

Vol. XIII No. 6 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A January 2020

The Countess of Sutherland has died at 98



The Countess of Sutherland has died at the age of 98, the *Northern Times* has been told.

Elizabeth Millicent Sutherland, the 24th Countess of Sutherland, is understood to have passed away on Monday at the London home she shared with her daughter, Annabel.

Her funeral is expected to take place next week at Dunrobin Castle and she will be buried at the family cemetery there next to her husband Charles Janson, who died in 2006.

Her death means her eldest son Alistair, formerly Lord Strathnaver, is now the Earl of Sutherland and his son, Alexander, takes the title of Lord Strathnaver. *See her Flower of the Forest page 46.*

With thanks to friend, Jack Pierce, who was invaluable in me obtaining the Flower of the Forest information.

A late Santa Claus for all of our BNFT readers! I found an article about the Scots who were there for the founding of our Washington, DC. I was amazed and astounded by this piece. It's a bit long...and I didn't want to serialize it...so, this section is 46 pages long, with the article starting on page 31. Yikes.

However, Alastair is working his magic so it won't be hard for everyone to download. Enjoy! Merry Christmas

The St. Andrew's Society of Atlanta decorated a Scottish Christmas Tree for the Fernbank Natural History Museum

See pages 5 - 13



MERRY CHRISTMAS

A letter from your editor...

Brand New Beginnings

Opportunities, too

Wouldn't it be fun to forget all about "Resolutions" for this time of year! Instead, let's have "Brand New Beginnings and Opportunities, too!"

Actually, we have those things all the time of the year...itsy bitsy ones and humongous ones too. Look back at your last year and think of all the times you have accepted a new position in a group to which you belong. How many times have you undertaken a big project at home? What have you done exciting in your kitchen? Have you tried new recipes for your family? How about your ideas for your vegetable garden or your flower garden?

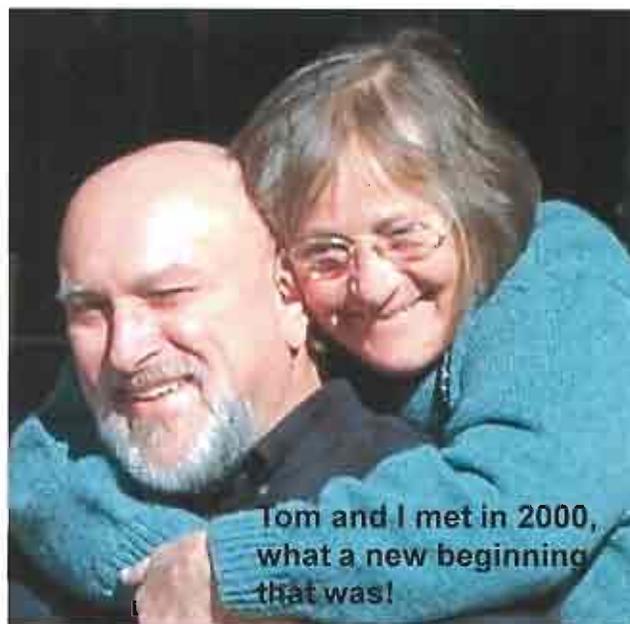
It's sort of like miracles. To me, miracles happen almost every day: a wonderful letter from an old and previously lost friend; when you discover that your pocket has a hole in it...and nothing fell out! Miracles, like opportunities don't have to be great or grand things...

The new year is an excellent opportunity to change things in your life that you wish were different. It can be something large like getting a new and more interesting job...or remembering to polish your shoes when they need it.

If you are active in the Scottish community, it is a real opportunity when you are asked to assume the responsibility for hosting clan tents at a few games here and there.

What fun you can have planning how to make YOUR tent the most attractive, most creative at an entire games! What fun it would be to figure out ways to make visitors feel welcome and befriended to the point they would join your group that very day!

How about the challenge of becoming the trea-



surer or secretary?

Have you ever thought about being a newsletter editor? Bet you could!

If you have an opportunity to travel somewhere with friends...be it near or far...what a chance to cement friendships, learn new things about another place and even perhaps learn something historical or uplifting.

Make sure you participate in your groups to which you belong. There are numerous opportunities for the talents that YOU have.

Our Scottish character is all wrapped up in integrity and honor. I'll bet your grandmother (Like mine!) instilled in you those things that our Scots ancestors held dear...and still today, hold dear.

If you have some time available, consider calling your clan president and asking what it is that he needs for you to do. Many things you can do at home are needed amongst a group of clansfolk.

There are so many opportunities right near home, if you prefer. Ask at the Humane Society, ask at your children's school, ask at your church.

I'll bet that no matter where you call, people are needed to work helping make good things happen in your clan, in your hometown, in your community.

Plus, you'll make new friends and learn all kinds of new things.

With wishes for many joyful new beginnings and opportunities in 2020.



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St. Andrew's Society of Atlanta

DECORATES A SCOTTISH TREE AT



FERNBANK®

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Dr. Emily (Darraj) Jern

Members of the St. Andrews Society of Atlanta (SASA) participated in the Fernbank Museum's International Christmas tree exhibit called *Winter Wonderland*.

The exhibit runs from November through January 2020, and features Christmas trees and displays decorated by various international groups and consulates in the Atlanta area.

Countries and heritage on display include Mexico, Switzerland, Germany, Israel (with a beautiful Menorah display), Japan, Taiwan, and Scotland to name a few.

There are over 30 different trees in the exhibit. Each group who decorated a tree provided a distinct write up as to the theme of the tree setting the tone for the ornament display.

The theme of the Scottish Christmas tree, see to the above right, was Scottish Highlands.

The write up provided to the museum read as

follows, "*Many of Scotland's long-standing traditions and icons can be found in the Scottish Highlands. Highlanders dress in tartan plaid and warm woolens to keep out the cold.*

West Highland White and Scottish terriers wear their woolen scarves while highland cows stay warm with their shaggy hair. Sheep are abundant and mind the Border Collies who oversee the herds, while red deer thrive in the neighboring forests.

A visit to Loch Ness may reveal Nessie, the mythical creature of Scottish folklore. Can you find her on this tree? Or a unicorn, which is the national animal of Scotland?"

The Scottish Christmas tree was decorated with wonderful handmade ornaments as well as Scottish themed ornaments acquired from various vendors.

The Fernbank Museum had contacted The St. Andrews Society of Atlanta

Continued on page 7





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St. Andrews Society of Atlanta, continued from page 5

in late summer to inquire about SASA's participation in decorating the tree for the exhibit.

Since SASA was contacted so late in the year, we did not have time to make this a large group coordinated effort.

We had less than three months (from late July) to get things ready for a mid-November display.

It did not take long to get a plan in action to decide what types of ornaments to create for this Scottish masterpiece.

We met a short time later, putting creative minds together to formulate how we were going to decorate the tree. With our own funds and time (outside of SASA), we set forth to create something special for this endeavor. Some ornaments were designed freehand, some were taken from Pinterest ideas, and some were created by personal knowledge and understanding of Scottish flora and fauna or of Scottish traditions.



Herding Sheep

In early November, we met and brought together all the handmade and acquired ornaments.

One of the projects we had worked on was the garland (*See above*) which would be wrapped around the Christmas tree. It was comprised of five rolls of burlap, 107 handmade sheep, and 28 handmade felt herding dogs.

The team assembled 75 feet of burlap with sheepdogs and sheep making a gorgeous garland

decoration. The adorable sheep included highland tartan scarves, and some sheep wore a Santa's hat or red berry sprig.

While the garland was being constructed, other members of our group, both men and women, helped prepare all the ornaments with wire to expedite ornaments being placed on the tree.



Loch Ness Ornament



Felt Highland Coos

Continued on page 7



CLAN BUCHANAN SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.

If you have the name "Buchanan" in your family or any of the allied family/sept names below, you are invited to join your cousins and Buchanan kin. Just send an email for a membership form and/or information to

<http://www.theclanbuchanan.com/html/contact.html>



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Bohanan | Gilbert | Macgilbert |
| Buchanan | Gilbertson | Macgreusich |
| Colman | Harper | Macgubbin |
| Cormack | Harperson | Macinally |
| Cousland | Leavy | Macindeo(r) |
| Dewar | Lennie | Mackibb |
| Donleavy | Lenny | Mackibbon |
| Dove, Dow | Macaldonich | Mackinlay |
| Gibb(s)(y) | Macalman | Mackinley |
| Gibbon | Macandeior | Macmaster |
| Gibson | Macaslan | Macmaurice |
| | Macaslin | Macmorris |
| | Macauselan | Macmurchie |
| | Macauslan(in) | Macmurphy |
| | Macausland | Macneur |
| | Macauslane | Macnuir |
| | Macalman | Macquat |
| | Macalmon(t) | Macquattie |
| | Macammond | Macquattiey |
| | Macasland | Macquyer |
| | Macchruiter | MacQuinten |
| | Maccolman | Macwattie |
| | Maccolwan | Macwhirter |
| | Maccormac(k) | Macwhorter |
| | Maccommon | Masters |
| | Maccoubrey | Masterson |
| | Maccubbin | Morrice |
| | Maccubbing | Morris |
| | Maccubin | Morrison |
| | Macdonleavy | (of Perthshire only) |
| | Macgeorge | Murchie |
| | Macgibbon | Murchison |
| | | Richardson |



- Risk
- Rusk(ie)
- Ruskin
- Spittal
- Spittle
- Walter
- Walters
- Wason
- Sasson
- Waters
- Watson
- Watt
- Watters
- Weir
- Wuill
- Wool
- Wule

The CBSI was formed in 1970 as the Clan Buchanan Society in America. It was founded at the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina. The name was later changed to the Clan Buchanan Society International Inc., to reflect our society's expanded purpose and membership.



