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Male Lineage and Royal Pedigree Table  
of the Pictish Cenél nDuach  
being the Genealogy of the Clan MacTavish Chiefs  
(From Ancient Times until the 21st century)

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Due to the Ancient Pictish lineage of the MacTavishes, they are not connected nor are they related to the later Teutonic Thomsons of the Scottish Lowlands and Borders.

**1. Conall Gulban** – King of Tir Connaill (Tyr Connall or Tir Chonall), of whom the Cenél Conaill descended from Conn of the Hundred Battles (not Niall of the Nine Hostages or the dynastic Ui Neills who later conquered much of the north of Ireland). The ancestry of these northern tribes and their kings is proclaimed in the *Chronicon Scotorum* as belonging to the *Sil Cuinn* (Race of Conn), not Ui Neill. The Ui Neill link appears as a synthetic fabrication of the dynastic Ui Neill historians of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, who rewrote parts of the Irish annals to their advantage. The *Chronicon Scotorum*, it seems had been overlooked and to have retained its original nature. Conal Gulban’s kindred, the Cenél Conaill, and its branches are Picts (Irish Cruithne), and not Celtic/Gaels related to Niall of the Nine Hostages (although some consider the Picts a Celtic people).

Note: The **Cruithin/Cruithni (Cruithne/Irish Picts)** are believed to have invaded Ireland in 8th century B.C. They are equated to be the Irish tribes of the Dál nAraide/Dal-Araidhe and the Ui Eachach Coba (of the old expanse of Ulster, Ulaidh), as well as the Loigis (of Leinster) and the Sogain (of Connacht and other areas of Northern Ireland). The Cruithni of Scotland are equated with the ancient Pretani, or Picts. Dal n'Ariade means: kindred of the special people, and was also called Crich na Cruithni, Country of the Cruithni, because tribes had settled in north-eastern Hibernia/Ireland. Saint Adamnan (Saint Columba’s biographer) speaks of St. Comgall, who was a Dal n'Araidan, as belonging to the "Cruithni people." The native annals record the names of many of the chiefs of this territory and of their transactions; from these we learn that the lordship of Dalaraidia, after the assumption of surnames was enjoyed principally by chiefs named Crychiog, Larlaid, Ledlobar and Ua Loingsig. These are not Celtic/Gael names, but Pictish names.

Saint Columba was of the Cruithni of Dal-Araidhe. He was baptized in Ireland at Tulach-Dubhglaise, now called Temple-Douglas, by a Cruithni priest named Cruithnechan and afterward became Saint Columba’s foster-father and tutor. When

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Columba visited King Brud Mauur, High King of Alba, in 565, he took along his two best friends, Comgall, Abbott of Bangor, and Cinnidd, Abbott of Achabo. Saint Adamnan deduces them both as Irish Cruithni, and they would have spoken the P-Celtic language.

**The *Sil Cuinn*, the *Cenél Conaill* and its branches are Picts (Irish Cruithne), not Gaels or Ui Neills. Of this there is no mistake. Saint Adamnan, various Irish annals, including the *Chronicon Scotorum*, testify to the lineage and the race of Conn (Sil Cuinn).**

From John O'Hanlon's 1873 version of **Saint Adamnan's *Lives of the Irish Saints***, Vol. IV, page 274, 275 we find the lineage of the Picts of Tyr Conall (Tir Conaill/Tyrconnell or Tirconnell [Irish: Tír Chonaill] as follows: thusly:

“Our saint's (*sic* Columb Cille or Columba) father Fedhlimid or Fedlim was the son of Fergus, otherwise called Fergus Cennfada or Duach – son of the renowned Conal Gulban who gave his name to the principality of Tyr-Conall. He descended from the noble family of the Dal-Araidhe race, who inhabited the southern half of Antrim County, and the greater part of Down County. These were known among the Irish, by the name of Cruithne, or Picts.”

***Chronicon Scotorum***: “Kal. The battle of Almhain, between Murchadh, son [718.] of Bran, King of Laighen, and Fergal, son of Maelduin, King of Erinn [*sic* King of Leith Cuinn or Conn's Half], on the third of the Ides of December, the 6th feria. The number of the Sil Cuinn who went to the battle of Almhain was 20,000. **These are the Kings of the race of Sil Cuinn** who were slain in the battle: Fergal, son of Maelduin, King of Erinn, with 160 of his body guard; Conall Meann, King of Cinel Cairbre, and Forbasach, King of Cinel Boghuine, and Fergal Ua Aithechda, and Fergal, son of Eochaidh Lemhna, King of Tamhnacha; Conalach, son of Conaing; Eiccnech, son of Colga, King of the Airthera; Coibhdenach, son of Fiachra; Muirghius, son of Conall; Lethaitech, son of Cu-carat; Aedhgen Ua Mathgh[am]na; **Nuadha, son of Ore, King of Gull and Irgull**; and ten descendants of Maelfitrih. **Those are the Kings of the North. Here are the Kings of the Ui Neill of the South**, viz.:— Flann, son of Raghallach; Oilill, son of Feradhach; Aedh Laighen Ua Cernaigh; Suibhne, son of Congalach ; Nia, son of Cormac; Dubhdachrich, son of Dubhdainbher; Ailill, son of Conall Grant; Flaithemhail, son of Dluthach; Fergus Ua Eoghain. This is the total number of Kings who fell; and there also perished 160 of the attendants of Fergal, and many others, and nine volatiles, i.e. lunatics.” [Bold text supplied to denote lineage.]

2. Duach, alias Fergus Cennfoda, son of King Conal Gulban of Tyr Conall (Conal's Land), now part of modern Donegal, Ireland (encompasses the later Barony of Kilmacrennan).

Dui (Duach), alias Fergus; his genealogy and race, is noted in ***Lives of the Irish Saints***...

