert (unmarried in 1803). The fourth Alexander (baptized 1731). Who was alive in 1805, baillie of Inverneill and Ross, married Christian, daughter of Nicol McNicol in Killin. They had a son, Major Robert of the 91st Regiment 1772-1833. The fifth, Patrick, was unmarried. The sixth, Robert (baptized 1737 was Collector in Argyll.

**The Newton Branch**

This branch was descended from Patrick Mor Macnab in Acharn. It was mentioned by Archibald as being nearer to the senior line than to the Arthurstone Branch. An explanation of this has been suggested.

Archibald, who surrendered the feu of Mullion in 1714, disappears from history; but if he had married and had a daughter Katherine, she might have been the same as the Katherine Mcnab, relict[[93]](#footnote-93) of the deceased John Stewart of Bennoid. She had Sasine in 1761 of some land from her new husband, Archibald Macnab of Newton. Since she had not changed her maiden name, she could have carried on the succession to her children.

The Newton branch was descended from Gilbert, the son of Patrick Mor Macnab in Acharn, and the daughter of Buchanan of Mochaster near Callander. Gilbert married a daughter of Sir Mungo Campbell of Lawers, which would account for the family having lands in Strathfillan.

Gilbert’s second son James married a daughter of the laird of Dunblean (according to the French pedigree table). His son was also James, late wadsetter of the Kirkton of Strathfillan. He held land in Marchfield and Blaerinack, and married Jean MacFarlane. He died before 1743. His son Archibald of Marchfield and Newton married Katherine Stewart (nee Macnab) about 1761

His son John Macnab of Newton, W.S., was apprenticed to John Davidson on 4 July 1783 and was served as heir general to his father Archibald Macnab of Newton on 23 June 1800. John died on 4 August 1801.

Ann Macnab was served as heir of provision-general to her father John Macnab, W.S., on 27 January 1803. On 27 June 1822 she married the Rev. J.H. Sperling (see Burkes *“Landed Gentry”*) and died on 27 December 1846, leaving issue. On 14 September 1822 she granted land in Balquhidder to her sister Charlotte Jane, who was still alive and unmarried at Old Newton, near Doune, in 1863.

The Newton Macnabs have died out in the male line.

**The French Branch**

Donald, the second son of John Macnab of Acharn, married Anne Shower in 1740. She was the only daughter of Edward Shower, Mariner, and Tacksman[[94]](#footnote-94) of Lurgavoin. He had met his wife while on Military duty in Exeter. His father-in-law took part in the rebellion of 1745, in the course of which he was taken prisoner and confined at Perth, where he was forgotten in prison and died of hunger. His daughter, on 10 August 1752, was served as heir to her father of Lurgavoin, which lies at the west end of the Kirkton of Callandr in Menteith, on a feu charter to Edward Shower from James Drummon of Perth and a bond of £100 from Edward Shower to MacNab in Inneshewan.

Donald, who was born about 1715 and had entered the army at the age of eighteen, retired in 1741, and took the farm of Brae Leny near the Bracklinn Falls. After his death his son Alexander enjoyed the possession of the same farm.

Donald with his military education and physical strength played a considerable part in the battle of Falkirk.

After the battle of Culloen he was a fugitive and took refuge in Ben Cruachan, where the daughter of the famous Macnab armorer of Dalmally brought him food. One day when he was visiting his house he was surprised by a party of soldiers who had come to hunt for him. He leapt out of a back window, seized a billet of wood, came round to the door, slew two of the soldiers and made good his escape. His name is to be found in the list of proclaimed fugitives as Donald of Braeleing

On the occasion of the fair at Dound he met a sergeant of the garrison at Stirling, who had been deputized to arrest a certain Donald Macnab, whom, he had been told, would be found at the fair. Donald remarked that he knew him well, and if the sergeant would dine with him at the inn, the infamous Donald would be delivered into his hands. Arrived at the inn, Donald called for whisky and invited the sergeant to join him while they waited for their dinner.

*‘You know the custom of the country’*, remarked Donald; *‘Before having a drink we shake hands. Here’s to your good health’*, and he gave his hand to the unsuspecting English sergeant. However, Donald squeezed his victim’s hand with such force that he smashed his fingers and blood spurted from under the nails. *‘I promised to put Donald’s hand in yours – and you have my hand for I am Donald!’* So saying he fled, leaving the unhappy sergeant to nurse his mutilated hand. After the amnesty Donald settled down on his farm and brought up a numerous family.

Edward Daniel was born in 1740. He had two sisters, Jane and Catherine, and three brothers, Alexander, James and John. It seems certain that this Alexander was born in 1745, and was saved from the redcoats as a baby by his nurse, and became ancestor of the Epping Branch.

Anne Shower was a Roman Catholic and grieved to bind herself to a Protestant family. At the age of twelve her eldest son Edward Daniel was sent to the Scottish College at Douai, in France, to become a priest; but when his education was complete, he sought a commission as an ensign in the Royal Scottish Regiment[[95]](#footnote-95) in which his uncle Duncan was a captain. He served throughout the Seven Years’ War and in the campaign of Hanover he was wounded by a bullet in the leg, which never afterwards healed properly, and caused him much trouble in his later years.

In the peace of 1763 the officers of the regiment were put on half pay. Some returned to Scotland. Lord Nairn and Lord Lewis Drummond persuaded Edward Daniel to remain in France, and suggested that he should enter the Bodyguard of King Louis XV. He was the last Scotsman to enter this corps, twenty-four years of age, five feet nine in height and a find figure of a man.

He married Marguerite Suzanne Verquillot of Sancerre, the heiress of the lands of Ste. Bouize, the daughter of Sylvain Verquillot. In 1782 he was named a Knight of St. Louis. M. le Bain, of Espugnac, nominated him to the charge of waters and woods in the county of Sancerre. Each year he spent three months at the Court of Versailles, three more at the depot at Beauvais, and six months on leave with his family.

During the Terror he was accused of Correspondence with Pitt, the British Prime Minister, by Legendre, the deputy of La Charite. He was taken to Bourges and thence dispatched to Paris with M. de Gamaches and M. Cardinet de Poinvilles. On the way, between Aubigny and Argent, one of the guards offered to let them escape, but M. de Gamaches protested that he was too ill to escape with them, so the others refused to leave him behind. In Paris the other two were condemned and executed, but Edward Daniel, while under sentence of death, obtained a pair of scissors and cut off his own hair. When he was called out for execution, his name was ill written and indecipherable, so he did not answer and was passed over. The next day the revolution of the Ninth of Thermidor took place; executions were suspended, and his life was saved.

In prison he made friends with Clery, the valet de chambre of Louis XVI, who gave him some articles, which had belonged to the King, notably his lorgnette, the last object from which he had been separated. This was carefully preserved in the family.

After his release Edward Daniel retired to the small house of St. Bouize, and occupied himself with the education of his son Edward Alexander, who on 1 May 1810 married Marie Rose Aimee de Francieres. He also had two daughters Henriette, who died in 1787 aged twenty, and Marguerite Suzanne, who married Sylvain Gaillant, Lord of Guardefort.

Edward and Marie Rose had seven children, three sons and four daughters. The elder son, Edward, born in October 1811, married in Paris on 23 July 1850 Mrie Beatrice de Panfentenyou de Cheffontaine, daughter of the Governor of Bourbon Island, and died on 25 September 1885. Of their children, Maurice, the writer of popular songs, and Donald were twins born on 4 January 1856. They died unmarried on 4 January 1893 and 24 December 1889.

The daughter Clothilde was born on 1 October 1857. The youngest son, Allan was born on 23 October 1859 and died 20 August 1891. The third son Georges was born on 16 April 1858. He married Adeline Gerard and died on 2 October 1902. They had three sons.

The eldest, Allen, was born in 1892 and married Gisele Gerin. He died about 1945, leaving a daughter. The second Alexander, was born on 14 January 1896. He had a son and a daughter, both of whom are married. The youngest. Donald, born on 13 May 1898 is married, but has no children.

Now, Edward Alexander’s four daughters, Phillipe, Henriette, Anna and Sarah married respectively M. Chenu, M. Dissander de la Vilatte, M. Boursault du Troncay and M. de Beuregard. His younger son Alexander Henri was born on 4 October 1818. He married in Paris 1855 Mrie-Augustine d’Anglars. He served as a Forest Inspector and died on 17 September 1904 and was buried in St. Bouize. He had two children, Noeme, born 1855, who died unmarried on 11 March 1905: his only son Jean Francois Charles, born on 23 December 1859, Married Ernestine Champetier de Ribes on 7 May 1884. Be became a Colonel of Infantry and died in 1936. His widow was still alive in 1962 at the age of 100, but died shortly afterwards.