Write to the president, David Byrne, at [<ctbuchanan@gmail.com>](mailto:ctbuchanan@gmail.com)

Another adorable ornament created was the wee Scottish “coos” (cows) (See page 2 bottom) also known as highland cows, or long-haired highland cattle.

These ornaments were made from tan felt with a tuft of hair and long white horns.

We also had a charming knitted Highland cow which rested in the bows of the tree. In addition to the Scottish Coo, we also had some ornaments featuring Nessie, the famed Loch Ness Monster (See page 2 right top) . The Nessie ornament was designed with a silhouette of the famed creature on a white background which were endearing.



Thistle Ornament

The ornaments included hand-painted Scottish thistles. The thistle is the national flower of Scotland, so it was a very appropriate design for the exhibit.

The bulbs, (See next column, top) had a single thistle painted, in acrylics, on each ornament on various colored ornaments from white, to sapphire blue to indigo.

We also learned the Scottish Thistle Christ-

mas ornament was quite unique, garnering attention from those who saw the pictures here in the United States, Canada, and Scotland.

Another ornament created was a handknitted Scottish flag which the artist developed, created the pattern and then knitted the flag. The knit Scottish flags stood out on the tree nicely.



Hand knit Scottish Flag

Mid November, we met at the Fernbank Museum and brought the Scottish Tree to life with the splendid ornaments.

First, we placed our homemade tree topper, including a pair of paper mache stag heads, at the top of the tree. The antlers were covered in a Scottish tartan

The tree topper was quite stunning and depicts a wonderful highland tone.

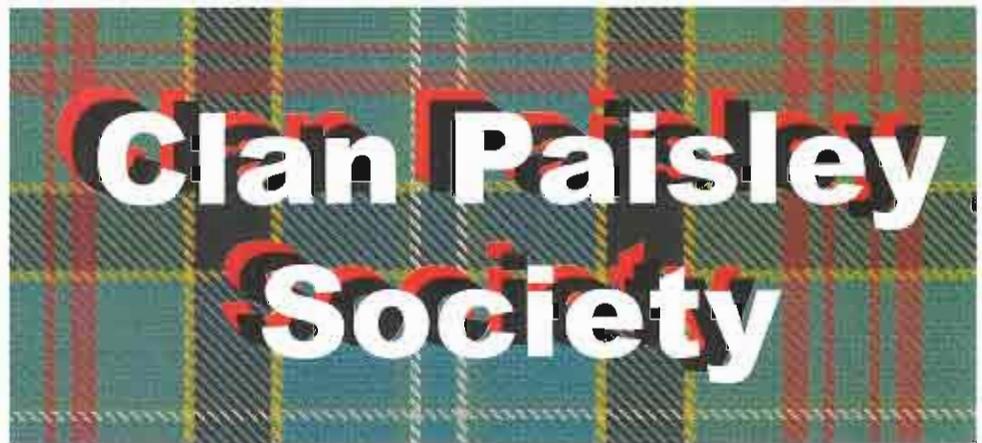


Tartan Rosettes

Continued on page 11



Chief of the Paisley Family, Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea.

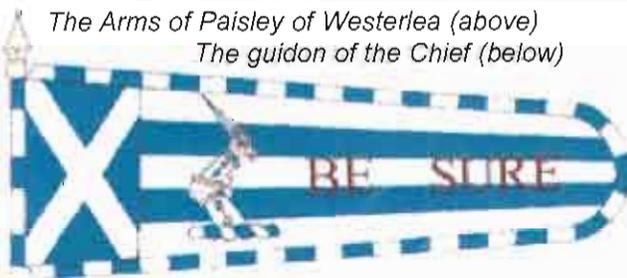


All Paisleys of the name or blood (and all spellings) are invited to join. Email: <mbrown2205@aol.com>

Paisley Family Society USA Branch, FaceBook account can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/Paisley-Family-Society-USA-branch-195070730565352/>



The Arms of Paisley of Westerlea (above)
The guidon of the Chief (below)




Paisley Family Association
of North Carolina
president: **Don Paisley**
Email: paisley47@aol.com
Celebrating
50 years of fellowship

The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots, 1165-1214.

For the Paisley DNA Project, visit <dlangsto@yahoo.com>

Check out the **Clan Paisley Society** webpage at <www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk> to see what's happening with us this year. Contact **Martha Brown** at <mbrown2205@aol.com>.

<https://www.facebook.com/PaisleyFamilySociety>



The tree topper

Then they took the ribbon of sheep and sheepdogs and placed it on the tree, so it wound around and around from top to bottom.

The ladies then worked on adding the other ornaments to the tree including tartan rosettes (*See page 3*) which were hand made from various tartans including Clans Stewart and Gordon.

Adorable highland cows were hand crafted from felt and were also added to tree.

Other Scottish themed ornaments added included: glittered unicorns, as the unicorn is national symbol of Scotland; old world glass ornaments of Santa playing the bagpipes; and several miniature bagpipes.

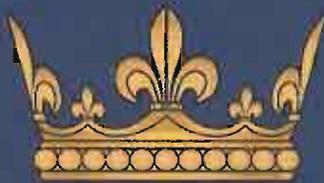
Approximately 90 minutes later, the Scottish tree was decorated, and it looked fantastic.

A week later, we attended a function at the Fernbank which allowed all the tree decorators who contributed to the Christmas Tree exhibit to attend a private party and showing of the exhibit. Light refreshments were served.

Continued on page 13



Some of the people who worked on the tree.



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JSA Scot

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706-839-3881



**St. Andrews
Society of
Atlanta,**

continued from page 11

There was also a Chinese dance troupe performance of various folk dances.

A group of our SASA Tree Committee attended, dressed in kilts (See page 4 bottom) toured the exhibit, and enjoyed seeing our Scottish Christmas tree along with the other wonderfully decorated trees.

Overall, this was a wonderful endeavor in which to take part. The comradery was delightful, the creativity was fantastic, and the Scottish Christmas Tree was gorgeous.

If you are in the Atlanta area, please stop by the Fernbank Museum to see the Winter Wonderland exhibit from November 20 to January 20, 2020. It is truly delightful.

**Fernbank
International
Christmas Tree
Exhibit now
until January 20**



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of the
Clan Armstrong



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The Ancestral Home
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Gilnockie Tower is on the A7 Edinburgh to Carlisle route, details on our website.:
www.gilnockietower.co.uk

All Border Reiver Families made more than welcome at our tower.

We are open 10.00 AM until 4.00 PM 7 days 1st April to end October 2019. We are open 11.00 AM until 3.00 PM daily end October 2019 until end March 2020.

Johnnie Armstrong of Gilnockie Coffee Bar now open.

Please check our website for unforeseen changes to our opening times. : www.gilnockietower.co.uk

Our E-store now open on
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Carl & Dot Bailey welcome brand new Grandson

Carl Bailey writes, "Dot and I welcome a new Grandson born on October 11th. Tristan Michael Bailey is grandchild number twelve for us.

"We traveled to Reading, Pennsylvania, to welcome him to the family and enjoyed a visit with our son Stephan, wife Rene, and their three children. We never expected one of our children would start a second family, so the 86 year difference in my age and Tristan is somewhat unexpected.

"The family will have our Christmas celebration on Friday the 27th of December. It looks as if everyone will be at home at least sometime during



the holidays, and I expect Tristan will be welcomed warmly.

"The Holidays will be here in a few weeks, and Dot and I wish everyone a great Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas."

Carl Bailey was the very first president of the Clan Ramsay International, Inc.

Two awards for the former presidents of Clan Ramsay International, Inc.

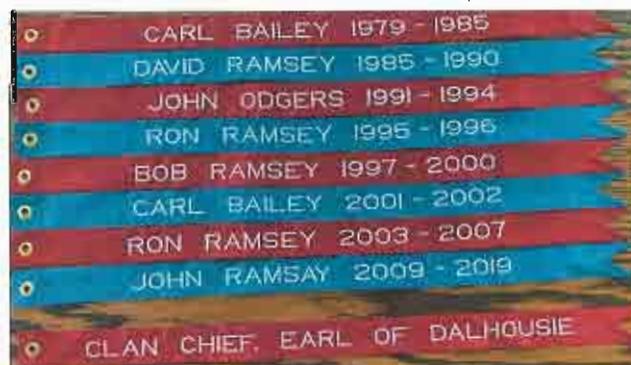
President, Dick McGraw, of the Clan Ramsay International, Inc., suggested that the Clan Ramsay needs to recognize those who have given of their time, energy, and money to make the Clan as great as it is.

He noted that the Clan has had only five presidents in its 40 years and announced two awards for the former presidents.