**The Laud Genealogies and Tribal Histories  
LAUD 610 (The Irish text)**

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“---Secht maic Conaill Gulpain .i. Óengus Gunnat, ótaat Cenél nÓengusa; Énna Bógúine, ótát Cenél mBógúine; Dói, ótát Cenél Doach; Fergus Cennfota, Eocho, Nathí, Ruman.”

**English Translation of LAUD 610** (by the author): The seven sons of Conal Gulban, i.e., Oengus Gunnat, of whom is named the Cenél nOenghusa; Enna Boguine, of whom is named the Cenél mBogúine; Duach/Dui of whom is named the Cenél (n)Duach, Fergus Cennfota [of whom\*], Eocu, Nath and Ruman.

[\*Author's note: As Fergus is the only person so described in other texts.]

### **GENELACH CENÍUIL DUACH. (Rawlinson B502)**

(Cenél nDuach genealogy appearing in Rawlinson B502). Here is found the ORC KING.

This genealogy brings forth mention of the Boar or Orc King, Cuircc, Uirc or Orc, undoubtedly the source of both the MacTavish and Campbell boar's head crest. The Genitive of Orc is Uirc, seen in the *Fragmentary Annals of Ireland FA178* (The literal text in **FA178** is: *Nuada Uirc, ri Guill & Irguill*), it translates to: Nuada (son [of]) Uirc (the Boar) King of Guill and Irguill.

Dui, Doi, or Duach (all pronounced: Döëy/Dewey), alias *Fergus Cennfota*, and *Fergus Taulán* (*Fergus Taulán nó Cennfota*) in the **Rawlinson B502** genealogies.

Fergus or Dui (Duach) was Prince of the Cenél Conaill, Prince and founder of Dál-Araide and Cenél nDuach, Prince of Dál-Riada by marriage to Erca Loarn, Princess of Dál-Riada, a daughter of Loarn Mor MacErc. Via Fergus' son, Fedlimid, Grandfather of St. Columba, 1st Abbot of Iona. (Source: *Origines Britannicae*; or, the *Antiquities of the British Churches*, Vol. I, Stillingfleet, Oxford Univ. Press, 1842, p. xciii.)

3. Ninnid(h), Ninnihd Mac Duach, of Cenél nDuach, King of Guill and IrGuill. His offspring or tribe was called: 'Sil Ninnidh'; ca 561-563. **Rawlinson B502 980**: “Nuadu m. Duinechda m. Cuircc m. Duach m. Sechnassaich m. Conaill m. Báetáin m. Ninnida m. Duach m. Conaill Gulban.”

The ancient *Chronicon Scotorum* (CS) also mentions a battle at Cuil Dreimne with the same players, as follows:

Annal CS561, “Kalends. The battle of Cúil Dreimne i.e. in vengeance won over Diarmait son of Cerball. Forcus and Domnall two sons of Mac Erca and Ainmire son of Setna and Nainnid son of Dauí, and Aed son of Eochu Tirmcharna, king of Connacht, were victors through the prayers of Colum Cille\*, saying:

O God!

Why dost thou not ward off the mist,  
That we might reckon the number  
Of the host which has taken judgment from us.  
A host that marches around a Cairn,  
And a son of storm that betray us;  
My druid—he will not refuse me—is  
The Son of God; with us He will act.

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How grandly he bears his course—  
Baedan's steed—before the host;  
Good for Baedan of the yellow hair  
He will win his renown on him.”

(Note: Colum Cille is St. Columba\*, the intercessor with God: The Cenél nDuach (of whom King Báetán/Baedan) is related to St. Columba, links this tribe to Scotland, via the Holy island of Iona and its Abbots. For Nainnid, above, read Ninnidh.)

4. Báetán (Baedan, Báetán Mac Ninneda was an Irish king of the Cenél Conaill. He was the son of Ninnid mac Duach and great grandson of Conall Gulban. He was a member of the Cenél nDuach branch of the Cenél Conaill. He is counted as King of Tara in some sources. The kingship of Tara rotated between the Cenél nEógain and Cenél Conaill branches in the late 6th century.), King of Cenél nDuach and King of Teimar [sic Royal Tara], High King of the Picts, Ireland, d. 584-586. See **Rawlinson B502 980** following for the genealogy of Cenél nDuach Kings.

**Annals of Ulster, Annal U586** “the killing of Baetán son of Ninnid son of Duach (alias son of Fergus Cennfada), son of Conall of Gulbu, king of Temair, who reigned one year.” (From: *The Annals of Uladh*, Cathal MacMaghnusa Maguire, Royal Irish Academy.)

5. Conall, Prince of the Cenél nDuach and Tory Island, of Sil Ninnidh.

6. Sechnusach (Senusa), Prince of the Cenél nDuach and Sil Ninnidh.

7. Duí (Dooey/Duach 2nd), Prince of the Cenél nDuach and Sil Ninnidh.

8. Uircc, or Cuircc, The Boar King (Orc Doith/Boar of Dooey) of the Cenél nDuach, King of Guill and Irguill, flourished 658. **Rawlinson B502 980**: “*Nuadu m. Duinechda m. Cuircc m. Duach m. Sechnassaich m. Conaill m. Báetáin m. Ninnida m. Duach* [alias Fergus Cennfoda] *m. Conaill Gulban.*” This genealogy gives the descent in reverse from King Nuada to King Conal Gulban. Read Meic or Mac for “m.” denoting “the son [of]”.

9. Duinechaid (Manly/Duncan) Prince of the Cenél nDuach and Sil Ninnidh, Succeeded Uircc as Boar King. Killed 691. **Rawlinson B502 980**: “*Nuadu m. Duinechda m. Cuircc m. Duach m. Sechnassaich m. Conaill m. Báetáin m. Ninnida m. Duach* [alias Fergus Cennfoda] *m. Conaill Gulban.*” This genealogy gives the descent in reverse from King Nuada to King Conal Gulban. Read Meic or Mac for “m.” denoting “the son [of]”.

10. Nuada (New, Newness; alias Anmchadh [Latin: Ambrosious] or Immortal), last inaugurated Boar King in Ireland, Chief over Guill and Irguill. Killed 718-722.