They had two children. Marie Paulle Jeanne was born on 25 September 1885 and married George Tipsier on 9 July 1912 and they had three children, daughters Helene, Colette and Nicole, born in 1913, 1917 and 1920, also a son Robert born in 1925. The second child Mrie Edouard Jacques, was born on 22 December 1886 and married Germaine le Chatelier on 31 May 1920. He won the Croix de Guerre in the 1914-18 war and was a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He died on 20 December 1961. They had six children.

Antoinette was born on 2 March 1921, married in 1942 M. le Comte Louis de Rouville. They have six children.

Madeline, born in 1925, is a nun in Canada.

Jean, born in 1925, married Denise Frange. They have three children, Bernard, Monique and Anne, born respectively about 1947, 1950 and 1953/

The third daughter Marguerite was born in 1927 and died in 1959.

The fourth daughter Therese was born in 1929

The second son Francis was born about 1936. He visited Kinnell House and is a Life Member of the Clan Society.

The principal family seat is at Santrages in the Department of Cher, but the family live for most of the year at 108 rues de Bac, Paris VII.

The detailed information about this branch has been preserved in an account written by Edward Macnab, who was born in 1811. His grandfather Edward Daniel was prevented by the Revolution, old age and infirmity, and eventually his death in 1814 from returning to his native land. Since his uncle Duncan had returned to Scotland he had not seen anyone of his own name, although he had often seen Major Buchanan of Cambusmore and ‘Mr Ophilan” (Olifant?) Of Condie. At last in 1814, a few days before his death, he was visited by Duncan Macnab, who belonged to the family of armourers of Dalmally (Barachastalain). He was also disappointed in not being able to accept a commission offered to him by Louis XVIII of a Sub-Lieutenancy in the Scottish Company at the Royal Bodyguard in June 1814, only a month before his death. He did, however, exact a promise from his son Edward Alexander that he should visit Scotland.

In 1820 Uncle Alexander (of Millbank) sent his son ‘Sandy’ to spend a year with his French relatives, who were to bring him back. Edward Alexander and his small son Edward took a month to reach Aberdeen.

They spent eight days in Paris, where they were present at the festivities for the baptism of Henri, Duke de Bordeaux. The small son was greatly impressed by his sight of Louis XVIII with his remarkable blue eyes, which he never forgot. They arrived in London just before the Coronation of George IV.

In Aberdeen they were met at the port by their uncle Alexander and his son-in-law ‘Mr. Mellie’. At Westertown they found their aunt Mrs. Macnab and her seven daughters, and their cousin ‘Stewart’ and several friends. This was a great family reunion, never forgotten by the small boy, who recorded it all many years afterwards.

**The Epping Branch**

Donald Macnab and Anna Shower had a son Alexander. The records of the French Branch make it probable that this Alexander was the baby saved by his nurse from the redcoats in 1746. Perceval Humphry, of The Grove, Coptholme, Sussex, who was born in 1867, communicated the following information.

The Humphrey pedigree table shows that MacNab of Kyllyin, born at Kinnell House and buried there, married a daughter of Steward (added in the hand writing of Catherine Macnab/Bulley) of Stratherne. (This may be a reference to Eleyn Stuart, mother of the chiefs Finlay and Alexander. Their family consisted of Donald, Alexander, seven other sons and a daughter.

It is to be remembered that a French pedigree table calls the ancestor of the French Branch ‘Edward Donald’; but the notes, including a copy of the manuscript by Edward Macnab (born 1811), call him ‘Edward Daniel’, which is probably correct. Donald may have been another brother. It is notable that the next generations of the Epping Branch contained the unusual name of Daniel.

Alexander was born in 1745 and died in Sheffield, Yorkshire, in September 1795, at Furnace Hill, near Scotland Street. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Oliver, Proctor of the City of Worcester and Eleanor Swift of Worcester. They had six children.

Alexander, the eldest, was born on 1 September 1780. In 1810 his address was 132 St. Martin’s Lane, London. His first wife was Jane Farquharson, whose father lived in London, but had previously lived at Moulbuie in Scotland. They had a daughter Eliza, who married Francis Oliver French. His second wife was Mary Ann Barron, daughter of Barron, Esq. Of the Exchequer. They had two children, Mary (who married Hubert Williams, RA) and Donald.

The second child was William Macnab, of Ware, Hertfordshire, who married Harriet Heather. Their daughter Harriet Elizabeth married the Rev. Richard Parrott.

Alexander also had by his first wife a son, Alexander (probably the ‘Sandie’ who spent a year in France). He married Elizabeth Heron. On 7 December 1899 their son Alexander Heron McNab bequeathed a copy of ‘Perthshire Illustrated’, Volume II to his wife and to his daughter Eugenia Alexandre Heron McNab and Violet Elsie McNab. He died on 18 May 1905 at 131 Gleshurst Road, Brentford, Middlesex, aged 68 years, as reported by his daughter Eugenia. His grand-daughter is Miss A. Dreghorn, 7 Cuthbert Place, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire. Alexander Heron McNab was an actor.

The next three children, Daniel, Archibald and Robert, died without issue.

Alexander, and Elizabeth’s sixth son Daniel Robert McNab, of the Place, Epping, Essex was born in Sheffield on 4 June 1791. He married Mary, daughter of Swan Tabrum, of Jarvis Hall, Roothing, Essex. They had six children. In 1875 he died of Cholera, after retiring from fifty years of practice as a doctor.

He handed over to his son; but to avoid the risk of his son’s carrying infection he visited a little girl patient and was found dead in the morning.

The eldest of the six children was Duncan Robert, of Epping, who married Hannah Challice and had four daughters, Clara, Annie Stuart, Hannah Challice and Jessie Theodora.

All these three, William Daniel Robert and Duncan Robert were doctors.

The Epping Branch died out in the male line with Alexander Heron McNab. Duncan, and Robert’s brother William, died without issue.

They had four sisters; Elisabeth married Thomas Boycott of Exeter and had three children. Jessie Elisabeth, Henry Aden and Elisabeth.

William came next, and then Mary, who married George Murry Humphry, MO, FRS, of Cambridge. Their three children were Alfred Paget, Catherine and Edith. Alfred Paget had two sons, Martin George of Horham Hall, Essex, (see Burke’s Landed Gentry) and Stewart, who has two sons, Alaric and Wallace Boycott McNab.

Jessie Oliver compiled the Pedigree table of the Epping Branch. She married Sir George’s brother Joseph Thomas Humphry, born 10 December 1816, of Lincoln’s Inn, on 29 December 1853, and had seven children, Hugh McNab, Laurence, Ethel, Catherine Maud, Janet Stewart, Perceval (who communicated this pedigree table) and Godfrey.

The youngest daughter Catherine married Ashburnham Bulley, who had changed his name from Toll (see Sir C.Toll, Baronet–Burke’s *Peerage*).

Jessie Oliver Humphry, of 26 Princes Square, recorded a note on 26 January 1895 as follows: “D.C. Macnabb Esq. Of Macnabb (Donald Campbell?), Arthurstone, Bracknell, lived formerly at Highfied Park, Heckfield, where tablets are in memory of his father and mother. His father succeeded to the Chieftainship after Archibald and Alan Macnabb’s death, but the papers, which confirmed this, were lost in a shipwreck. He was descended from one of seven brothers. We think we are descended from another of the seven, bur have no proof. My grandfather Alexander MacNab, Presbyterian minister of Sheffield (born 1745, died 1795) was saved after the rising of 1745 by his nurse “while he was quite an infant”.

Sir Allan Macnab was wrecked in the North Briton and lost all his baggage when he was bringing the Clan records over from Canada. He and his daughter Sophia stayed with James Munro Macnabb at Highfield, but could not deliver the Clan records to him as Sir Allan had intended.