The first is a streamer (see upper right) for each former president and the streamer is attached to the clan flagpole. The streamers have the name and dates served for each former president.

The second is a Presidential Medal



showing the clan crest and motto superimposed on the Saltire Cross on a medal pendant to be worn around the neck. The pendant is engraved on the back with the former president's name and dates of service as president. (See left column.)

With thanks to *The Ramsay Report*, publication of the Clan Ramsay International, Inc.

Contact Dick McGraw if you would like membership information for Clan Ramsay. His email is: <dick2016@me.com>

**Are you an Arthur, Carter,
MacArthur, McArthur or similar
name? If so, you can become a member
of the Clan Arthur Association!**



Clan Arthur is worldwide with branches in UK, USA, Canada & Australia. Our leader is **Chief John MacArthur of that ilk.**

We welcome new members who are of "Arthur" decent or those interested in our clan who are prepared to be loyal to our Chief. Membership includes a quarterly magazine which is full of stories about the Clan around the world, articles on current events, ancestry & history. Members also receive ongoing newsletters & updates on local happenings within their community.

For information & how to join, see our website clanarthur.website/

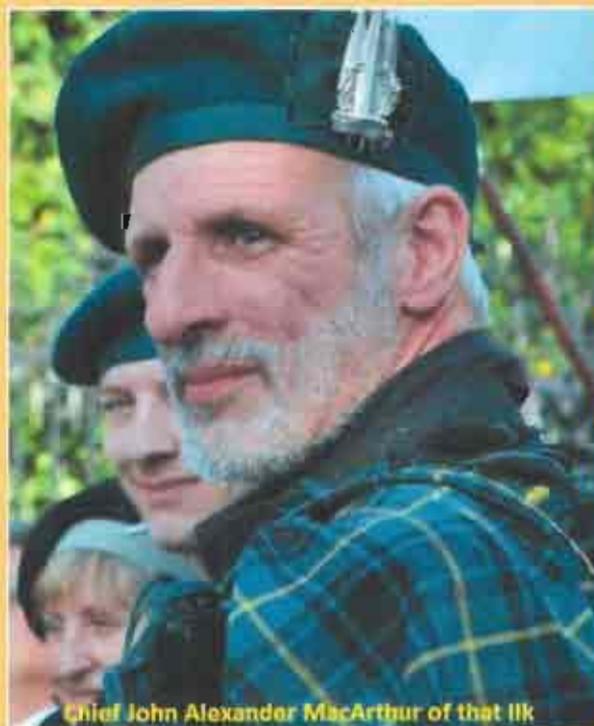
Contacts:

UK: Chief John & Lorraine MacArthur arthurofthatilk@btinternet.com

USA: Joann Helmich caausamembership@gmail.com

Canada: Lloyd K. McArthur mcartld@shaw.ca

Australia/NZ: Carol MacArthur Budlong carolmcarthur18@gmail.com





Benefits of Having a Genealogy Research Plan

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS

Having a research plan is critical for any long-term success in genealogy. The research process helps people understand and appreciate their ancestors' achievements in spite of many challenges. Developing a research plan involves setting goals and objectives.

Creating an effective research plan increases the likelihood you will be able to solve that long-standing brickwall in your family tree. A genealogy research plan is much more than a to-do list. The major objective in developing a genealogy research plan is to identify what you want to know and formulate questions which will address your research goals. Many professional genealogists create a genealogy research plan for each research question. The plan can be as simple as a few steps or multiple pages.

The elements of an effective genealogy research plan usually include the following points:

1. Setting Objectives: What Do You Want to Know?

What specific details do you want to learn about your ancestor? A marriage date? Spouse's name? Where they lived at a particular time? When they died? Determining a research objective helps keep your research focused and your plan on track.

2. Listing All Known Facts: What Do I Already Know?

What have you already learned about your ancestors? This should include names, relationships, dates and places that are supported by original records. The best techniques to obtain this documentation include:

a. Search home sources for documents, photos, diaries, and family tree charts.

b. Interview family members and relatives. It is best to begin with the oldest members first. If they pass away beforehand, the stories pass with them. While someone else in the family may know this information, it will seldom be as accurate and detailed.

c. Search repositories in the area where the ancestors lived.

3. Develop a Working Hypothesis: What Do I Think the Answer Is?

What are the possible or probable conclusions that you hope to prove, or possibly disprove, through your genealogy research? Let's say you want to know when your ancestor died. You might start, for example, with the hypothesis that they died in the town or county where they owned land. County

Continued on page 19



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Society Worldwide, Inc., email: djbaird4@gmail.com

Come visit us at: www.clanbairdsociety.com

Clan Baird

Clan Baird takes its name from the ancient lands held by the family, near the town of Biggar in South Lanarkshire. A popular traditional tale is that the lands were given to the first Baird clansman after he saved King William the Lion from a wild boar.



Genealogy goals, continued from page 17

histories can be a very useful resource, enabling you to learn about the history of an area and your ancestor's role in it. County histories often are available on Interlibrary Loan, and sometimes online.

4. Identify Record Sources: Which Records Might Hold the Answer and Where are They Located?

Some prime examples include:

a. Census records; b. Marriage Records and certificates; c. Wills and probate records; d. Land records such as deeds, mortgages, etc.; e. Tax records

Create a list of possible sources, and identify the repositories, including libraries, archives, societies or published Internet collections where these records can be researched.

5. Research Strategy

The final step of your genealogy research plan is to determine the best means of accomplishing your research goals, considering the available records and your research needs. Decide which record type is most likely to contain the answer you need. Then determine the best strategy for obtaining that record; does the best technique include, for example, a visit to the area where the ancestors lived, or can you obtain the record by searching microfilm online? Do you need to hire a professional researcher or will a phone call to the courthouse where your ancestor lived, help you determine the location of the record you need? The local library, as well as genealogical societies and historical societies can be very useful resources in helping you move forward with your research plan.



Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S., Reference Librarian,
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Myers, FL 33901. bmulcahy@leegov.com
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Santas brave rain for Glasgow charity run



The youngest participants were well wrapped up so as to stay warm & dry

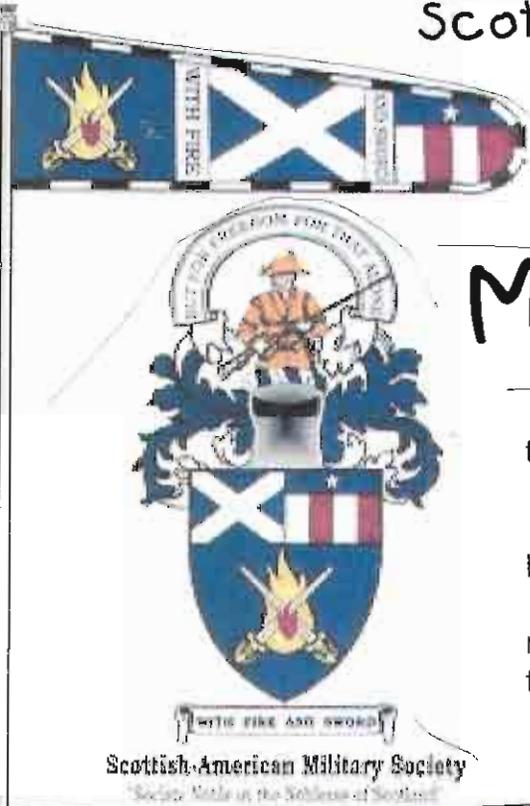


Scottish American Military Society

Gen. Elijah Clarke

Post #60

Meetings for 2020



If you are a veteran of Celtic heritage you can join the Scottish American Military Society.

You can visit our website for more information.

The Elijah Clarke Post #60 meets on a quarterly basis at the Black Swan Tavern in Marietta.

The dates for the 2020 year will be set at our next meeting and will be published as soon as they are set. thanks

Yours Aye

Rick Conn, Adjutant



Scottish American Military Society

If you would like information on joining the Scottish American Military Society, please contact:

Rick Conn, Adjutant

Gen James Jackson Post #60

2683 Brocklin Drive

Grayson, Ga. 30017-1432

678-873-3491

rickconn@bellsouth.net

<http://www.s-a-m-s.org/>



The St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee (FL) invites you to: The Culinary Ceilidh

February 29, 2020 at 6:30 PM Publix Apron's Cooking School in Tallahassee, Florida, will present the food from Dumfries and Galloway.

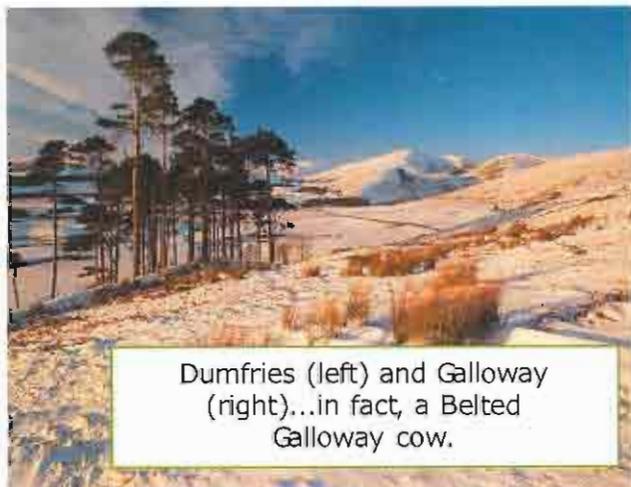
Together we have explored the Borders, the Clyde Valley and Glasgow, Orkney and Shetlands, and Aberdeenshire/Grampian regions.