**Rawlinson B502 980**: “*Nuadu m. Duinechda m. Cuircc m. Duach m. Sechnassaich m. Conaill m. Báetáin m. Ninnida m. Duach* [alias Fergus Cennfoda] *m. Conaill Gulban.*” This genealogy gives the descent in reverse from King Nuada to King Conal Gulban. Read Meic or Mac for “m.” denoting “the son [of]”.

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*Fragmentary Annals of Ireland* FA178 14. “Nuadu úa Orcdoith, king of Goll and Irgoll Cenél Duach of Cenél Conaill.” Orcdoith is Uricc, number 8 above.

### **Annals of the Four Masters (FM)**

Annals of the Four Masters cites the Battle of Almu, Almhain, or the Hill of Allen as follows:

“The Age of Christ, 718.

**Annal FM718.1** After Fearghal, son of Maelduin, son of Maelfithrigh, had been ten years in sovereignty over Ireland, he was slain in the battle of Almhain, by Dunchadh, son of Murchadh, and Aedh, son of Colgan, an heir presumptive to the sovereignty. The number which the race of Conn brought to this battle was twenty one thousand, and the number brought by the Leinstermen was nine thousand. Of the death of Fearghal was said: Dunchadh, son of Murchadh the Noble, Aedh, son of Colgan of the Red Swords, Slew Fearghal of valiant fight, in the vigorous battle of Almhuin.

The following were the chieftains and leaders of Leath Chuinn [*sic* Conn’s Half] who fell in this battle together with Fearghal: Conall Menn, chief of Cinel Cairbre; Forbasach, chief of Cinel Boghaine; Fearghal Ua Aitheachdae; Fearghal, son of Eochaidh Leamhna, chief of Tamhnach; Connalach, son of Conaing; and Egnech, son of Colgan, chief of the Airthera the Oriors; Coibhdeanach, son of Fiachra; Muirghius, son of Conall; Leathaitheach, son of Concarat; Anmchaidh, son of Concharat; Aedhgen Ua Mathghamhnae; Nuada, son of Eirc, chief of Gull and Irgull; and ten of the race of Maelfithrigh. These were the losses of the chieftains and leaders of the North.”

### **Annals of Tigernach (T) “T722.7** Cath Almuine iter Murchadh mac m-Brain, rí

Laigen & Fergal mac Maile Duin, rí Erenn, tert id Decimbris die sexte ferie. Numeris uero Laiginensium .ix.m. Hi sunt reghes Geniris Cuinn qui in bello ceciderunt. Fergal mac Maile Duin ri Erenn cum .clx. satellitibus suis, oculus Forbusach ri Ceneoil Bogaine, & Conall Menn, rí Ceneoil Cairpri, & Fergal h-ua Aithechta, & Fergal mac Eachach Lemna ri Tamnaghe, & Condalach mac Conaing, & Ecneach mac Colga ri in Airrthir, Coibdenach mac Fiachrach, & Muirgus mac Conaill. Letaitech mac Con Carat, & Anmchadh mac Oircc, ri Guill & Irguill, et .x. nepotés Maile Fithrig. IT e ansin rig in tuaiscirt.” This is nearly identical to **Annal FM718.1**, above.

**English Translation of T722.7** The battle of Almuin (*sic* Hill of Allen) between Murchadh son of Bran, king of Leinster and Fergal son of Mael Dúin, king of Ireland on the 3rd of the ides of December, on a Friday. The number of Leinstermen in fact was 9000. **These are kings of (the) Geniris** (*sic* genealogy of) **Cuinn** (*sic* Conn of the Hundred Battles) who fell in war. Fergal son of Mael Dúin king of Ireland with 160 satellites of his, and Forbasach king of Cenél Bogaine, and Conall Menn, king of Cenél Cairpre, and Fergal grandson of Aithechta, and Fergal son of Eachach Leanna king of Tamnagh, and Condalach son of Conaing, and Ecneach son of Colgan king of the Airther, Coibdenach son of Fiachrach, and Muirghius son of Conall. Letaitech son of Cúcarat and Anmhadh son of Orc, king of Rosguill and Hornhead, and 10 grandchildren of Mael Fithrig. These are the kings of the North.

(Note: Generis indicates one’s own kind/offspring - genealogy. Generis Cuinn indicates Sil Cuinn, Conn’s Race.)

11. Goilla tSamhais or Servant of Saint Thomas, (Meic Nuada) of Sil Ninnidh [tacit] --Naming practices of the Northern Irish.

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12. Meic Goilla tSamhais [tácit]  
--Naming practices of the Northern Irish.

13. MacGiolla tSamhais (Mac Gille Tavish) 7th-9th centuries  
The Cenél nDuach, Chiefs over Irguill and Rosguill.

### “The Part of the Tir Chonail”

#### “To MacGillatsamhais the stout Belong Ros-Guill and Ros-Irguill”

(From the *Topographical Poems* of Irish writer O'Dubhagain. O'Dughagain indicates the races and tribes of antiquity. A copy of O'Dubhagain's poems was originally contained in the Book of O'Dubhagain, called Leabhar Ui Maine, Book of Hy-Many, a great part of which was in possession of Lord Ashburnham. Some are noted as no longer retaining their ancestral lands. The 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> centuries is the time when non-Gael Tribes of Northern Irish were fleeing the lands being occupied by dynastic Ui Neills and their followers (Niall of the Nine Hostages offspring and followers).

### The Tribes of the Ulaidh in Donegal (including the Cenél nDuach, and those with a relationship to Cenél nDuach from the Irish Annals)

1. The Cenél Ciarpre
2. An unnamed Kingdom or region ruled by Fothad
3. The Cenél mBoigane
4. The Moccu Moie
5. The Cenél nDuach (of which Dal-Ariade; and Windukatii Kingdom of Goll & Irgoll are related).
6. The Corpraige (of Fanad)
7. The Cuirenrige (of Inch Island)
8. The Sil or Cenél Lugdach
9. The Cenél nÉoghain
10. The Cenél nÉnnai
11. The Cenél Conail

*Irish Pedigrees, The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation*, 1876, by J. O'Hart

*Irish Pedigrees*, from page 855 gives:

“5. - ANCIENT IRISH SURNAMES.