**The Seat of the Clan Chiefs**

Eilean Ran (Ellanryne) was situated on what used to be an island north of the River Lochay[[96]](#footnote-96) and commanded the Port of Island Ran. All that is now left of it is a low ridge about 250 yards long running in a northeasterly direction from the north bank of the river Lochay just below the railway bridge. In time of flood it is once more an island; but the intervening ground has silted up and connects it with the castle of Finlarig. This was originally in the hand of the Drummonds of Stobhall, but was sold to Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy in 1503 and then became one of the principal Breadalbane strongholds. The English were instigated to burn Eilean Ran in 1654 and nothing now remains above ground. The stones were carried off to build the adjacent stonewalls, and the neighboring buildings; but the line of the circumvallation[[97]](#footnote-97) can still easily be traced.[[98]](#footnote-98)

Kinnell House thereafter became the headquarters of the clan. The original building can readily be discerned, since its walls are from three to five feet thick. When it became the seat of the Chief, more rooms were built to the east and in the eighteenth century, the two western rooms in the two upper stories were thrown into one with a raised ceiling and another large room was built out at the back overlooking the large walled garden, the south side of which is contained by the house in the middle. The gardener’s house and dairy are to the east and the vinery to the west. The latter contains the famous Black Hamburg vine, planted in 1832 and at one time 190 feet long and considered to be the largest vine in the world. Though its branches at both ends have been cut back, it still produces about 60 bunches a year. The front of the house faces a little east of south and has lost one of its dormer windows as the result of the raising of the western room. This served as a bedroom for Francis (16th Chief). Its pillared alcove surmounted by three plaster masks of robber’s heads commemorates the final victory over the Neishes, with the motto “Dreadnaught”. In front of the vinery is a collection of millstones, querns, knocking stones and baptismal fonts, collected from the neighborhood. An avenue of beech and oak trees, 300 years old or more leads from the house up the hill to the south to a pillared entrance and to the west the main avenue from the Dochart Bridge runs through three other pairs of solid stone pillars, the last pair surmounted by a pair of lions. In the field close to these, is a circle of six Standing Stones, like a miniature Stonehenge. In front of the gardener’s house is a courtyard enclosed on the east and west by two ancient barns of great size, which now serve as a row of stables with a hayloft overhead and a garage. To the east on the bank of Loch Tay, at the boat house where Queen Victoria landed in 1842 on her way to Auchmore House, there used to be a battery of ten cannon with which she was welcomed by the then Marquis of Breadalbane. These are now in front of Kinnell House.

**Clan Burial Ground – Inchbuie[[99]](#footnote-99)**

The Island of Inchbuie is reached through an iron gate where the middle of the Dochart Bridge rests on the western tip of the Island. Opposite, to the west is the picturesque island of Garbh-Innis round which the waters of the Dochart come dashing down in a series of small cascades. The gate opens on to steps near which are two stone pillars like those leading to Kinnell House. The old accounts speak of two immense dragons crouched on top of these. Possibly these were the lions now on top of the last pair of pillars leading to Kinnell House[[100]](#footnote-100). Beyond the pillars is a stonewall with three open arches. The island slopes steeply on all sides to the river, which has cut a deep cleft through the rocky strata. It is divided into three sections by, firstly, an earthen ridge, and secondly, about 150 yards further on, an ancient stonewall. The whole island is about 350 yards long, and is covered with Scots pines, larches, beeches and sycamores. In the middle, lay an old iron fireplace, reputed to have come from Kinnell House. It has since disappeared. Beyond the stonewall lies the burial ground with a square stone enclosure, open to the sky and guarded by a massive iron gate.

The walls of the enclosure used to be surmounted with four stone balls and two antique stone heads on the middle of the eastern and western walls. Inside are fifteen graves in three rows of the Chiefs, some covered with slabs of stone and some merely mounds of earth. One slab bears a representation of a coffin and crossbones. Another has a hole drilled through it and bears a shield with the arms of Macnab of Bovain, now undecipherable and the initials F.M. and K.C. with the symbols of death and an inscription “This burial appertains to Finlay Maknab of Bovain” who died in 1573-4. His wife was Katherine Campbell of Glenorchy. Adjoining this is a slab of Mica schist with the effigy of a warrior in chain mail and with a round top to his helmet. This is supposed to have come from the shoulder of Ben Lawers[[101]](#footnote-101) and to mark the grave of one of the earliest chiefs; but Sir Allan Macnab wrote that it marked the grave of Francis (16th chief) when he saw it in 1842 (see below). There is one later grave with the date 1834 of one who was not a chief. It bears the arms with a four-oared boat and a robber’s head and the inscription “Sacred to the memory of Colin Macnab Esq., late of Suie, who died 5th April, 1832, aged 69 years”. This humble tribute of affection is erected by his brother Allan Macnab, Ardeoniag. Outside the enclosure to the east are many stone slabs and mounds and two erect headstones to “Patrick Macnab in Taylor in Aucharn who died 1777" and “Dun McNab Likernside who died 1800 aged 18 years”.

The prophecy of the Lady of Lawers, delivered in about 1680, that, when a great storm blew a branch of a pine tree against the trunk of another, and grafted it onto the trunk, the Macnabs would lose their lands, came true in 1828, after a great storm, which happened in about 1820. In 1849, the branch was still alive. Now that the Macnabs have come back, it has died; but it still hangs where it was.

In the early summer, when the young green of the larches and beeches is first showing itself and again in the autumn, when the flaming splendor of the beech leaves contrasts most effectively with the pale yellow of the larches and the greenish black of the pines, it is easy to understand how Francis (16th Chief) in his one known attempt to enter the hallowed bonds of matrimony, pleaded in vain with the object of his attentions that he owned the most beautiful burial ground in Scotland.

A letter from Sir Allan Macnab written the day after his visit (now with the Earl of Albemarle) reads: “8th June 1842. I visited Inchboye....... I enquired for James McGibbon a man of 78 years of age..... He keeps the key of the burial ground..... On entering within the wall the first slab to the left is Major General Archibald MacNab, Col. Of the 41st Regt. Of Foot aged 80 years. (The second slab) Francis MacNab aged 80 years (a full length figure of the Chief with their doubled edged sword and spear). Robert MacNab aged 45 years (on this stone there is a long description but I cannot read it). On his left lie his wife and two daughters. The third and last accompanied me to the spot – she wept bitterly.”

A further letter of June 26th 1842 from Sir Allan Macnab to a colleague, also in the possession of the Earl of Albemarle reads: “There is a fine avenue of trees approaching the sacred spot. The first object which engaged my attention was a marble slab at the end of the avenue, which was inscribed “in memory of a man, all honor to his name, Lt. Allan McNab 92 Regt, who after serving his country in Holland, Portugal and Spain at last on the field of Almeida gloriously fell, 5th of May 1811. This stone was erected by his affectionate cousin, Archibald McNab”. On entering within the wall, the first slab to the left was marked, Major General Archibald MacNab, Col. 41st Regt. Of Foot aged 81 years. Still farther on the left is the tombstone of my grandfather Captain Robert MacNab, with the inscription too effaced to be legible, and between these two graves lies Francis MacNab of MacNab aged 81 years. On the stone covering his grave is a full-length figure of the old chief with a double-edged sword in one hand and a spear in the other. Old McGibbon told me there were nine chiefs buried within the walls. On the left of my grandfather’s tomb lies his wife “(Jean Stewart of Ardvorlich)” and daughter. The third and last of the family now living accompanied me to the spot and was much affected by the scene.”

**The Present Chief**

James Charles Macnab of Macnab, the present (23rd) Chief, is the son of James Alexander, 21st Chief. He was born in 1926, educated at Radley College and at Ashbury College, Ottawa, Canada. He served in the RAF and Scots Guards 1944-45. In 1945 he was commissioned into the Seaforth Highlanders and served in India, Java and Singapore. In 1948 he joined the Colonial Service and served in the Federation of Malaya Police Force as Assistant and Deputy Superintendent. He retired in 1957 and farmed at Kinnell until he had to sell it and move to West Kilmany. He now works with an international financial conglomerate, the Hill Samuel Group.[[102]](#footnote-102)

The Island of Inchbuie, containing the ancient Macnab Burial Ground, is the only remaining Clan land in Clan hands. The Chief retained it when he sold Kinnell, and recently conveyed it to Clan Macnab. To that end a Clan trust has been set up to assure its possession to the Clan in perpetuity, and as a burial place for Chiefs and their families.

**Cadet (junior) houses of Clan Macnab:**

Innishewan

Dundurn

The French Branch

Barravorich Acharn

The Epping Branch

Barachastalain

Newton

Edinample

**Septs of The Clan an Aba**

In “The clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands” by Frank Adam and Innes of Learney (who was the Lord Lyon), septs of Clan Macnab are given as “Abbott, Abbotson, Gilfillan, Dewar and Macandeoir”.