Now come join us on our next stop along our culinary journey through Scotland as we explore the food from Dumfries & Galloway.

This menu is no exception:

- White onion Soup with Cider with Gruyere Croutons
- Gin and Tonic Mussels with toast
- Galloway Beef Wellington with Savory Root Vegetable Crumble
- Ecclefechan Tart

Enjoy great food and great fun for one great price and every course is expertly paired with wine.



Dumfries (left) and Galloway (right)...in fact, a Belted Galloway cow.



Come join your fellow Scots for an evening meant to educate, entertain, amuse, and inspire you, as we continue our journey exploring Scottish regional cuisine.

You will not find anything else like this, certainly, in Tallahassee or anywhere else.

This time, we travel to southwest Scotland to enjoy seafood of this region, its produce and its beef.

Join us and our friends at the Publix Apron's Cooking School for our 18th Culinary Ceilidh.

Over the past several years the chefs at Publix have demonstrated to us that Scottish cooking can be wonderful and tasty.

If you have never joined us before, it is always a fun time; if you have been before, you will want to come again.

To sign up go by the Events Desk just inside the north entrance to the Publix Village Square store or call 893-3480 and talk to one of the Events staff who will be happy to take your reservation and payment. The cost is \$50 per person –which includes four courses and five wines – no tax, no tip.

If for some reason you have dietary or other limitations which will keep you from enjoying any of the set menu, just tell the Events staff when you sign up so the chefs can be advised to prepare an alternate.



Clan Anderson Cottages

We look forward to welcoming you personally to visit any of our unique 4 Star properties in Dumfries & Galloway, Southwest Scotland.

As a small family business, we the Anderson family, are the only staff we have. From Clan Chief to cottage cleaners, we do it all. We are the real chief cooks and bottle washers and your visit with us will be all the more special for it.

As an international member of the American Society of Appraisers, determining value has always been a key priority.

Never more so than when it comes to offering our own properties to visitors from near and far.

To my mind, the most important aspect of looking after guests begins before they even arrive, by offering outstanding value for money. So, even before you meet us, you can rest assured that the



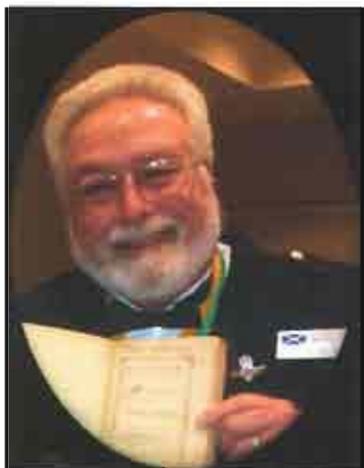
quality of the properties, including furnishings are of the highest order and value on offer.

*Best wishes & Stand Sure.
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15th Century poem still tops the charts now!

Ernie McNeill, Gatherin' o' the Clans
St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee

insight into the Scottish festival of Hogmanay. Two years after that, I shared some of the history of a song that many know as Scottish, but most all of the world knows it better than the Scots themselves. Now, for more on this ancient verse and song.

We know it as *Auld Lang Syne*, but its earliest version was a 15th Century poem called *Auld Kindnes Foryett*.

It is essentially the story of a man in impoverished circumstances, who is reflecting on the ingratitude of those who claimed to be his friends in better days.

Then in 1711, a poem appeared called *Old Langsyne* attributed to an unknown writer. It consists of twelve stanzas of eight lines, and written throughout in English, rather than Scots.

The first record of the song in the version that we know it today is mentioned in Robert Burns' letter to his friend Mrs. Dunlop, dated December 17, 1788.

Burns enclosed a copy of the verse saying, "Here is an old song and tune which has often thrilled through my soul". Burns claimed to have taken it down "...from an old man's singing". Five years later, he sent a copy of the song, with new verses composed by himself, to George Thomson, who was compiling a collection of Scottish songs with music.

A few years after Burns' death in 1799, his

version of *Auld Lang Syne* was published in Thomson's *Songs of Scotland* - appearing for the first time with the melody to which it is sung today.

Burns' song has spread to every corner of the world, and is used for many different purposes other than the passing of the old year and ringing in the new. In some countries, it is used as a funeral song.

In some, it is used for university graduation ceremonies. In other countries it lets customers know that the store or the restaurant is closing; and in two other countries it is used as a soccer supporter's anthem.

The song's huge popularity in America is often ascribed to the band leader Guy Lombardo's (surely some of

you remember Guy) use of *Auld Lang Syne* to end his New Year's Eve broadcasts, not only on TV but starting in the 1920s, on the radio.

So, on New Year's Eve (Hogmanay) and the clock has just struck midnight from Moscow to Madrid, Bombay to Baltimore, and Sydney to Skye, what is everyone singing?

No question about it, with the possible exception of *Happy Birthday*, *AULD LANG SYNE* is the most popular song in the WORLD. Now if we could just get our Society members to learn the second verse...actually, it's the fifth verse if you're looking it up.

Ernie McNeill

Here's the challenge: learn the second verse

Continued on page 25





OH, CANADA!



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Bachelors' Club - Tarbolton, Ayrshire

...that **Burns' Bachelors' Club** was open to all unmarried men in the parish who were encouraged "to forget their cares and labour in mirth and diversion."

Members had to have "a frank, honest, open heart: be above anything dirty or mean; and must be a professed lover of one or more of the female sex" - no great barrier for Robert Burns himself.

The Bachelor's Club in Ayr is open to the public from April to September, but there is one particular night in the year when it really comes alive.

Every 25 January it plays host to the most exclusive Burns' supper of them all. The fiddle of William Greig, who taught the poet to dance all those years ago, is even brought from safekeeping at Culzean and played to mark the occasion.

Auld Lang Syne,

continued from page 23



(actually the 5th verse) to *Auld Lang Syne* by the next event you attend...and remember its pronounced "Syne" not "Zyne".

"And there's a hand, my trusty fiere! And gie's a hand o' thine! And we'll tak a right gude-willie-waught, For auld lang syne."

And if you're interested here is the original tune: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HR5dxMJLWo0>

Mising McPersons Can you help?

DO YE KEN ANY KIN?

Clan Blair received a message on the Clan Blair website from **James Boyce**, <jboyce41961@gmail.com>, regarding his genealogical search. Mr. Boyce writes: "Hello. On my Maternal side I am the GGG grandson of I believe **PETER BLAIR** who was a farmer in Nova Scotia. His son, **WILLIAM**, was born around 1841 and married **MARGARET O'CONNELL** in 1869 in Boston MA. Their son, **WILLIAM**, was born in Boston in 1868 and married **DELIA LEDDY** from NY and then moved to Philadelphia at which time Grandfather **THOMAS BLAIR** was born in 1903 and married **MARY JANE GRAY**. Unfortunately, I never knew my Grandfather because he passed before I was born, and my Mother didn't have very good records or family history past **DELIA LEDDY**."

Currently I am trying to connect the dots of our family history, and I believe the information I have is correct. However, I am having trouble finding much on **PETER BLAIR** and was hoping someone may have something that I could use to continue my efforts. I appreciate any help or guidance that you can provide and look forward to hearing back from someone. P.S. I have done DNA testing in *Ancestry* and I do see that many of our relatives have come through Canada and are in Virginia, Kentucky, etc. areas today. If this will help, please let me know."

Please, if you have any information for Mr. Boyce about his Blair grandfather, let him know at the email address provided above.

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*Blair House at Dalry, Ayrshire
ca 1870*



A Blair family photograph, circa 1870

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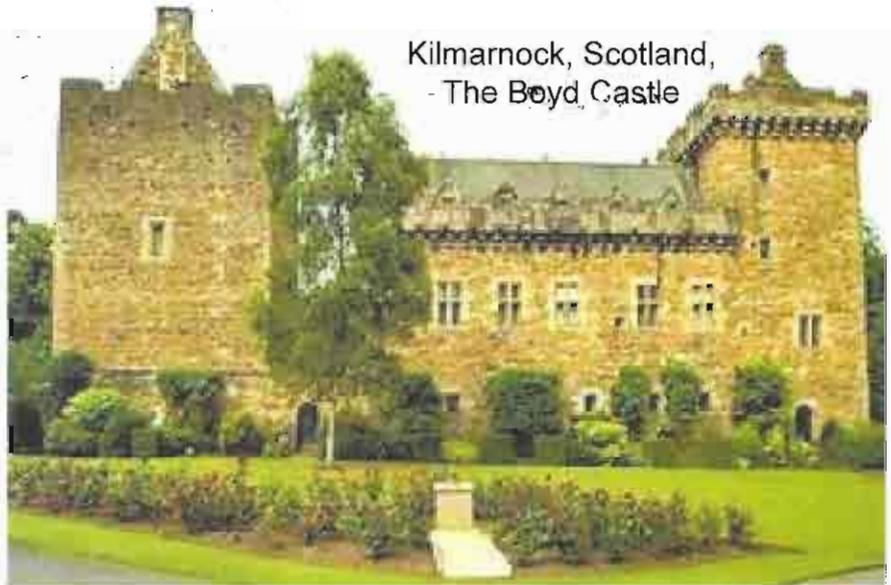
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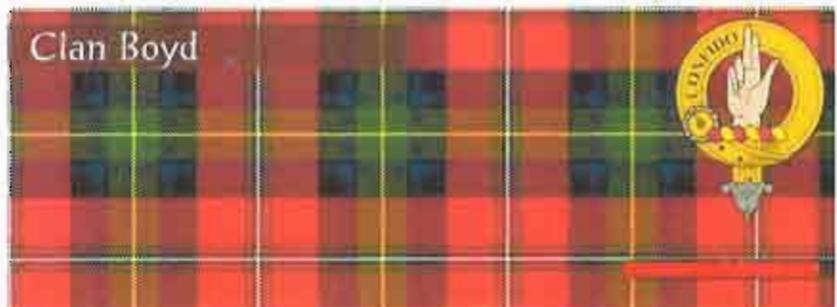
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Shirley Catherine Kitchener Pierce, September 16, 1926 - October 27, 2019

Shirley Catherine Kitchener Pierce, age 93, of Erie, residing at the Masonic Village in Sewickley, Pennsylvania, passed away, Sunday, October 27, 2019.