As many of the ancient Irish surnames are not recorded in O'Clery's, or in Mac-Firbis' Genealogies, or in the Linea AiUiqwa, or in the Betham Genealogical Collections, we have collected from "The Topographical Poems of O'Dugan and O'Heerin," "The Tribes and Customs of Hy-Fiachra" and other works published by the Celtic and Archaeological Societies in Ireland, the following Irish family names, and the modern anglicised forms which they assumed:

The Name Has been modernized  
Clan Shane (a Sept of the O'Farrells) ... Shaen.  
MacAindria ... Andrews, MacAndrew, Anderson.  
MacBlosky ... MacClosky, Closky.

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MacBrehon ... Judge.  
MacCarrghanma ... Carron, MacCarron, MacCarroon,  
MacCarhon, and Carson.  
MacCiounaith ... MacKenna (of Meath Hy-Niall).  
MacConboirne ... Bourns.  
MacConin ... Kenneyon, Cannig.  
MacCoshy ... Foote ("cos:" Irish, the foot).  
MacCrossan ... Crosby, Crobie.  
MaeFmnbliair ... Maginver, Gaynor.  
MacGallogly ... Ingoldsby.  
MacGilla Sinin ... Synan.  
MacGillicuskly ... Cushley.  
MacGilla Kenny ... Kilkenny.  
**MacGilla tSamhais ... MacIlTavish, MacTavish.**  
(Bold text supplied.)

The original spelling of MacGilla tSamhais (Mac Gille Tavis) in the Irish Gaelic Unical Alphabet is: *MAC GIOLLA TÁMHAIR*

Also in vernacular is seen:

*MAC GIOLLA FÁMHAIR* and *MAC GIOLLA TÁMHAIR*.

See: *Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall: or Irish Names and Surnames* by Patrick Woulfe, 1906, pp. 22, 67, 74, 75, 84, 97, for the old forms of MacTavish, including modern name appellations such as Thomson.

The MacTavishes get their lands of Dunardry in Knapdale, Argyllshire, in the ninth century. The *European Magazine and London Review* was the publication of the Philological Society of London, and the oldest learned society in all of Great Britain. In 1793, the same year that Lachlan MacTavish of Dunardry was granted arms by then Lord Lyon, John Hooke-Campbell, an article appeared in the *European Magazine and London Review*, which stated, "**MacTavifh, or Thomfon of Dunardary**" held their lands for upwards of 900 years, taking us back to the early expanse of the Scottish Nation, and the approximate year of 893 AD. Clip from the *European Magazine and London Review*.

**other children : our Author's father was married to a daughter of Campbel of Ashfield, and her mother was a daughter of Mac Tavifh, or Tompson of Dunardary. This is a very ancient and respectable family, who have inherited the estate of Dunardary for upwards of nine hundred years. Our Author was**

Source: *European Magazine and London Review*, Vol. 23, Philological Society of London, J. Sewell, Cornwall, 1793, p. 358. London society became well aware of the ancientness of the MacTavishes from this article.

13. 'Gille Tamhais' [implicit].

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14. Gilbrid 'an Sporran' (servant of St. Brigit of Ireland)

He is Sept to the Lords of the Isles buried on Iona, father of Paul (below).

From Martin Martin's, *A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland*, is found: "In the west end is the tombs of Gilbrid and Paul Sporran, ancient tribes of the Macdonalds."

15. Paul 'an Sporran' called Balkason

He, with his father Gilbrid, are recorded as sept to the Lords of the Isles (i.e. later the MacDonalds). He is an Isles Chief at the time of Somerled and purportedly Laird of the lands of Loch Awe in the 11th century, as well as Sheriff of the Isle of Skye. He is buried on Iona.

There were two men named Pall or Paul Balkason, one in the 11th, and one in the 12th century, who may or may not be related. Balki (balka from Baelg in old Danish/Norse means 'a bag', from which comes Balkason, Son of 'the Bag' (i.e. son of the sporan.)

*The Chronicle of Mann and the Sundries*, printed for the Manx Society, where "Pol son of Balki (Paul Balkison) is noted, ca 1143". He appears as Pol filius Boke (Latin) in the mediaeval *Chronicle of Mann*; as Paal Baccas in the 19th century *Bannatyne Manuscript*; as Pol, son of Bok in late 18th century *MacLeod tradition*. He is sheriff or lord of the Isle of Skye. These Pauls appear to be the same man. *Highland Papers*, Vol. IV, page 53, calls him "Paruic or Paul an Sporain", but the name Paruic is not found elsewhere and is undoubtedly a misnomer for Padruic (a Gaelic form of Patrick). From Martin Martin's *A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland* is found: "In the west end is the tombs of Gilbrid and Paul Sporran, ancient tribes of the Macdonalds." West end meaning in the graveyard of Saint Oran's Chapel, Iona. Paul or Padruic is not called O'Duibne.

16. Chuchullin/Cucalumn/Calumn Maol Maith (aka Giolla Espoc, Escoib or Gillespuig) of the Race of **MACḠIOLLA ṬḠÁRḠAṬ**

(Norman/Roman influence: Gillespuig or Erkenbald/Archibald)

"Servant of the Abbot or Bishop", linked to Celtic Church of Iona.

11th century chief; often called Colin in Campbell writs. (Cucalumn is 'Hound of Columba', or simply Calumn, i.e. Column, and Maol Maith means, 'The Chief who is Good'.)