These are the normally recognized septs. Certain Dows, Gows, Baines, MacNairs, MacGowands, MacClagans etc. may also be septs of the Clan

Abbot or Abbotson are simply Anglicized renderings of MacNab.

Gilfillan has obvious connections with St. Fillan. The name means servant of St. Fillan

Dewar, means roughly “custodian” and is derived from the Gallic “Deoradh”, a word originally meaning “stranger” or “wanderer”, probably because they carried St. Fillan’s relics far afield for special purposes. Later, the meaning of the word altered to “custodian”. The relics they guarded were the Quigrich (Pastoral staff); the Bernane (chapel Bell), the Fergy (possibly St. Fillan’s portable alter), the Mayne (St. Fillan’s armbone), the Maser (St. Fillan’s manuscript).

There were several Dewar families living in Strathfillan and Glendochart at the time of Bannockburn and before, each being responsible for a different relic. There is a Croftandeoir (Dewar’s croft) shown on the 1832 plan of Kinnell Estate.[[103]](#footnote-103)

In 1336, Alexander Menzies, Lord of Glendochart issued a missive confirming to “donald Mcsobrell Dewar Cogerach” part of the lands of Ewich in Strathfillan.

In 1428, an enquiry by the Ballie of Glendochart found that Finlay Jore (Doire or Dewar) should have for all time have a “boll” of meal from every inhabitant of Glendochart holding more than a half merkland[[104]](#footnote-104) of ground.

These rights were confirmed by James III by charter in 1487 to one Malise Doir.

In 1551, queen Mary issued an order assessing for tax “Malise Dewar, the forty shilling land of Ewich....”. At that time there were five hereditary Dewar’s with land in Strathfillan and Glendochard. Dewar quigrech at Ewich; Dewar Bernane at Suie; Dewar Fergy at Audilyne, Dewar Messer at Killin.

There are other Dewars who settled along Loch Tay and east to the area of Weem and Aberfeldy. Some of these regard themselves as part of Clan Menzies.

**The Macandeoir**

The Mac-an-deoirs or Dewar’s of Glendochart were the hereditary custodians of the *Bachuil*, crozier, or *cuigreach*[[105]](#footnote-105) of St. Fillan. This crozier is a relic of the greatest antiquity, and also bore the designation of the *Fearachd.* Hence the Mac-an-deoirs were also known as *Deóraich-naFearachd.* The crozier of St. Fillan, of which the Dewars were the hereditary custodians, is one of the most venerable of Scottish relics. It dates back to the seventh century A.D. and is only exceeded in antiquity by the famous Coronation Stone of Destiny of Scone. The custody of the holy relic conferred some very important privileges on its custodians. These were confirmed and added to by King Robert the Bruce after the Battle of Bannockburn. Though on that occasion the Macnabs were opponents of the Bruce, the Dewars were present on the Scottish side and had the crozier along with them. It is traditionally reported that previous to the Battle of Bannockburn King Robert the Bruce and his army received the sacrament, during the administration of which the corzier of St. Fillan was elevated in full sight of the army. In 1314, as a thank offering for the victory on Bannockburn, King Robert erected a church at Tyndrum in Strathfillan, and dedicated it to St. Fillan. After the Reformation the crozier was faithfully guarded by its hereditary custodians, the Dewar’s, and was passed on from father to son. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the sept was broken up and left the country. Some of the emigrated to America, among them the custodian of the cuigreach, and so the relic was lost sight of for a time. Some years ago, however, Sir Daniel Wilson, while hunting on the shores of Lake superior, took refuge in the hut of a Scottish settler named Alexander Dewar. Sir Daniel found that the settler's family had once lived in Inch Buie, that he was the custodian of St. Fillan's crozier, and that he had the relic in the house. It was then exhibited to Sir Daniel, and in 1876 was acquired by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, in who’s museum at Edinburgh it has now found a resting-place. The hereditary keeper of the cuigreach of St. Fillan duly received in 1930, armorial insignia indicative of his ancient office (Lyon Register, XXVII., p 128), although he no longer holds St. Fillian's crozier. The inquest of 1428 shows that the *Deoir-Cuigreach* was the *Co-arb* (and, as it explains, heir) of St. Fillan, *i.e.* in the Celtic sense, Hereditary Abbot. He and the Baron of the Bachuil of (St. Moluag of Lismore) seem to be the only surviving prelates of the old Celtic Church

***Gilfillan,* "servant of St. Fillan"**

In D. Mitchell's *History of the Highlands* he states:

The Macnabs should probably be recognized as the lay abbots of Glendochart. In their genealogy we find the name *Gillefhaolain* or the servant of St. Fillan, a fact which shows their association with the monastery of St. Fillan. In the time of William the Lyon the Abbot of Glendochart was an important individual, and ranked with the neighboring Earls of Atholl and Menteath. (He was, or course, not a "lay" abbot, but a hereditary tribal abbot.)

Maclellan, derived from the same source as Gilfillan, is a clan rather than a sept name. A colony of Macellans is to be found in Morar, Inverness-shire. There are also some MacLellans to be found in the Aberfeldy district of Perthshire. The Clelands of Cleland, who were hereditary foresters to the Earls of Duglas, likewise derive their name from St Fillan.

**The Relics of St. Fillan**

The relics of the Founder Saint were the essential insignia of a Celtic abbacy, and were sometimes given in hereditary custody with a toft[[106]](#footnote-106) of land to younger branches of the abbatial family. Such hereditary custodians were styled “dewars”, which often became their surname. In Glendochart there were five separate hereditary Dewars, each with a separate relic of St. Fillan (the pastoral staff, the bell, the armbone, the ‘meser’ and the ‘fearg’: they were presumably cadets of the hereditary Abbots of Glendochart, who’s principal heirs were the Macnabs of Macnab.

The Bell of St. Fillan, known as the *Bearnan*[[107]](#footnote-107) or ‘Little Capped One’. As late as 1488, it was carried in the sacred pageant at King James IV’s Coronation. It was in the hereditary custody of a Dewar whose toft is referred to in 1640 as “Dewar-Vernan’s Croft”[[108]](#footnote-108), at Suie in Glendochart.

*Feart* means ‘Wrath’, and it is uncertain what relic acquired this by-name. Its hereditary Dewars had their toft at Dewar-na-fargs-croft, which is referred to as late as 1632, and was at Auchlyne in Glendochart where the ruins of their *Icaibel-na-Fairg* or Chapel of the Fearg can still be seen. It has been suggested that the ‘meser’ was a *meise* or portable alter, but it seems more likely that it was the saint’s missal, miraculously written by night. In 1468 a MacGregor certified to the Bailie of Glendochart that he held the tact of the lands of Corehynan from the ‘Deore of the Meser’.[[109]](#footnote-109)

The saint’s armbone was known as the *Main*, and his toft at Killin is referred to in 1640 as ‘Dewar-na-Mans-croft’ and in 1670 as ‘Dewar-na-Maynes-croft’. King Robert Bruce prayed in the Priory of Strathfillan while a fugitive, and attributed his escape from the MacDougalls to the saint’s intervention. Accordingly the silver shrine of the saint’s arm bone was brought to spend the night in the king’s tent on the eve of Bannochburn, and was born to the battlefield by the Abbot of Inchaffray himself. This enshrined arm-bone must have been an especially interesting relic, as we are told that once upon a time, ‘when the saint was in his cell after sundown, a lay brother was sent to call him to supper. The messenger, curious to know what St. Fillan was doing, looked through a chink in the wall, and was astonished to see him writing by means of a light that streamed from his left arm.[[110]](#footnote-110) Next day a tame crane that was kept by the holy fraternity pecked out the eye of the lay brother who was guilty of spying upon the saint, and rendered him quite blind, but at the request of the rest of the brethren St. Fillan restored his sight to the erring one’.

In 1549, the Privy Council protected “Malise Doir of Quickrich: (malise Dewar of *Coigreach*, the saint’s pastoral staff) “Archibald Doir of Fargy” and “Malcolm Doir of Bernane”(*Bearnan* was the saint’s bell) from having to hand over their sacred relics to the Prior of Strathfillan. St. Fillans bell and pastoral staff are now in the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, in Edinburgh.