She was born in DuBois, Pennsylvania, on September 16, 1926, daughter of the late Magdalena and George Kitchener.

Shirley worked many jobs through the years, including B F Goodrich in DuBois, Twinbrook Nursing Home, Port Erie Plastics, and picking grapes in North East. She was a former member of Eastern Star, Grottoettes, and Bag Ladies (Erepe Grotto Pipe Band).

Shirley loved donating cookies at her home church, Lawrence Park United Methodist Church, and crocheting hats and scarves for the Salvation Army.

She was a member of the Clan Douglas Society of North America for many years.

Shirley is survived by a son, Roger Pierce; daughter, Bonny J. (Richard) Barraclough; six grandchildren, Roy Pierce, Michael (Amanda) Barraclough, Nicole (Josiah) Stoltzfus, Jordan Barraclough, Lt. Christian (Samantha) Barraclough, and Aaron Barraclough; and five great-grandchil-

dren, Landon and Emery Pierce, Harper Barraclough, and Kaylin and Ivy Stoltzfus.

In addition to her parents, Shirley was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Andrew, in May of 2018; one sister, Margaret Hauck; one brother, George Kitchener; and one grandson, Justin Andrew Barraclough.

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The 18th Century Scottish Origins of Washington, DC

Early Scots in Georgetown and Washington City – Implications for Our Society

WITH THANKS TO ELECTRICSCOTLAND.COM

John King Bellasai, JD

Introduction

When I first came to Washington from Texas in 1965, it was to attend Georgetown University as an undergraduate student. Georgetown University was founded in 1789—the same year the US Constitution was ratified—and is located on the heights adjacent to what was then the Maryland side of the Potomac River—at a fording point right above where Key Bridge now stands. So Georgetown University's history has always been entwined with that of Georgetown itself and the early years of the American Republic.

I studied history and government (political science) at Georgetown University and for a number of years lived in Georgetown. Always interested in my Scottish roots (my maternal grandfather had emigrated to the USA from Stirlingshire in 1910), I soon became keenly aware of the Scottish origins of Georgetown and of the remnants of its Scottish foundations in the form of the many great mansion houses still standing in Georgetown which had been built by Scottish merchants in the years just before and just after the American Revolution.

Oddly, the Scottish origins of Georgetown, and of Washington, DC, generally, are little known in the ranks of our Society—this in contrast to the fact that the Scottish origins of Alexandria, located right across the Potomac River, are well known to all of us. This article has been written in part to redress this imbalance and to acquaint our general membership with some very interesting facts concerning the Scottish origins of Georgetown and of Washington City.

The Scottish Origins of the Port of Georgetown in the Early to Mid Eighteenth Century

As we all know well, Alexandria was settled by Scottish merchants in 1749 as a tobacco port town, originally called “Belle Haven” (its first buildings located where the Belle Haven Country Club now stands, on the banks of the Potomac between Old Town Alexandria and Mount Vernon). But it is NOT well known that Alexandria's longtime commercial rival (for the past 260 years called “Georgetown”), located directly across the Potomac River from Alexandria, was likewise



settled by Scottish merchants, and at almost exactly the same time—in 1745—also as a tobacco port town. In fact, Scots so predominated in Georgetown in the 18th century that Georgetown's original name was “Little Scotland.”

The first land grant in what is now Georgetown was made in 1703, on behalf of Queen Anne, by Charles Calvert, “Absolute Lord and Proprietor of the Province of Maryland”, to a Scottish immigrant, Colonel Ninian Beall. The core of this land grant, originally called “the Rock of Dumbarton”, survives today as the Dumbarton Oaks Estate, located at Wisconsin Avenue and “R” Street, NW in Upper Georgetown.

Ninian Beall was in many respects a “larger than life” personality. Born in Largs, Fifeshire, in 1625, he fought as a junior officer (“cornet”) for King Charles II against Cromwell and the English

Continued on page 33



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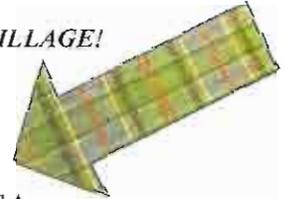
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at the Battle of Dunbar in 1650, was captured, sold into indentured servitude, and transported first to Barbados, then to Maryland. After completing his term of indenture, he received a grant of 50 acres from the Maryland Assembly for bringing out other Scottish immigrants to settle here.

An experienced soldier and legendary Indian fighter, Col. Beall rose to the rank of Commander of the Maryland Provincial Militia. He died in 1717, bequeathing all his extensive Maryland property, including the Rock of Dumbarton Estate in what is now Georgetown, to his 12 children—six sons and six daughters. Thus was founded an early Scottish-American dynasty (whose descendants are still with us today), which was to shape much of the 18th century history of the Province (later State) of Maryland, the Port of Georgetown, and Washington City.

Large Scottish merchant houses based in Glasgow dominated the tobacco trade on the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers and along the Chesapeake from the early 1740s through to the time of the American Revolution, 35 years later. These truly “international” firms employed “factors” (agents) in both Alexandria and Georgetown as well as elsewhere (like Bladensburg, MD) and sent apprentices from Scotland to work for them in these locations—both as free laborers and as indentured servants.

The most prominent Scottish merchants doing business in Georgetown during the colonial period was the firm of John Glassford & Company—Glasgow’s largest tobacco merchant house. Though Glassford himself never travelled to America, he, his sons and their partners controlled a major portion of the Chesapeake tobacco trade. Through his local factors—invariably other promi-

nent Scotsmen who had already settled in Virginia and Maryland (including Robert Fergusson at Georgetown), Glassford & Co. established a system of tobacco warehouses as well as branch stores along both sides of the Potomac—selling hardware, spirits, sugar, salt, and slaves to local settlers and buying tobacco directly from the local farmers.

A group of prominent Scottish merchants and landowners, all residents of what would later be called Georgetown, governed the town (under a formal and exclusive delegation of power from the Maryland Assembly) from the middle of the 18th century until well after the American Revolution. These Scottish dynasties—the Bealls, Gordons, Peters, Magruders, Dunlops, Davidsons, Bowies, and others, put a clearly Scottish stamp on Georgetown during

the first 50+ years of its existence.

Large parcels of land in what was to become Georgetown were already owned in 1751 by a dozen or more of these wealthy Scottish merchants—land extending from east to west, the length of what is now “M” Street, NW, down the entire length of the Georgetown waterfront, and north up the nearby hill, on both sides of what is now Wisconsin Avenue, NW as far north as the Dumbarton Oaks Estate on what is now “R” Street, NW.

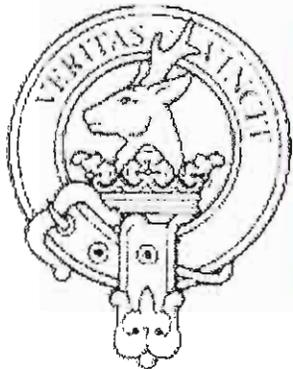
Many of the mansion houses built by this and the next generation of local Scottish merchants still stand today in Georgetown residential neighborhoods—including, among others, Dumbarton Oaks (originally called simply, “The Oaks”), Dumbarton House, Evermay, Halcyon House, Pretty Prospect, Tudor Place, etc.

In 1751, the Maryland Provincial Assembly

Continued on page 35



Col. Ninian Beall (1625 - 1717)



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Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (Including alternate spellings such as Keeth.) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

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The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email secretary@cksusa.org or jkeith417@aol.com. Call 256-270-8967.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

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Origins of Washington, DC, *continued from page 33*

appointed eight (8) Commissioners to formally lay out a town (which subsequently was named “George Towne”, now Georgetown) and once laid out, to govern it.

Of the eight (8) original Commissioners of George Towne, at least six (6) were Scots (George Beall, Josiah Beall, Cpt. Henry Wright Crabb, George Gordon, and James Perrie).

From 1754 until 1785, 11 Successor Commissioners were appointed from time to time by the Maryland Assembly to fill vacancies in the ranks of the original eight.