17. Tamhais Mor (Tavis Mor), or Tavis the Great, 12th century Warlord, founder of Clan MacTavish in Scotland. He is known as Tavis Mor MhicMacCalumn. And recorded as a valorous warrior, taking lands in Cowal, from whence he receives the title, 'great'. Sheriff *James Robertson's Journal*. Vol. II, 1842—1846, Robertson, Sheriff Substitute North Argyll: In 1844, Sheriff James Irvine Robertson wrote the MacTavishes spring from "Tavish mor Mac MhicCalain", [sic for Calumn). Tamhus, Tavish Mór, was an actual person according to Miss MacLeod of Springbank House in Tobermory, the local historian.

### GENEALOGY of THE MACTAVISH of DUN AN ÀRDRIGH

#### Descendants of the Cenél nDuach

Note the various early recorded spellings of MacTavish, such as McCawis, MacCaus, or *Makcaus* etc, are elided or Latinized forms of the name.

1 The Ceann Feadhna

2 The Ceann Cinnidh

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### The Chiefly Family

Most people believe that what we call and understand as clans, have existed forever. This is simply not the case. The Celtic family or political / protection / military unit was the Cenél, a group larger than a clan; and the Tribe in Ireland, called a Sept, which could be made up of non-related groups joined for a common purpose.

In an early era, usually before the 13th century, the use of the title “chief” is also misunderstood. The headman of a familial group, for simplicity, is usually called a chief, but this is truly an English concept. The Irish *Ri* or *Righ* (pron: ree), is often denoted as a King, but is truly the headman (unless over a large territory), a great leader, warlord, or simply a chief. Were the *Ri* is over multiple subordinate chiefs or sub-kings, he can usually be called “The King.” This is precisely were the concept of High King (Ard Righ) originated, the greater leader having under him sub-kings or chiefs who offered him some degree of loyalty.

The principal administrator and war leader of the tribe or clan was called in the Gaelic, either, *Ceann Feadhna* (pron: Kēy-ānne Fena), tribal leader, sometimes a war lord, or *Ceann Cinnidh* (pron: Kēy-ānne Kínny), the chief of the clan, or chief of the warriors. The chief of the clan was also not always the war leader, hence two designations are applicable in some instances. To distinguish between those who bore the title, Dunardry, the use of ‘chief’ is used simply for ease of identification. But early on *Ceann Feadhna* is more correct. These MacTavish ancestors were indeed the headmen of the tribe, and can therefore be broadly considered as *Ri* or *Righ*, the chief leaders or headmen, descending from the Kings of Guill and Irguill, in Donegal. The MacTavish chiefly families were Princes of Irish Royal Blood.

These men, of whatever lineage, perceived that the smaller group (the clan vice the larger cenél) was in their interest, based on the circumstances they encountered. These early clan leaders sometimes broke from their parental roots, took the names of their contemporary leaders, and formed an independent structure, the clan. In some instances the older relationships were maintained to a degree, but with a much loser form. Within this concept however, there were still superior rulers; kings, thanes, barons, and later such titles as, earls and dukes. Under the early Highland clan leaders there were still alliances, made and broken, and remade again, but the clan or family concept (akin to the Irish sept or tribe) prevailed well until the 18th century. It still had some bearing on events and relationships in the 19th century, then waned, except for a very few number of clan societies, based on the old clan concept. The Clans were only reborn in the 20th century, when the worldwide clan concept began to take root.

In 1845 the Chief of Clan MacTavish, Sheriff Dugald MACTAVISH of Dunardry wrote “...twenty one generations from father to son without an instance of collateral or female succession- (National Library and Archives of Canada: Hargrave-MacTavish Papers, Letter by Sheriff Dugald MacTavish of Dunardry, dated Kilchrist, 18 Feb. 1845.)

Now we may continue the progressive pedigree of the Chiefs of the Clan MacTavish. Considering those generations from Tavis the Great (Tamhais Mór) in line of succession, we have lost an insignificant number of generations which Sheriff Dugald clearly knew to be his ancestors. The lineage drawn up by Lachlan of Dunardry, Dugald’s father, about 1790-1793, was missing a few generations. However, in 1845, Sheriff Dugald’s mention

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of 21 generations is in all sincerity correct to his knowledge, and exceeds the pedigree which his father laid down, ca 1790-93. Obviously, the sheriff knew of, or held, papers which yielded the pedigree.

It should be understood that nominally three generations are considered to exist over a 100 year expanse, however this figure may actually be more or less. The *sloinneadh*, or traditionally held pedigree in the male line, when considered by the Court of Session (Court of Session, XA22/03, 30 January 2004, the case of MacDonald of Keppoch) may or may not contain each and every generation, and this fact has no absolute bearing on the progression, or selection of a proper heir when additional sources seek to improve upon it. The *sloinneadh* is nominally said to run only eight or nine generations, without emendation. The genealogy/pedigree of the MacTavish chiefs runs far beyond the nine generation *sloinneadh* and, as presented (within this book), is void of only a few generations, which may be considered inconsequential due to its length and antiquity, including emendation. MacTavish is commonly used following in place of other spellings.

### 1 The Ceann Feadhna

**Tamhais Mor, or Tavis the Great, The Epytom, a son of Calumn Moal Maith, and a daughter (possibly Margaret) of Suibne Ruadh**, Thane of Glassary and Knapdale, and builder of Castle Sween on the western coast of Knapdale. Tamhais is considered the eponymous first MACTAVISH Chief in Knapdale, and he may have shed the designations of Cenél nDuach and Sil Ninnidh, or simply broke with the traditional use of those titles. He is the root of what emerged as the Clan Tavish or MacTavish. He lived ca 1110-1200, but dates this far in the past are inaccurate, at best, and Tamhais Mor's birth year, according to the MacTavish Tradition, is 1145 AD; which is much more realistic.