The elaborate silver crozier-head was added to encase St. Fillan’s pastoral staff[[111]](#footnote-111), probably in the 14th century. In 1336, the Menzies chief, as then overlord of Glendochart, confirmed Donald McSobrell, dewar Cogerach, in the lands of Ewich in Strathfillan. The saint’s staff was known as the *Coigreach* or ‘Stranger’, because it was so often carried by its hereditary Dewar to far places; for if any inhabitant of the parish of Glendochart should have goods or cattle carried off from him and ‘be unable to follow them, wether from doubt of the culprit, or feud of his enemies, then he might send a messenger to the Dewar of the coygeracch, with four pence, or a pair of shoes, and food for the first night, and the said Dewar should follow the goods or cattle, wherever they might be found within the bounds of the Kingdome of Scotland’. The inquest that reported this to the Bailie of Glendochart in 1428 declared that “the office of bearing the said relic was given to a certain progenitor of Finlai Jore” (i.e. Finlay Dewar) “the present hereditary bearer, by the coarb of St. Fillan” i.e. an ancient Celtic hereditary Abbot of Glendochart); and that in return for his services, the dewar was due certain specified quantities of meal from each inhabitant of the parish[[112]](#footnote-112). In 1487 the then bearer of the ‘Quegrich’, Malise Doire (i.e. Dewar) was confirmed in possession by King James III. After, a later ‘Malise Doire of Quickrich’ in 1549 got the Privy Council to prevent the Prior of Strathfillan from forcing him to surrender his hereditary charge, the “annoyance of the Church at being defeated in its action against the Dewars may account for the fact that in the following year the Crown authorities stepped in and imposed certain charges upon the lands which Malise Dewar of the quigrich and his ancestors had always held free”. As a result, in 1575, the next Dewar of the *Coigreach* was obliged to sell all his lands of Eyicht, Cryt-in-dewar in Auchincarne and the half merkland called Cragwoken, to Campbell of Glenorchy. In the reign of Charles II, the then dewar was so poor that he had to sell the *Cogreach* itself to MacDonell of Glengarry, who venerated the relic as a Catholic. But the Dewars “never rested until they regained possession of the Quigrigh, and brought it back from Locaber to Breadalbane”. In 1782 its then bearer, Malise Dewar was a day laborer living in *Straid Glas* (Grey Street) at Killin. As late as 1795, Presbyterian highlanders were wont to come “over a hundred miles to Killin to procure water that had been passed through the interior of the crozier”.

In 1818 Archibald Dewar of the *Coigreach* immigrated to Canada, taking the relic with him; and Highlanders settled in Canada used to come to him to get water in which it had been dipped to cure their sick cattle. But in 1876, Alexander Dewar of the *Coigreach* (with the consent of his own son) was induced to transfer the saint’s pastoral staff to the Society of Antiquities of Scotland, “on trust to deposit the same in the National Museum of Antiquites at Edinburgh, there to remain in all time to come for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the Scottish Nation”. However, the present representative of the Dewars or Keepers of St. Fillan’s crozier, Robert St. Fillan Dewar, bears as heraldic insignia two such pastoral staves in saltire behind his arms.

**Clan Relics**

The British Museum, London

A copy of the brooch taken from Robert the Bruce in the Battle of Dal Righ was purchased by the Museum from the Campbells of Glen Lyon who had held it from the time of the Commonwealth.

**Dewar House, Haymarket, London**

1. Two forks showing Captain MacNab’s crest

2. One silver teaspoon showing Captain MacNab’s crest

3. One silver buckle

4. Captain MacNab’s presentation watch (George III)

5. One pair spectacles

6. Heart shaped ornament

7. Ram’s horn snuff mull

8. MacNab’s horn snuff mull

9. Gilt fob seal of MacNab crest

10. Two pronged instrument used by Francis MacNab

11. Old Highland brass brooch

12. Six plated buttons bearing ‘Glenfalloch Crest’

13. One arrow head and iron link

14. Francis MacNab’s Blunderbuss

15. Two swords made by smith at Dalmally

**The National Museum Edinburgh**

1. The Quigoich or Crozier of St. Fillan in its silver case

2. The Bernane or Bell of St. Fillan

3. Prince Charles’s ring

4. Prince Charles’s spurs (now no longer forthcoming)

5. The Acharn Bowl, 1672

**Killin**

1. St. Fillan’s stones at the Tweed Mill near the Dochart Bridge

2. Fingal’s grave on the rising ground north-west of the town

3. Prince Charles’s broadsword, given by him to Francis Buchanan of Arnprior, now in possession of the Chief

4. The Kinnell Bottle in which Francis (16th Chief) kept his whisky

5. The Scarlet Sash worn by Lt. Allan McNab 92 Regt. When killed at the Battle of Almeida in 1811

6. Francis (16th Chief)’s sugar basin

7. Two inscribed pewter mugs

8. Wooden punch bowl with silver insets and bone ladles dated 1756

9. Francis’s stick

**Pipe Music**

There are two well known and popular Piobaireachd[[113]](#footnote-113) namely “The Macnab Salute” and “The Gathering of the Macnabs”. The Clan society is very grateful to John MacFadyen, world famous piper who has recorded these tunes. The cassette can be purchased in record shops, distributed by Multi-Media (AV) Services Ltd., of Edinbrugh. Members of the Clan Society may obtain them at a discount on application to the Secretary.

There are two other lesser-known tunes, “The March of Clan Macnab” and “The Retreat of Clan Macnab.”

**Banner and Badge**

The green Banner common to the Clans of the Siol Alpin confederacy is the banner used by the clan. The Clan Badge is Ruiteag, Roebuck berry (Rubus Saxatilis, stone banble).

Appendix A

Genealogy from Abaruadh (The Red Abbot) back to King Fergus, First king of DalRiada and forward to Gilbert of Bovain

King Fergus, son of Erc. (d. 501) 1st King of DalRiada in Scotland

Learn, brother of Fergus

Muredaig

Ethach (Eochaid)

Deadan (d. 581)

Fiachach (d. 608)

Colman

Sneachtan

Fergus

Feradaig (or Feriach of Feradach), father of St. Fillan (d. 703), King of DalRiada

Ferchar Fada (Tall) (d. 697) (ancestor also of Clan Chattan, the Mackintoshes and the Camerons).

**Abraruadh (The Red Abbot) or Ferchar Og (Young)** Son of Ferchar Fada, nephew of St. Fillan, he is held to be the father of Clan Macnab, (ancestor also of the Macleans)

Donald Dom (ancestor of the Maclarens, MacKays and the MacNaughtons)

Erc

Aibertach

Cormac (ancestor also of Clan Andreas (Ross), MacKenzies, Macduffys, MacGregor, MacQuarries, MacKinnons, MacMillans and Maclennans)

Ferchar

Lorn

Firtred I

Gillemartan

Gillefaelan

Firtred II

Duncan

Finlay I

Ferhar III

Gilbert Loganalg

Angus

MacBeathad (probably ms-recorded in place of Malcolm de Glendochart whose name is written in the Ragman Rolls of 1296)

Angus (said to be a brother-in-law of John Comyn, younger of Badenoch commonly called the Red Comyn)

Ewen

Gilbert of Bovain (granted a charter in 1336 in the name of King David II)

**Appendix B**

Commencing with Gilbert of Bovain and the 1336 charter the succession of Clan chiefs has been pieced together as follows. Some of the dates of death have been recorded in the Chronicles of Fortingall

1. Gilbert of Bovain note: Douglas says he was succeeded by “Finlay” (4th) and the “Patrick” (5th) but the Lord Lyon has counted Alexander as the Second Chief
2. Alexander died before 1407
3. John brother of Maurice and Alexander. Alive in 1407.
4. Finlay died 1464, possibly the poet in the Dean of Lismore’s book.
5. Patrick died 1488 at Auchlyne
6. Finlay died 1499
7. John
8. Finlay died at Eilean Ran 12 April 1525, buried in Killin
9. John married Eleyn Stewart, died 1558
10. Finlay married Katharine, natural daughter of John Campbell of Glenorchy. Buried at Inchbuie, 1573-74. Their son pre-deceased them.
11. Alexander brother of Finlay, 10th Chief
12. Finlay brother of Patrick of Acharn and father of Smooth John, died about 1656.