Of these additional 11, at least seven (7) were Scots (Robert Peter, John Murdoch, Thomas Beall, Benjamin Stoddert, Samuel Davidson, John Peter, and Adam Steuart).

The Commissioners of George Towne employed a Clerk and Surveyor to assist them in their oversight responsibilities. Of the five successive Clerks of George Towne between 1751 and 1782, the first three were Scots (Alexander Beall (1751-57), Josiah Beall (1757-74), and Robert Ferguson (1774)).

The survey of the town that would come to be called “George Town” (later Georgetown) was completed in 1752. Portions of George Beall’s land and George Gordon’s adjacent land were found “most convenient” for the laying out of the new town. (Each gentleman was offered two lots plus the cost of condemnation, by right of eminent domain).

The town was NOT named for the Sovereign of Great Britain, but rather for George Beall and George Gordon, the two Scotsmen from whose land tracts the town was created.

Meetings of the Commissioners of George Towne were held at least once annually (in private houses) every year from 1751 til 1789, when at last George Towne was incorporated. It was not chartered as a “burgh city” and was not to have elected aldermen or mayors. Instead, the Mary-

land colonial Assembly reserved the power to appoint its governing board—the so-called “Commissioners of Georgetown”—and each of them to life terms. (Georgetown did not acquire the right to elected self-government until after the American Revolution.)

The first Mayor of the newly incorporated Georgetown in 1790 was Robert Peter, a second generation Scot and a major Georgetown landowner and merchant.

His family, builders and original owners of Tudor Place (a great mansion house in Georgetown

which still stands and is now open to the public), married in with the Custis family, relations of President George Washington, and continued to live at Tudor Place in Georgetown until the 1960s.

The first Postmaster of the newly incorporated

Georgetown in 1790 was William Magruder, also a second generation Scot and also a major landowner and merchant. (Magruder’s Grocers, still in operation in Georgetown, is owned by one of his direct descendants. These Magruders were MacGregors; a number of them were founding members of the American Clan Gregor Society in the United States (1908). Their Magruder descendants are numerous in Maryland and Virginia to this day. Confederate General James Longstreet was a Magruder on his mother’s side.)

In 1780, a small congregation of mainly Scots Presbyterians, who had met informally in private houses since 1760, founded a church in Georgetown, under the leadership of Rev. Stephen Bloomer Balch, a pupil of Scots-born John Witherspoon, a signer of the *Declaration of Independence*. Subsequently called Georgetown Presbyterian Church, it exists to this day and is the oldest continuously operating Christian congregation in Washington, DC.

Many of the Scots-born founders of



Continued on page 37



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Origins of Washington, DC, *continued from page 35*

Georgetown are buried in the kirkyard of Georgetown Presbyterian. (Though the church has moved locations since its founding, many of these founders' graves were relocated with it.) Its Pastor, from the time of his arrival from Scotland in 1780 til his retirement in 2002, was Rev. Campbell Gillon. During these years, Rev. Gillon was also Chaplain of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC. (Rev. Gillon still lives part-time in the Greater Washington area and is now Chaplain Emeritus of our Society.)

Scottish Influence In the Founding and Layout of Washington City

When the US Constitution was ratified in 1790, Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 17 created a federal enclave, the District of Columbia, from land donated by both Maryland and Virginia. Both the existing port city of Alexandria and the existing port city of Georgetown were assimilated from that year onward into the newly created District of Columbia.

Along with this creation by Congress of the District of Columbia, Washington City began to be constructed in 1791 on land partially purchased from gentleman farmer David Burnes, grandson of a Scottish immigrant of the same name (b. 1695.), who at his death in 1760 owned 700 acres of prime bottom land in rural Maryland near Tiber Creek and the Potomac—land that was later to become prime real estate in Washington, DC.

It was the landholdings of David Burnes II,

grandson of the Scottish immigrant of the same name, on which much of “official” Washington was to be built. He was the “obstinate Mr. Burnes” who for a long period refused to sell his extensive land holdings to President George Washington for the erection of the Federal City and the laying out of Pennsylvania Avenue. On that land, for which Burnes reluctantly accepted \$1 million from the new United States Government, now sits the south side of the US Capitol Building, the entire Washington Mall, most of the President's House (the White House), all of the Treasury Department, all of the Ellipse behind the White House, and all of Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

Burnes died in 1799 and was survived by a daughter, Marcia, a very wealthy heiress who in 1802 married Senator John Van Ness of New York—the first Mayor of Washington City (1830-34). They built a large mansion directly across from the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue, on a small parcel of land still left to them after the Federal City was laid out. (This Senator Van

Ness, a staunch anti-Federalist, was Aaron Burr's second in the notorious duel he fought in New York City with Alexander Hamilton in which the latter was shot and killed. Burr fled the US and Van Ness was charged with accessory to murder—but that's another story for another day.)

Holding extensive property adjacent to Burnes was another prosperous second generation Scot—the merchant and gentleman farmer Samuel

Continued on page 39



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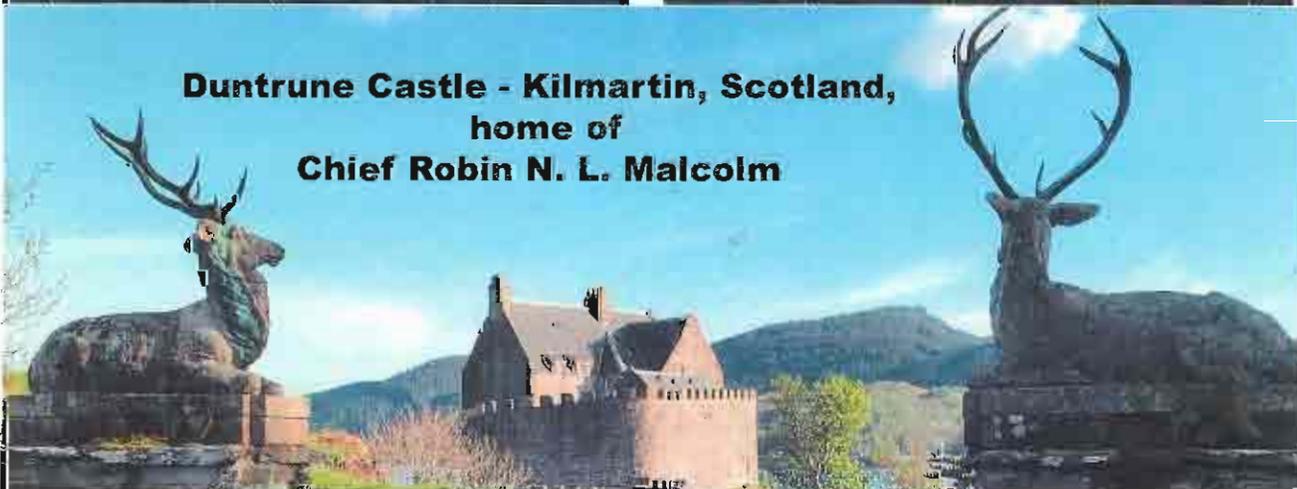
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Davidson. From the sale of an extensive plot to the new Federal Government in 1790 which included what is now the north side of the White House and Lafayette Square, directly across from it, in 1792-94 Davidson built another of the great houses of Georgetown—*Evermay*, located on what is now 28th Street, NW. (Still a private residence to this day, *Evermay* was just this year just sold by longtime owners, the Belin family, for the sum of almost \$30 million.)

Another famous Scot of importance in early Washington, DC was David Stuart (b. 1753, d. circa 1814). Born in Scotland, Stuart studied medicine and languages at the University of St. Andrews. Emigrating to America, he established a practice in Alexandria, and in 1783 became a relative of George Washington's when he married Eleanor Calvert Custis, widow of Washington's stepson, John Parker Custis. (A number of letters from Washington to Stuart exist, concerning family matters and Virginia politics.)

Stuart served as a representative to the Virginia House of Delegates and also to the Virginia Convention of 1788 that ratified the *U. S. Constitution*.

In 1790 Stuart was appointed by President Washington as one of the three Commissioners of the Federal City to oversee the siting and planning of the new capital—which was called by the Commissioners “Washington City.” He served on the Commission until at least 1793.

Yet another very famous Scottish-American resident of early Washington City was Colonel Benjamin Stoddert—like David Stuart, one of the three Commissioners appointed by President Washington to plan the location of the Capitol Building and other key Federal Government buildings. But Stoddert's reputation far exceeded that of his two colleagues on the Commission:

The grandson of an early Scottish immigrant

to Maryland, Benjamin Stoddert (b. 1751) was a major figure in the early years of the Republic.

Starting life as a merchant in his father's firm in nearby Bladensburg, MD, he saw action as a cavalry officer during the American Revolution. After being seriously wounded in the field, Stoddert was appointed Secretary to the Continental Board of War. A staunch Federalist and close friend of General (later President) George Washington, after the war Stoddert was appointed by Washington as one of the three Commissioners to site and plan the key federal buildings in the new Nation's Capital.

It was Stoddert who conceived the name for the new capital city: “Washington City.”

In 1783, Stoddert established a tobacco export business in Georgetown, together with business partners Uriah Forrest and John Murdoch; it was an extremely successful venture and made him a wealthy man.