MacTavish Tradition names a son, Tavis or Tamhais Cor, (the byname Cor/Coir meaning 'The Singular' and as used here Cor means the "only" son), with a birth year ca 1220 AD. Father and son have been confused in legend as one person. Then, perhaps one or two generations did not previously appear in known records (see: *sloinneadh*, preceding), until searched-out. The 13th century is the era when the concept of the Scottish clan is solidified, and transits away from the larger kin group (Cenél) concept. The independent nature of the clans emerge about this time-frame. This is one era when Argyll records seem to have been tampered with, or do not now exist. Such a lack of muniments can lead to uninterrupted maneuvering of historic fact, with few able to look backwards and say that what was written is truly correct or incorrect. Much of the past is based purely upon traditional accounts, which can be untrustworthy. There are exceptions to this, however. Within existing documents there are facts which provide an avenue to gaze into the past and to see that certain entries in the registers are not written according to subsequent or preceding facts. Where such happens the focus is to look into those other records and correct the misplaced entry accordingly. Some pedigrees were actually rewritten, not once but in several eras, to provide a different descent for their descendents, and to manipulate the descent of those claimed to be of the same blood. The later is exactly what occurred with the pedigree of the MacTavishes.

### 2 The Ceann Cinnidh

**Baron Duncan M'Thamais is considered the 1st chief of Dunardry**, and who is noted with the territorial title. In 1324 "many lands in Argyll" (**Argyll Transcripts**: charters,

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sasines, etc., 1257-1741, and *Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland*) were awarded by the King, for supplying the services of ship. On 25 AUG 1355, Duncan gives testimony at an inquest held at Inverleccan (currently the town of Furnace) before the Sheriff of Argyll, concerning Campbell lands in Glassary. Niall D. Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll, wrote of Duncan M'Thamais, "He was undoubtedly the chief of Dunardarie of the period" (*The Clan Tavish by Niall D. Campbell, 10<sup>th</sup> Duke of Argyll*), confirming that the MacTavish chiefs were long hailed by their territorial title, well before the first feudal charter of 1533. The next three generations were previously unknown until recently.<sup>4</sup> This is an instance where traditions do not appear correct when looking at historic records, and discovering within something that does not follow the traditional or logical progression. When such a discovery is made, it can then be placed in the proper context. Hereafter is an unbroken line of the Chiefs of Clan MacTavish in Argyll, who descend from Baron Duncan M'Thamais. The 10th Duke of Argyll, N. D. Campbell, recalled in *The Clan Tavish* that at least two of the lands held of the MacTavishes were in "Capite", or given by the King.

Issue of Baron Duncan M'THAMAIS:

-Eugenius *Makcaus* (Eugenius Mackaus: the Latin interpretation of Ewin or Ian and MacTavish), noted as a former priest or vicar.

***Eugenius Makcaus, (or Ian), 2nd chief***, who as a former Vicar of the Church is noted in the *Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland*<sup>4</sup>, grandfather to the sons of Lauchlan. He was undoubtedly a lay Vicar (Celtic Church), a position that did not preclude him from also being a chief of warriors.

Issue of Eugenius Makcaus:

-Lauchlan Makcawis, who succeeded.

***Lauchlan Makcawis or MACTAVISH, 3rd chief.***

Issue:

-Duncan Makcawis.

-Ian (called Eugenius) M'Caus.

-Alexander (or Alister) Makcawis (appearing in descent within the Charter of 1533, is "MacAlister"- the son of Alister), who succeeded.

***Alexander or Alister Makcawis or MACTAVISH, 4th chief***, is the ancestor of Dunardarie recorded within the Charter of 1533, as "MacAlister", and in the 1547 Precept of Clare Constat under the alias "VcAlexander".

Of note is the use of three spelling variations, Makcawis, M'Caus, and Makcaus within the same entry of *Register of the Privy Seal*.<sup>4</sup> The 1533 Dunardry infiefment, in comparison to the Privy Seal entry, indicates "*John Macalister VcEwin VcCaus*", which means to say: John, who is descended of Alister (aka VcAlexander), who is descended of Ewin (i.e. Eugenius), who is a grandson of \* or descended of Tavis. The lineage is also stated in the 1547 Precept of Clare Constat for "*infefment of Dugall McAne VcAlexander VcEwin as son and heir of deceased John McAllexander (aka MacAlister) VcEwin*" (see abstract following). The appearance of Alister or Alexander, (a descendant of the Vicar Eugenius) in the documents for infiefment indicates the dating of the MacTavish entry in the *Register of the Privy Seal* is ambiguous, and unequivocally affords us the MacTavish chiefly lineage in lieu of muniments to that effect. One person,

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is omitted in the descent. This elusive relative was likely dead before ownership was transferred.

Issue of Alexander Makcawis:

-Ean MacTawys

17 July 1456 **Ean 'Gorum' (blue) MacTawys or MACTAVISH, 5th chief**, witnessed a charter to the Friar Preachers of Glasgow from Donald MacLachlane of Strathloachlan.<sup>5</sup> (*The Clan Tavish*, N. D. Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll, p. 4; "Ean appeared at an Inquisition held at Inverary, on 21 July 1563 (and is subsequently, in 1657, referred to as having been the great-grandfather of Eoin MacTavish of Dunardarie)".<sup>5</sup> This is the same Ean Gorum, referred to in the charter to the Friar Preachers of Glasgow made by Donald MacLachlane of Strathloachlan.) *The Clan Tavish*, N.D. Campbell, self-published booklet, ca 1870, p. 4.)

He is named for Ian (*Eugenius Makcaus*, the Vicar). It appears from several charters, that the MACTAVISH were still living on the remnants of Scan(n)ish lands in Cowal even if the superior laird was not at that time a MACTAVISH. (There are a number of MACTAVISH name variations found in Cowal. Some are listed in *The Commons of Argyll*, by D.C. MACTAVISH.)

Issue:

-Duncan MACTAVISH (McCaus or McTaus) of Dunardarie, younger.

-Allan MacTaus, his brother.

Both Duncan and Allan are called ballies to James Scrymgeour, the Constable of Dundee in 1490, and landowner in Argyll.