The line continues unbroken from Finlay (12th Chief) to Archibald (17th Chief) who died in 1860. After the death of his daughter, Sarah Anne in 1894, the family died out. The restoration of a chief of the clan involved research going back to the family of Finlay, the 12th Chief.

Appendix C

Lists of Chiefs from Finlay the 12th Chief to the present day, showing the extinction of the old line and the establishing of the Arthurstone branch in its place

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Bovain**   1. Finlay, d. after 1656 2. Alexander, son of Smooth John 3. Robert, married Anne Campbell of Glenorchy in 1697 4. John, born 1698, married Jean Buchanan of Arnprior 5. Francis, 1734-1816 (subject of the painting by Rayburn) 6. Archibald, 1778-1860 7. Sara Anne, 1803-1894 (The last surviving member of the old line of chiefs   **Arthurstone continued:** |  | **Arthurstone**  John Roy (Red) or Baine (Fair) son of Finlay 12th Chief and half brother of Smooth John or John Dow (black)  Archibald, married Isobel Anderson  John, died 1697, married Anne Robertson of Balnaguard  Donald, 1690-1750, married Margaret Ferguson  James, died 1798, married Anne Cowan  Dr. James, 1759-1822  James Munro, 1790-1860 |

1. **James William**, 1831-1915, who with his son and grandson, were all accepted as chiefs *de jure* after Sara Anne
2. Rev. James Frederick, 1863-1937, *de jure*
3. James Alexander Macnab, born 1901, *de jure* (Resigned in favor of his uncle whose name follows)
4. Archibald Corrie Macnab, 1886-1971
5. James Charles Macnab, born 1926, present chief (son of James Alexander 21st chief)
6. Jamie Macnab of Macnab

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1. Roland Wild published “Macnab the Last Laird” in 1938. In spite of his claim of having consulted clan records, he gives Francis and Archibald the incorrect succession numbers. I have made a copy from a volume in the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library. The fictionalized account of the taking of the McNishes on Nish Island is worth reading for itself. Eventually it will be transcribed and added to this collection. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Lord Lyon King at Arms, the chief heraldic officer for Scotland [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Remember this was written in 1977 and I am transcribing it in 2000. The society, referred to here, is no longer in existence, it no longer publishes a newsletter and the Kinnell estate is no longer in the possession of the Chief James Charles Macnab of Macnab [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. A sixteenth century source tells us of three bishops at Mortals before the bishopric founded at Aberdeen c. 1140, and both here and at other medieval sees the succession of bishops must surely reach back to the effective acceptance of Christianity, in the seventh century, as at Glasgow and, even earlier, at Whithorn. But in the eleventh century several Sees were probably vacant, their endowments passing into the hands of laymen; it is understandable that this should have happened under Macbeth or even Malcolm II, who needed to buy support, but it is remarkable that it seems also to have occurred under Malcolm III. Similarly, the abbacies of Culdee and other houses were laicized, probably because they became heritable in a single family or fell into the patronage of aristocratic families who dispensed them to younger sons. In the Twelfth century there are abbots at Turriff, Kilspindie and Glendochart of whose abbeys no other trace is known, and this was the most extreme consequence of secularization;...

   *Scotland, The making of the Kingdom; Archibald A. M. Duncan,* Barnes & Noble Books 1975 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The Macnabs are recognized by the Lord Lyon as the lay abbots of Glendochart. In their genealogy we find the name *Gillefhaolain* or the servant of St. Fillan, a fact which shows their association with the monastery of St. Fillan. In the time of William the Lyon the lay Abbot of Glendochart was an important individual, and ranked with the neighboring Earls of Atholl and Menteath.

   *Clans, Septs and Regiments of Scotland; Frank Adam and Innes of Learney,* *Johnson* & Bacon, 1965 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The founder of the Abbey, Ferchar Og, known as the Red Abbot, came from Ireland in the 7th Century A.D., to found a religious settlement in Glendochart (the glen or valley of the river Dochart) in what is now Scotland. Ferchar Og, a member of the Celtic Christian Church, which grew up in Ireland quite separate from the Church of Rome, was one of many Irish missionaries who traveled northern Europe converting the pagans.

   *Clans, Septs and Regiments of Scotland; Frank Adam and Innes of Learney*. *Johnson* & Bacon, 1965 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. From Alpin, king of DalRiata, father of Kenneth MacAlpine, who traditionally united the Pictish kingdom with that of DalRiata. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. There is known to have been a bond of fellowship between the chiefs of the Clan MacNab and the Clan Mackinnon in 1606. This curious document made between Lachlan Mackinnon, then chief, and Finnla’ MacNab, of Bowain, having met in Glenurchai’, in Braidálban, and taken into consideration that they were both “come of ane house, and being of ane surname and lienage, notwithstanding this lang time bygone” they had “oversean, their ain duties till udders, in respect of the lang distance betwixt their dwelling places, quhairfore baith the saids now and in all tyme coming, are content to be bound and obleisit, with consent of their kyn and friends, to do all sted, pleasure, assistance and service that lies in them, ilk ane to uthers, &c. And baith the saif parties grants them faithful, that ane surer firm band anc contract be made betwixt them by advice of men of lae, and that quhasoon the said Lachland shall come either to Stirling, Perth or Glasgow or any part of the lowland quhair they may easiest meet.” These worthy patriarchs, “ for sure keiping and performing of this present minute” agreed to subscribe the document “with their hands led to the pen.” (Writing was an unnecessary qualification for such personages in the opening of the 17th century.)

   *“The Clans of The Scottish Highlands”* by R.R. MacIan reprint edition of 1980 by Webb & Bower (Publishers) Limited. First *published* 1845 and 1847 [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. DalRiada, the name of two ancient Gaelic kingdoms, one in Ireland and the other in Scotland. Irish DalRiada was the district which now forms the northern part of county Antrim, and from which about A.D. 500 some emigrants crossed over to Scotland, and founded in Argyllshire the Scottish kingdom of DalRiada. For a time Scottish DalRiada appears to have been dependent upon Irish DalRiada, but about 575 King Aidan secured its independence. One of Aidan’s successors, Kenneth, also became king of the Picts about 843, and gradually the name DalRiada both in Ireland and Scotland fell into disuse. *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition c. 1929 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Saint Fillan, or Faelan, the name of two Scottish saints of Irish origin, whose lives are of a legendary character. The St. Fillan whose feast is kept on June 20 had churches dedicated to him at Ballyheyland, Queen’s county, Ireland, and at Loch Earn, Perthshire (see map of Killin and Glendochart). The other, who is commerated on Jan 9, was specially venerated at Cluain Mavscua, County Westmeath, Ireland, and about the 8th or 9th century at Strathfillan, Perthshire, Scotland, where there was an ancient monastery dedicated to him. This monastery became a cell of the abbey of canons regular at Inchaffray, and was supposed to posses the Saint’s crozier, the head of which is now deposited in the National museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

    The legend of the second saint is given in the Bollandist *Acta SS.* (1643) *see* also D. O’Hanlon, *Lives of Irish Saints* (Dublin 1825)

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition 1926 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Yet, see below, the Macnabs were on the other side of this battle, having allied themselves with the Bruce’s *bitterest* enemy. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. The Tweed Mill is now the Bredalbane tourist center. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. See map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. *David* I, b. 1080-85, king 1124-1185 [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. William the Lion, as part of his policy of asserting his authority over the wild lands of the west, made the Earl of Atholl and the Abbot of Glendochart responsible for administrating the law in Argyle.

    *The Lords of the Isles, The Clan Donald and the early Kingdom of the Scotts*, by Ronald Williams [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Ragman Rolls, so called because of the ragged aparance given by the numerous seals and ribbons affixed to the lower edges. the name given to the collection of instruments by which the nobility and gentry of Scotland were compelled to subscribe allegiance to Edward I of England between the conference of Northam in May 1291 and the final award in favor of Baliol in Nov 1292, and again in 1296. Of the former of these records two copies were preserved in the chapterhouse at Westminister (now in the Record Office, London), and it has been printed by Ryder (*Foedera,* ii 542). Another copy, preserved originally in the Tower of London, is now also in the Record Office.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition 1926 [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. See the History of Killin Village [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. John Comyn, younger of Badenoch, styled the Red Comyn because he was head of the senior line of the Comyn family. The junior line, the Earls of Buchan were styled the Black Comyn. However this is incorrect as he had only one sibling, a brother named William. His father had four sisters, none of whom married anyone named Angus. It is not known where this myth originated. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Early in 1306 Robert Bruce and John Comyn, the Younger of Badenoch, both of them ex-guardians of Scotland, met secretly in the Greyfriars church at Dumfries. Comyn was a nephew of John Balliol, who had been appointed King of Scotland by Edward I of England, and was regarded as the representative of the Balliol claims to the throne. There was a quarrel, and Bruce stabbed Comyn; his followers dispatched the wounded man. It was impossible for Bruce to conceal his real aims from Edward and he was crowned in March, 1306 at Scone. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Lame John McDougall, Lord of Lorn, was on the losing side in the contest for the Scottish throne between Bruce and Baliol. An episode in that contest is the story of the Brooch of Lorn, won by one of the McDougalls of Lorn from Bruce at the battle of Dal Righ.