In 1798, then President John Adams appointed Stoddert to be the first Secretary of the Navy; he held that post until 1801—during which time he built up the Navy and oversaw action against France in the Caribbean.

A wealthy man, Stoddert lived and entertained in Georgetown, where he built Halcyon House (at 34th & Prospects Streets, NW), still standing. (The gardens at Halcyon House were designed by Pierre L'Enfant, the main architect of the new federal city.

Among its more famous owners, in recent years, was Kathryn Graham, longtime owner of *The Washington Post*.) Stoddert's tobacco business, like most commercial activity in the Port of Georgetown, suffered a severe decline because of the War of 1812 and the consequent British Embargo on American exports. Stoddert died in 1813 and is buried in nearby Seat Pleasant, MD.



Continued on page 41

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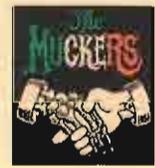


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General James MacCubbin Lingan was another prominent Scottish-American who played a major role in post-Revolution Georgetown and the new Washington City.

Born in 1752 in Frederick County, MD, General Lingan was of Scottish ancestry on his mother's side—hence his middle name—and also related to the wealthy Carroll family of colonial Maryland.

A tobacco merchant in Georgetown before the American Revolution, at its outbreak he was commissioned a lieutenant and saw combat in a Maryland regiment at the Battle of Long Island (largest battle of the war).

Suffering a serious bayonet wound, he was captured by the British in late 1776 at Fort Washington and he spent the rest of the war in a prison ship, refusing offers of freedom and a commission in the British Army from Admiral Sir Samuel Hood, a distant relation, who visited him in confinement.

After the war, Lingan was released and returned to Georgetown, where he farmed an estate called *Harlem*, after the famous battle in which he fought—sometimes called *Harlem Heights* not Long Island. He was a founding member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

After the *Constitution* was ratified, Lingan was appointed Tax Collector for the Port of Georgetown by President Washington and relocated to a house he built for himself at 17th and “M” Streets, NW (no longer standing).

A staunch Federalist, for a time he published *The Federal Republican* out of a print shop in Georgetown, which in its editorials opposed a second war with Britain.

On the eve of the War of 1812, an anti-British mob stormed the print shop in Georgetown. In the violent riot which followed, General Lingan was beaten to death amid cries of “Tory! Tory”—de-

spite him exposing to the mob the evidence of the bayonet wound in his chest from many years before.

Yet another famous Scottish-American of early Washington City was Colonel Washington Bowie, b. 1776 to Allen Bowie, a major property-owner in Frederick County, MD. Allen Bowie was himself the grandson of Scottish immigrant John Bowie, who arrived in Maryland in 1706. (The Bowies were a leading family in colonial Maryland and afterwards; Ogden Bowie was Governor of Maryland in the late 1800s and the town of Bowie (in Prince George's County, the third largest town in Maryland) was named after him.)

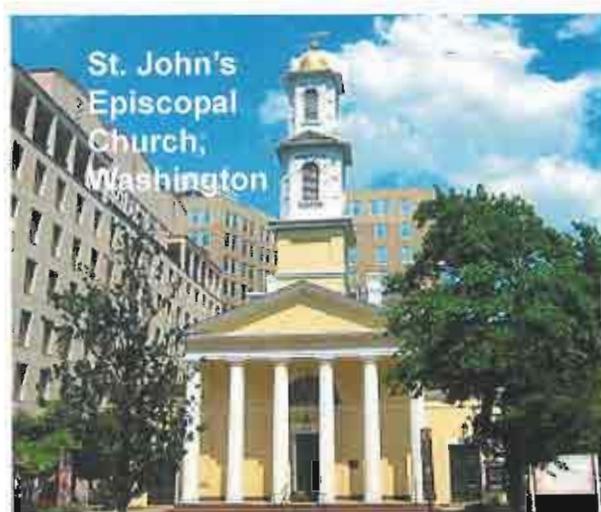
Washington Bowie was the god-son of President George Washington,

who was present at his christening.

The famous frontiersman Colonel James (“Jim”) Bowie, who died at the Alamo, was a distant cousin. By 1810, Washington Bowie had grown up to be a prosperous tobacco merchant in Georgetown, a colonel in the Maryland Militia, and one of the wealthiest men in the newly built Washington City. He was also one of the founding vestrymen of St. John's Episcopal Church, built in 1797 in Georgetown and in continuous operation (at its original “O” Street, NW location) to this day.

Two of the Founding Fathers of our Nation who were of Scottish descent played major roles in Washington after the Constitution was ratified and the Federal Government moved to the new Washington City from New York. These were Alexander Hamilton and James Monroe.

Born in the British West Indies on the Island of Nevis in 1757, Alexander Hamilton emigrated to New York City in 1772, where he attended King's



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College (now Columbia University).

Commissioned a Captain of Artillery in the Continental Army at the outbreak of the war with Britain, Hamilton served throughout the war with General Washington, becoming his aide-de-camp. Hamilton endured the winter at Valley Forge and commanded the American artillery battery at the Battle of Trenton, Christmas Eve, 1776—a major turning point in the war.

He served on active duty until 1781 and commanded the artillery at the siege of Yorktown. Returning to New York City to practice law at the end of the war, Hamilton was one of the authors of *The Federalist Papers*; served in the New York Assembly and was a member of the New York State Committee to ratify the *US Constitution* in 1788.

Called to Washington City by his mentor President Washington, Hamilton be-

came the first Secretary of the Treasury and served in that capacity from 1789 to 1795—during which time he lived in Washington and founded the US Mint, the US Coast Guard, the National Bank (predecessor of the Federal Reserve)—modeled on the Bank of England—and the Federalist Party.

Remaining close to President Washington throughout his term in office, Hamilton actually wrote Washington's famous *Farewell Address*.

Remembered as Jefferson's great rival and antagonist, Hamilton was throughout his life very proud of his Scottish heritage, and as a young man, was a devout Presbyterian. His correspondence, late in life, with the Duke of Hamilton, head of his clan, survives; one of the Duke's younger sons came to America under Hamilton's sponsorship. And Hamilton ascribed his lifelong abolitionist views to

his Presbyterian upbringing.

As every schoolboy knows, Hamilton was killed in a duel with Vice President Aaron Burr in Weehawken, NJ—directly across the Hudson River from NYC, in 1804. (At the time, duelling was illegal in NY but not in NJ.)

Hamilton never built a house in Washington City but instead returned to New York in 1795 to build his estate, *The Grange*, which still survives.

Though we declare ourselves to be a nation built on Jeffersonian principles, in fact we have evolved much more closely to Hamilton's vision

for America—a militarily and economically strong, industrialized nation made up mainly of large cities, not of small towns and yeomen farmers.

The Federal Government as we know it is also largely the creation of Hamilton's vision.



Alexander Hamilton's
The Grange

Strangely, there exists only one monument in DC to Alexander Hamilton: A bronze statue of him stands on the south side of the Treasury Building.

James Monroe was a very different man from Alexander Hamilton—but like him, proud of his Scottish heritage.

Born in Westmoreland County, VA, Monroe's paternal great grandfather had emigrated there from Scotland circa 1660.

The son of a prosperous planter, Monroe studied at Campbelltown Academy under Rev. Archibald Campbell of Washington Parish, VA, going on to attend the College of William & Mary. In 1775, he dropped out of college to join the 3rd Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army. Between 1780 and

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1783, he studied law under Thomas Jefferson, whose protégé he was. An anti-federalist, Monroe served as Governor of Virginia and later, American Ambassador to France, where he helped to negotiate the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Elected President of the United States in 1816 with 80 percent of the popular vote, he was easily reelected in 1820.

While living in Washington, Monroe occupied a Federal style house which still stands; located diagonally across Pennsylvania Avenue from the World Bank, the Monroe House is on the national historic register and is now the home of the Arts Club of Washington.

The City of Alexandria and Arlington County were part of Washington, DC for half a century

From 1790 until its retrocession to Virginia in 1846, the City of Alexandria; plus what was formerly called Alexandria County, (now Arlington County, VA) were part of the newly created District of Columbia. This was a key period of half a century, during the formative years of our National Government.

Reportedly Alexandrians soured on being part of the District of Columbia when both the US Capitol Building and the President's House (i.e. the White House), plus all other Federal Government buildings ended up being erected on the Maryland side of the Potomac, in what was to become Washington City. (An early plan advanced to build the US Capitol Building on the high point of Alexandria that is now home to the Masonic Temple, where President George Washington had served as Master Mason, was rejected to the first Congress.)

In addition, it was perceived by Virginians that the Port of Georgetown was receiving favorable commercial treatment over that given to the Port of Alexandria, right across the river—even though both pre-existing towns had been incorporated into

the new District of Columbia.

The Old St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria in the District of Columbia

Also during this period, the St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria flourished.

Founded just a few short years before the creation of the District of Columbia and defunct within a decade after retrocession of Alexandria and Arlington County to Virginia, for almost of its recorded history the St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria—the predecessor organization to our current Society—operated within the territorial confines of the District of Columbia.

According to surviving newspaper local accounts, the St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria was founded in 1787. Its first President was Robert Hunter, a Scottish merchant who was later Mayor of Alexandria and a confidant of President George Washington. (He is buried in the graveyard of the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Old Town, Alexandria.)