**Duncan MACTAVISH, 6th chief**, shown in extant written records, is called Dunardarie, occurring in 1490. This Duncan, is a son of Ean, who shows up in both 1490 and 1498, along with Allen MacTaus, his brother. Duncan's 1st son is named Ean after his grandfather, and he is a witness to an Argyll charter (from the 2nd Earl) on 18 NOV 1510, a short time before the Battle of Flodden.<sup>6</sup> This recordation (by the 10th Duke of Argyll) again clearly indicates the MACTAVISH chiefs were styled "Dunardry" before the first extant charter of 1533, and points toward the MACTAVISH chiefs being recognized with the territorial designation, and ownership of Dunardry for a longer period than has been credited to their race.<sup>7</sup>

Issue:

-Ean (or John) MACTAVISH, the heir, who was killed 1513.

-Donald who settled at Clachan, Ardtalnaig, on Loch Tay, and held a crown charter for those lands. His descendants and regional relatives moved to the Glen Quaich area of Perthshire. It is unknown if he has a living heir who would be Chieftain of this branch.

**Ean VcCaus or MACTAVISH, 7th chief**. Among the dead at the Battle of Flodden, 9 SEP 1513, accompanying the 2nd Earl of Argyll where: The Earl, Archibald Campbell, John Campbell of Lawers, Dougall Campbell of Inverawe, and Duncan MACTAVISH, the Chief, as well as Allan MacTaus, Duncan's brother, among others. Donald, above, must have relinquished the honor, but for which there is no known record.

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Issue of Ean VcCaus or MACTAVISH:

-Dougall or Dugald.

With the death of Duncan and Allan (Battle of Flodden, 1513) the Chiefship passed to their cousin, Dougall, who died BEF 20 OCT 1547.

ABSTRACT: "At Glenselchis, 18th June, 1547, Precept of Clare Constat by the Master and the Earl of Argyll, addressed to their beloved Mr. Donald McKay of Kilarchurmaig, for the infefment of Dugall McAne VcAlexander VcEwin as son and heir of deceased John McAllexander VcEwin, in the 7 ½ merk lands in Knapdale. Witnesses: John Lamont of Knockdow, Dugall Campbell of Ardquhlydre, John Ukiltre of Kildalvan, Mr. Archibald McVicar, Provost of Killmun, and Mr. Alexander McCavis\*, Rector of Kilmoir"<sup>8</sup> (P/W)

**Dougall (Dugald) MACTAVISH of Dunardry, 8th chief**, had issue:

-Patrick MACTAVISH, who succeeded.

-Archibald (Allester) MACTAVISH of Auchnashalloch. It is unknown if there is a living heir who would be Chieftain of this branch.

Succeeding next to Dunardry, and to the Chiefship, is **Patrick, 9th chief**, eldest son of Dougall (Dugald), who is recognized as heir to the lands in a Precept of Clare Constat at Inverary on 21 JUL 1547, for infiefment in succession to his father, and in sasine on 2 NOV the same year. On 28 JUL 1569 he is acknowledged in a Charter for Dunardry from the Earl of Argyll. After his infiefment, Patrick marries Marion nyn Ean vic Donald Glass, alias Campbell. On 2 MAY 1596 Patrick and spouse, Marion, receive a joint charter from Alexander Campbell of Laggs, for two merklands of Cregmurreill, in the Barony of Glassarie.<sup>9</sup>

Issue:

-Margaret, married Donald M'Sorlle Lamont of Monidrairie in 1617.

-Ean (or Ian, John) who apparently succeeded as a minor to Dunardry.

-Allister or Alaisdair who succeeded to Auchnashalloch, and appears 1611 in a bond granted by himself not to do harm to Campbell of Barneschaleg.

**Ean MacCaus or MACTAVISH, 10th chief**, succeeded his father, Patrick, as chief and inheritor of the Lands of Dunardry. Ean AKA Ian (or John), became chief, shortly after 8 JUN 1580. Died BEF 6 NOV 1633.

Issue:

-Archibald McCawis.

The Chiefship of the Clan then passed to **Archibald MacCawis or MACTAVISH, 11<sup>th</sup> chief**, but on the same day he was recognized as heir, he resigned the Dunardry lands to his son Eion (Ian) or John, although Archibald remained Chief until his death.

Issue of Archibald McCawis:

-Eoin, Ian or John McCawis or MACTAVISH.

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**Eoin, Ian or John McCawis or MACTAVISH, 12th chief**, married More McNeill on 7 AUG 1651, and by her had four sons, Donald the heir, Dugall, Archibald and Hew (or Hugh). John MacKuwes of Tonardy was appointed one of *His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Argyllshire*.<sup>10</sup> The cousins, MacTavishes of Dunoransay, Dunrosan (Dun Rostan) in that year appear as the brothers Dugall (or Donald) and Hugh. Dugall was the second son born to John McCawis of Dunardry, and Hugh, the youngest of four brothers succeeded to Dunrosan in 1677. Hugh's grave is at Kilmicheal of Inverlussa burial grounds, South Knapdale, and a coat-of arms is borne upon his tombstone.<sup>11</sup>

The small fort of Dunans (Knapdale) is attributed to having been built by John MacTavish of Dunardrie (Dunardry) in the 1600s. It consisted of a fortified dwelling and the name means 'small fort' in the Gaelic; spelled alternately as Dounans. It is located just south of the Crinan Canal, and west of Loch a'Bharain, on a western facing hill. It is within sight of the Cruach Mhor hill at Dunardry. There was also a farm house built on the property by Chief Alexander, 15th of Dunardry, which still stands. (In 1995 the Dunans farm was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wright.<sup>12</sup>)

**Alternate entry for: Eoin, Ian or John McCawis, or McAishe, or MACTAVISH (12th chief)** was served heir to the lands in 1643 by Argyll, and Patrick, son of Dougall of Dunardrie, is mentioned as being his great-grandfather. On 7th AUG 1651 he married Marion Campbell, to whom was given Liferent and who in 1685 is mentioned as his widow cruelly robbed by the Atholl men after Argyll's rising during the Monmouth Rebellion. On 18 NOV, Eoin testifies on oath at Inverary before the Marquis of Argyll (son of the Earl) that his son (i.e. Dougall) was killed at Stirling (12 SEP 1648), and having lost most of his arms during the fray (sword and musket), the Marquis of Argyll provided him with new weapons. Eoin died before 15th MAY 1669. (*The entries from two sources for the 12<sup>th</sup> Chief do not agree on all points.*)