    *The Highland Clans* by Sir Ian Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Albany Herald; published by Barrie & Rockliff, 2 Clements Inn, London W.C.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. On the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings, the Dal Righ is marked just south of Tyndrum on the bank of the River Lochy [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. In 1314, Edward II made a serious effort to recover his father’s conquest of Scotland and suffered defeat at the battle of Bannockburn June 24, 1315. The only successful battle on a great scale ever won by the Scots over the English, when Robert the Bruce vindicated Scottish independence. Edward, however stubbornly declined to admit the accomplished fact, and for many years Bruce carried terror into the northern counties.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition 1926 [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. When Alexander III died in 1286 his only heir was an infant granddaughter, by his daughter, who had married the king of Norway. However, she was in Norway and died on the voyage to Scotland. The succession was disputed by John Balliol, a great-grandson of David of Huntingdon, youngest son of Malcolm III 1058-1093 and Robert Bruce, a great grandson (and grandfather of the Robert the Bruce who eventually became king). Edward I of England claimed overlordship of Scotland and placed John Balliol on the throne. Within three years, however, John was in revolt against Edward. In 1296 Edward assembled an army and annexed the country taking John back to England with him. Subsequently William Wallace and then Robert the Bruce fought the English, Robert the Bruce finally succeeded in expelling the English for good after the battle of Bannockburn in 1315.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. See the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings, Bovain is several miles west of Killin on the north bank of the river Dochart. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Inneshewan is about 6-7 miles west of Killin on the north bank of the river Dochart [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. Archyle is on the map just west of Bovain and on the south side of the Dochart. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Archlyne is on the north side of the Dochart about 2 miles west of Bovain. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. In alliance with France, King James IV went to war with England and in sept 1513 he was defeated and killed at the battle of Flodden. His heir was an infant, and Scotland was again subjected to the intrigues of a minority.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition 1926 [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. Dalmally is at the very western edge of the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. See the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. Ben More and Stob Binnein are south of the river Dochart and to the west of Killin. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. This story is set out in the book “In Famed Breadalbane by William A. Gilies, Perth, The Munro Press Ltd, 36 Tay Street 1938 [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. See map of Breadalbane [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. James Graham Montrose, Marquess of, (1612-1650) In Feb 1644, during the wars between the king and Parliament, when a Scottish army entered England to take part against the king, Montrose was appointed lieutenant-general in Scotland by Charles I. He made his way in August to the Highlands, where the clans rallied to his summons. He defeated his opponents, with great military skill, at Tippermuir, Aberdeen, Inverlochy, Auldearn, Alford, Kilsyth and Dundee.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition c. 1929 [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. Some accounts of the battle say that Ian, chief of MacNab, died at the battle of Worcester [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. Monk (or Monck), George, commander of the Commonwealth army in Scotland for Cromwell.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition c. 1929 [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. Tutor: the guardian of children in pupillarity, i.e. children up to 12 (girls) and 14 (boys) [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. This story can be found in its own section. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. At the east end of Loch Earn is a beautiful small wooded island, known for many centuries by the name of Neish Island. It is an artificial isle, which appears to date back to the era of the lake-dwellers.

    In after ages, according to tradition, the island became a Royal fortalice of many of the kings or chiefs of Fortrenn.

    The island was a residence of the Clan Neish at an early period, probably from circa 1250 to 1420; after that date it was probably only in occupation by the Neishes at periods until 1622, the date of the massacre.

    *The History of the Clan Neish or MacNish of Perthshire and Galloway* by David Macnish, M.A., M.B. & William A. Tod, F.S.A. Scot. William Blackwood and Sons [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. See above, her name is not known. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. Fiar, the ultimate and absolute possessor of a property as distinguished from a life-renter of it; one who has the reversion of property. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. In 1968 the Black Watch TA (territorial army reserve unit) carried out exercise “John Macnab” which proved it was impossible to carry even a light coracle by the traditional route in under eight hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. Loch Earn is to the south of Loch Tay; see the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. Though in fact many MacNishes, who could not have been descended from this boy are documented in *The History of the Clan Neish or MacNish of Perthshire and Galloway* by David Macnish, M.A., M. B. & William A. Tod, F.S.A. Scot. William Blackwood and Sons, which is a part of this collection [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. As rendered in Latin [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. Probably play “bowls” with them. I think a reference to an early form of the game now known as lawn bowling. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. For more on the Clan MacNeish see The History of the Clan Neish or MacNish of Perthshire and Galloway. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. I have a copy of this book and intend to add it to this collection. It is a treasure trove of information on Breadalbane, the Campbells and the Macnabs’ [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. So-called because King George I, of the House of Hannover was born in Hanover, Germany, and was Duke of Caltenberg and elector of Brunswick-Luneburg before succeeding as king of Great Britain and Ireland. He became heir to the throne in 1714 by right of his mother, under the terms of the Act of Settlement of 1701, which excluded Catholics from the succession. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. “The ‘45" = 1745, when Charles Edward Stuart, pretender to the Scottish throne attempted to retrieve it from the Hanoverian King George I. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
50. Charles Edward Louis Philip Casimir Stuart (1720-1788) called the “Young Pretender” the grandson of King James II of England and elder son of James Charles Stuart, the “Old Pretender.” He sailed for Scotland in the summer of 1745. After initial successes the Hanoverian forces proved too strong and he was decisively defeated at Culloden on April 16, 1746. Returning to France Charles spent the remainder of his life intriguing for his throne and died in Rome on Jan 30 1788.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition c. 1929 [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
51. *Du jur =* in law [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. He had his own distillery at Killin; and Heron, who toured Perthshire in 1792, wrote that The Macnab produced the best whisky to be found in Scotland.

    *The Highland Clans* by Sir Ian Moncreiffe of that Ilk, Albany Herald; published by Barrie & Rockliff, 2 Clements Inn, London W.C.2. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. Still in existence and still in business as a hotel [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. Described, as a most eccentric but good-hearted man, Francis Macnab, was the last specimen, in Perthshire at least, of the old Highland Laird. He was of a remarkably tall and robust frame, and spurned all suggestions to keep on the march of improvement, which he only viewed as innovation on the good old mode of living and acting with plainness and blunt sincerity. He had the highest opinion of the dignity of a chief and could not be persuaded that his will should not be law. Having raised a body of Fencibles, he proudly marched at their head to Edinburgh, but was met by some excise men who unceremoniously ordered a halt that they might make a search as they had received information that a great quantity of Whisky was concealed among the baggage. Macnab indignantly refused to stop, and the gaugers resolutely maintained their right as being on his Majesty’s service. “I also,” exclaimed the offended chief, “am on his Majesty’s service, halt! This, my lads, is a serious affair, load with ball!” The officers of excise knowing the character of the leader, and disposition of the clan, prudently allowed them to proceed.

    *The Clans of The Scottish Highlands*, R.R. McIan, originally published in 1845-47 by Ackermann, London reprinted by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., New York 1980 [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. The Wych Elm or Scots Elm, is a large deciduous tree native to Europe, Asia Minor, and the Caucasus. [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. So he never married though he had 32 children and it was rumored that several lasses in the district got ‘the bad disorder.’ from him.

    *The Highland Clans* by Sir Ian Moncreiffe of that Ilk. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
57. A fuller account of this is given in the chapters titled “The Last Lairds” [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
58. Auchessan can be found on the Map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings, it is on the river Dochart about 10 miles to the west of Killin. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. Having the same father and mother, as a full brother or sister (usually used in combination): Example; a brother-german.