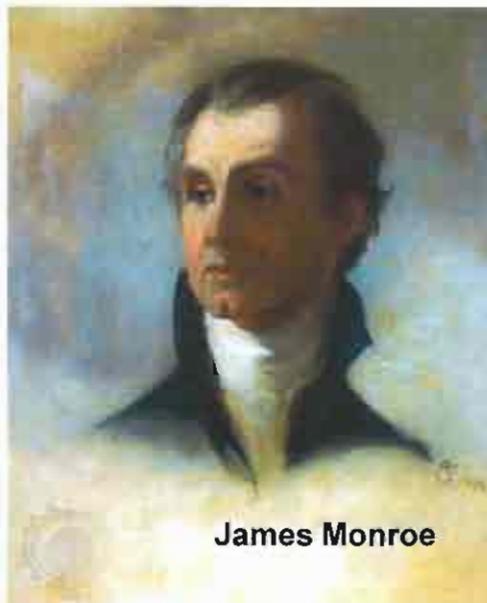
The last mention of a meeting of the old St.

Andrew's Society of Alexandria occurred in 1851. During 56 of the 64 years of its recorded existence (1787-1851), the St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria operated in a town which was part of the District of Columbia.

This clearly qualifies it to be called the “predecessor society” of our current St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC.

A new St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC, was founded shortly before the Civil War

A new St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC was founded in 1855 in the District of Columbia by Scottish immigrant William Robertson Smith (b. 1828), and five other Scottish-Americans.



James Monroe

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Origins of Washington, DC, *continued from page 43*

Smith served for decades as President of the Society. For 60 years he also served as the well-known Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens, located at the foot of Capitol Hill, which is where the Society always met (In his offices).

Smith was a vocal opponent of the Civil War in the years leading up to it and from his writings appears to have been a Southern sympathizer, though not a secessionist.

After the war, he fervently opposed placing the monument to General Ulysses Grant on land that was previously part of his Gardens.

In the end he lost, which deeply embittered him toward the Congress, his employer. Smith was a close friend of Andrew Carnegie and a Mason. At his death he donated his extensive collection of first edition works of Robert Burns to the Scottish Rite Masonic Temple on 16th Street in Washington, DC—where it resides to this day.

In their day, both of these societies operated exclusively within the District of Columbia. There is no record of ANY overlap in time between the old St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria and the new St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC. In fact there is a four-year gap between the last recorded meeting of the former and the first-recorded meeting of the latter.

We know the names of the six founding members of the new DC Society in 1855, though we do not know the names of any of the last-remaining members of the older Society in 1851. Could there have been overlap?

It has been asserted by some that none of the founding members of the new Society belonged to the older Society, which may well be true. But apart from the President, William Robertson Smith, who was a recent immigrant from Scotland, this has not been proven. And absence of evidence is not evidence of absence.

The Current St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC - Created by Law in 1908 as A District of Columbia Nonprofit Corporation

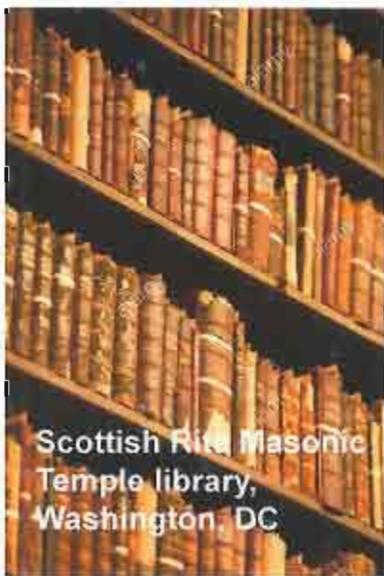
Yet another “re-foundation” of our Society occurred in 1908, when, FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC was incorporated. All the “modern” features and practices of our Society—such as our current Code of Bylaws, the requirement of regular meetings, a broad-based membership, annual election of officers, etc.—date back only to this 1908 re-founding. Though the five Society incorporators in 1908 included William Robertson Smith (then an elderly man), the others (William Fraser Small, William Ramsay, John McGregor, J.H. Small, Jr., and Archibald McLechlen) were different persons from those who, with Smith, founded the 1855 Society.

As a matter of corporate law, all corporations are “persons,” and their legal life span is “in perpetuity” from the date of their incorporation onward, unless later formally dissolved. That means that all corporations have a birth day. So, by law, the official birthday of our “current” Society is May 18, 1908 (the date of its incorporation), at Noon—NOT 1855, as has been asserted by some.

Concluding Thoughts

Unlike Alexandria, its one-time commercial rival directly across the Potomac, Georgetown remains a part of the District of Columbia to this day (1790 – 2011). It lost its status as a separate town within DC in 1871 and was administratively merged with Washington City into what, after that date, came to be called “Washington, DC.”

Whether there ever existed a St. Andrew's Society of Old George Towne, as existed right across the river in neighboring Olde Towne Alexandria, is a matter that requires original research. But with some diligent effort, the answer to this



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Origins of Washington, DC, *continued from page 44*

question can probably be arrived at.

Many primary source documents relating to the Scottish origins of Georgetown and Washington City still exist in public archives in Georgetown and elsewhere in Washington, DC, (at the newly restored and reopened Georgetown Library, at the Washington Historical Society, at the Library of Congress, at the Georgetown Presbyterian Church, etc.) and should be reviewed by members of our Society to answer this question about whether an early St. Andrew's Society ever existed in Georgetown in the 18th century.

Given the clear Scottish origins of the town of Georgetown (originally called "New Scotland"), its complete economic and political domination for the first 50+ years of its existence by a wealthy group of first and second generation Scottish merchants and landowners, and the fact that Scots tended to establish St. Andrew's societies wherever they settled in significant numbers, the existence of an early (18th century) St. Andrew's Society in Georgetown is extremely likely.

Because Scottish immigrants tended to establish such societies wherever they settled, is it unlikely that so many Scots gathered in Georgetown for so many generations failed to follow this pattern, too? No, it is not likely. So if the usual pattern were followed in the 1750s – 1780s in Georgetown, it would have been the FIRST St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC.

To date, it appears that this research has NEVER been attempted by anyone on behalf of our Society—despite the existence of many books about the Scottish origins of Georgetown and of Washington City, and the relatively easy access to

many primary source records right here in our our nation's capital. Why not? Regardless, it is high time for our Society to undertake this research challenge!

John King Bellasai, JD

Chairman, Community Relations Committee
St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC

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**The United States Capital
in Washington,
District of Columbia**

Flower of the Forest

Elizabeth Millicent Sutherland, Countess of Sutherland

Elizabeth Millicent Sutherland, Countess of Sutherland was born in London on 30 March 1921 and died there on 9th December 2019 aged 98.

Like H.M. Queen Elizabeth who was almost an exact contemporary, at the time of her birth it was never contemplated that one day the Countess would become head of her family, Chief of Clan Sutherland and 24th holder of the Earldom of Sutherland, recognised by many as the premier earldom in the Peerage of Scotland dating from 1235.

Lady Sutherland was the only child of Major Lord Alastair Sutherland-Leveson-Gower and his wife. Her father died in Rhodesia on 28 April 1921, aged 31. Her mother remarried in 1931, but died three months later. Lady Sutherland being then still a child became a ward of her uncle George, 5th Duke of Sutherland and his first wife and of her father's cousin the Marquess of Londonderry and his wife.

Lady Sutherland spent much of her time at the homes of her uncle George and his wife and that of her widowed grandmother Millicent.

As a young adult, Lady Sutherland experienced WWII and served her country, first training as a Land Girl and then as a Laboratory technician.

Shortly after the end of the war on 5th January 1946, Lady Sutherland married journalist Major Charles Noel Janson (1917–2006).

Their marriage was a very happy one lasting 60 years and produced four children, twin sons Alistair and Martin, daughter Annabel and youngest son Matthew.

The 5th Duke of Sutherland married twice but left no heir and therefore upon his death in 1963, Lady Sutherland succeeded in her own right as the Countess of Sutherland and Lady Strathnaver.

These are the original Scottish titles held by her ancestors.

The Dukedom of Sutherland, created in 1833, and the other titles held by her late uncle, the 5th Duke, passed to a distant male cousin, the Earl of Ellesmere, another descendant of the 1st Duke under the law of succession which applied to them.

Lady Sutherland also inherited the land-holdings in Scotland associated with the Earldom, including Dunrobin Castle.

On her marriage Lady Sutherland was known as Mrs Elizabeth Janson.

In order to become Chief of Clan Sutherland she reverted to the original family surname Sutherland as did her immediate heir, her eldest son, Lord Strathnaver.

Her other children retained their father's surname,

Janson, in accordance with the normal practice.

Lady Sutherland is survived by her three eldest children and their families to whom we extend our deepest sympathies.

Her eldest son Alistair Sutherland, known since 1963 by his mother's second title of Lord Strathnaver becomes the 25th Earl of Sutherland in succession to his mother. His only son Alexander Sutherland succeeds his father as Lord Strathnaver.

Lady Sutherland's funeral takes place later this week at Dornoch Cathedral followed by a private family burial at Dunrobin.