    *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English* Language [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
60. In Scotland the word bailiff denotes an inferior officer locally appointed to watch and ward. In the form ”bailee” the word signifies an official appointed to exercise a local delegated jurisdiction, civil or criminal. The feudal bailies, formerly appointed by the superiors of regality or of barony lands to exercise jurisdiction within those lands have disappeared in consequence of the abolition of feudal jurisdictions.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica* 14th edition c. 1929 [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
61. In England the “mark” was never a coin, but a money of account only, and apparently came into use in the 10th century through the Danes. It first was taken as equal to 100 pennies, but after the Norman Conquest was equal to 160 pennies (20 pennies to the oz.) = two thirds of the pound sterling, or 3s. 4d., and therefore in Scotland 13 ½d English; the mark (merk) Scots was a silver coin of this value, issued first in 1570 and afterwards in 1663.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
62. There is a Lix Toll depicted on the Map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings, it is at the intersection of the main roads through Glendochart and Glen Ogle. I do not know if this is the same Lix. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
63. Feu an estate held on feudal tenure, a system according to which grants of land were made by the sovereign to the nobles, and by them to an inferior class, on the condition that the possessor should take an oath of fealty.

    *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English* Language [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
64. Meaning he joined the forces who fought for Charles Edward Stuart. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
65. Sir Robert Peel (1788-1750) English statesman had a long career in government holding many posts including that of Prime Minister. His greatest accomplishment may have been the forming of the regular Irish Constabulary, nicknamed “Peelers” and the later introduction of the same improved system of police into London.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. By Tanistry, the ruling chief–like the Hebraic patriarchs–could nominate his successor, and thus interregnum and dispute were avoided.

    *The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish* Highlands*.* [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. He subsequently sold the estate and moved to West Kilmany. The Island of Inchbuie, containing the ancient Macnab Burial Ground, is the only remaining Clan land in Clan hands. The Chief retained it when he sold Kinnell, and conveyed it to Clan Macnab. To that end a Clan trust has been set up to assure its possession to the Clan in perpetuity, and as a burial place for Chiefs and their families. From the Clan MacNab website. [www.macnab.org](http://www.macnab.org) [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
68. Inneshewan is on the south bank of the River Dochart some 6-7 miles west of Killin. [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
69. Between Bovain and Auchlyne [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. See map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. Glen Orchy runs generally north and east from Dalmally to Loch Tulla. [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. The western-most of the estates marked on the map, Auchessan is at the east end of Loch Lubhair through which the river Dochart runs. [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. in Scotland the mark (merk) Scots was a silver coin worth 13 ½d, issued first in 1570 and afterwards in 1663.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. Tacksmen were the resident members of the upper ranks in Highland Society. Properly speaking many tacks men were wadsetters, a distinction not always made by contemporaries or in later analyses of the Highlands. The landowner had borrowed money, and the lender possessed the land until the mortgage (or wadset) was extinguished. In many instances wadsets were granted in satisfaction of family provisions to close relatives of the chief, who could not afford to setup his relatives as independent landholders. By the second half of the eighteenth century a significant decline in interest rates had combined with an increase in the value of land to make redemption of the wadset by the landowner an increasing possibility.

    Historically the tacksman had acted as a military lieutenant of the head of the clan. He farmed part of his tack or wadset, often upon land, which had been in his family for generations, and let the remainder to subtenants who paid rent to him rather than to the chief.

    *The People’s Clearance, Highland Emigration to British North America*, by J.M. Bumsted, Edinburgh University Press, 1938, pp 34 [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
75. Baravorich is at the top of the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings, just to the east of Loch Tulla. [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
76. Brigadier John Francis Macnab of Barravorich [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
77. Located just under Dalmally on the far western edge of the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
78. U.E.L = United Empire Loyalist, an hereditary order of persons who remained loyal to the crown during the American Rebellion. Many of them settled in Canada after the end of the war. [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
79. See other notes on the house of Barachastalain and the Macnabs at Waterloo [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
80. In Britain, a Solicitor is a lawyer who prepares legal documents, gives legal advice and, in the lower courts only, speaks on behalf of clients.

    *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English Language* [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
81. A commission promoting a military officer to a higher rank without increase of pay and with limited exercise of the higher rank, often arranged as an honor immediately before retirement.

    *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English Language* [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
82. Barravprocj is be found on the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings as Barr a Chalstealain near Dalmally, on the far western edge.

    Hamish is proprietor of “The London Kiltmaker” [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
83. Glen Orchy on the modern maps. [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
84. Hilltop forts built by the Pickish peoples who occupied Scotland in prehistory [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. Forty pounds cash money [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. Sir Thomas Picton (1758-1815) British general, one of Wellington’s principal subordinates in the Peninsular War. He was severely wounded at Quatre Bras but concealed his wound and retained command of his troops, and at Waterloo, two days later was shot through the head by a musket ball and killed.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
87. Aid-de-Camp, on Napoleon’s staff such officers were frequently of high military qualifications, and acted both as his “eyes” and as the interpreters of his mind to subordinate commanders, even on occasion exercising a delegated authority.

    *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
88. Grey John Campbell of Glenorchy (1635-1717) described as “cunning like a fox, wise as a snake and slippery as an eel.” [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
89. Located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
90. Acharn is located on the south side of the river Dochart a mile or so southwest of Kinnell House. [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
91. This derives from the Norse method of measuring land against a standard based on the weight of silver. Thus twenty penny land amounted to an ‘ounce land’ and eight ounces then became ‘one pound (one *merk* land.’ *The Lords of the Isles,* by Ronald Williams [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
92. In *Scots law,* a tack is a lease.

    *The New* Webster *Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English Language* [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
93. Relict = surviving spouse [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
94. Tacksman = leaseholder see footnote above [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
95. One of the “foreign” regiments in the French Royal army of this period. These regiments were “foreign” not because they were rented from other countries but composed of largely of natives of foreign countries = Royal Scots Regiment, Regiment of Swiss Guards, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
96. See the aerial photograph [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
97. Circumvallation, the act of surrounding with a rampart; a line of field fortifications consisting of a rampart or parapet with a trench.

    *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary,* 1980 [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
98. Refer to the map of Killin, which shows a semicircular arc of water about the location where Eilean Ran would have been located. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
99. See the engraving by Iain Macnab of Barachastlain [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
100. There again the arms of the clan have two winged dragons as supporters. See the coat of arms pictured on the frontispiece. [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
101. Ben Lawers is a mountain near by. The names of many Scottish mountains begin with “Ben” [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
102. c 1977 he has since passed away to be succeeded by his son Jamie. [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
103. Several of these crofts are marked on the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings. Also see the article on the Dewar’s and its accompanying map. [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
104. See above for the definition of “Merk”. *Merkland* refers to the amount of rent paid by the tenant. *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
105. Another spelling is *Quigrich* and on the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings can be found Dewar Quigrich’s Croft, between Tyndrum and Crianlarich near St. Fillian’s Priory. [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
106. Toft, a Scandinavian word meaning an enclosed field near a house. Or a house and homestead.

     *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary of The English Language.* [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
107. On the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings Dewar Bernane’s Croft, is marked on the south bank of the river Dochart near Inneshewan. [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
108. Croft, a small holding of land. The Crofters’ Holdings (Scotland) act 1880, defines a crofter as the tenant of a holding who resides on his holding, the annual rent of which does not exceed £30 in money and which is situated in a crofting parish. The O.E. word, meaning originally an enclosed field, seems to correspond to the Dutch *kroft*, a field on high ground or downs. The ultimate origin is unknown.

     *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
109. Dewar Meser’s Croft is marked on the map of Glen Dochart and Surroundings as being just south of Kinnell House. [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
110. A good story, however, my thought is that the abbot held in his hand a tiny clay lamp with a bit of dried moss for a wick and butter or sheep fat for fuel! *David Rorer* [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
111. Crozier or Pastoral Staff, a crook-headed staff conferred on bishops at consecration and on mired abbots at investiture; probably derived from the Ilituus of the Roman augurs, and so called from Old French crocier, Medieval Latin crociarius, crook-bearer. The “crook” was formerly called “crozier’s staff,” afterwards abridged to “crozier” (see . T. Taylor in Archaeologic, lii.) *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, 1929. [↑](#footnote-ref-111)
112. See above, the “boll of meal” he was due from every inhabitant of Glendochart holding more than a half merkland of ground [↑](#footnote-ref-112)
113. Bagpipe tunes [↑](#footnote-ref-113)