Issue:

- Donald MACTAVISH, who died young.
- Donald MACTAVISH, second son so named, who succeeded, and was found heir to his mother's brother, John M'Neill, in 1658.
- Dougall MACTAVISH, who died 12 SEP 1648, at the Battle of Stirling during the Great Civil War.
- Duncan MACTAVISH, who died before 1700.
- Marie MACTAVISH, who married Dougall Campbell in 1659 at Skerbleingorrie.
- Katharine MACTAVISH † (*BTB*), married 1st Donald MacAlister of Brenfeorline, who died; and 2nd Duncan Campbell of Culygaltro, ca 1672.

On 13 SEP 1663, Duncan, the youngest son of John and Marion, helped to abduct Jean Campbell daughter of the Lady Otter, Anna Stirling, from the house Iain M'Neill of Taynish (Anna's 2nd marriage), and took her into his custody, keeping her at Castle Sween, for which an arrest warrant was issued. The primary person mention in the abduction was John Campbell. The youngest son of John McAish of Dunardry was Duncan McAish or MacTavish, who some say later married Jean Campbell.

**Donald McCawis or MACTAVISH (2nd son of the name), 13th chief**, or **Donaldum Maktavis**, received a charter for Dunardrie from the Earl of Argyll at Inverary, and succeeded to the Chiefship (P/W). His lands were forfeited in 1685 for his part in following the Earl of Argyll (Campbell chief) in the Monmouth Rebellion the previous year

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but were later restored to his cousin, also named Dugald (alias Donald). He married Bessie, daughter of Reverend Dugald Campbell, the parson of North Knapdale, in 1677, a cadet of the House of Campbell of Auchnabreck. Donald's birth date is unknown, but he died before his father, Eion, ca 18 SEP 1700.

Issue:

-Dugald MACTAVISH – 14th Chief in 1685, during the Monmouth Rebellion. Carnassarie Castle was under siege and the Athol men surrounded it. The defenders of the castle were promised protection should they surrendered the castle. However, young Dugald MACTAVISH aged 21, who succeeded as 14th chief and Officer of the Guard, was executed by hanging after the surrender.<sup>13</sup> He is buried at Kilmartin Churchyard.

-Alexander MACTAVISH (15th), who was heir, died 1685 in the Monmouth Rebellion serving the Earl of Argyll.

-Margaret MACTAVISH, married James Campbell.

-Elsbeth (Elizabeth) MACTAVISH, married 1st Hector McNeill of Ardelay (Isle of Gigha), and 2nd Hector M'Allistar (MacAlister) of Lockhead (otherwise Kinlochkyllisport). A son of Hector McNeill and Elsbeth was Neil Dubh McNeill, who immigrated to North Carolina about 1739.

-Marion MACTAVISH, married James, a brother to Iain Campbell, 5<sup>th</sup> Laird of Kirkcubbin.

**Dugald MACTAVISH, 14th chief**, was hanged at Carnassarie Castle, aged 21 years, in 1685 during Argyll's Rising in the Monmouth Rebellion. He was succeeded by his brother Alexander. He was buried at Kilmartin Churchyard.

**Alexander MACTAVISH, 15th chief**, died 1685 in Argyll's Rising, as part of the Monmouth Rebellion. Succeeded his brother, Dugald.

**Donald MACTAVISH, 16th chief**, became male heir at the death of his cousin Alexander, and died ca 18 SEP 1700. He married 1st Ann Campbell, and 2nd Christian Campbell.

Issue by Ann Campbell:

-Margaret MACTAVISH.

Issue by Christian Campbell:

-Archibald MACTAVISH, who succeeded, died November 18, 1752.

**Archibald MACTAVISH, 17th chief**, married Jean Campbell daughter of Duncan Campbell of Blarintibirt and his wife Margaret.

Issue:

-Dugald M'Tavish or MACTAVISH who died 1782.

-James M'TAVISH. Dates unknown. He served as a jurist in 1783.

-Margaret M'TAVISH, married Donald McNiall sometime after 1724.

-Finguala (Florence) M'TAVISH<sup>14</sup>, married Reverend Patrick Campbell 11 AUG 1734, and had issue. She died 8 APR 1757.

**Dugald MACTAVISH, 18th chief**, died 1782. He married 1733 to Isobel MacLachlan at a young age, daughter of Lachlan MacLachlan, the MacLachlan chief, by his wife

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Florence Campbell. Isobel was long-lived, and died after 1809, being near 100 years of age.

Issue:

-Lachlan MACTAVISH of Dunardarie born 1740, died 1796 and was entombed at Greyfriars cemetery, Edinburgh.

-Duncan MACTAVISH, (Lieutenant, later Captain in 104th Regiment of Foot) married at Largie, 29 MAR 1789, Catherine Campbell, daughter of Dugald Campbell (3rd) of Kilmartin, and his wife and 1st cousin, Margaret (Camp. of Barmandy). Duncan is called "Son of MacTavish of that Ilk and Dunardrigh". Recorded with issue, but children are unknown at this time.

-Florence MACTAVISH married 11 FEB 1767 to Reverend Archibald Campbell.

**Lachlan MACTAVISH, 19th chief**, married Mary Loch, only daughter of William Loch of Halkshaw. He sold Dunardry to Campbell of Barbeck in 1796. He became Surveyor and Governor General of the Tax Department for Widows and Orphans, St. James Court, Edinburgh. He died at Edinburgh, 1796, entombed Grayfriars cemetery. His estate testament was dated 4 AUG 1797.

Issue:

-Dugald MACTAVISH, (20th) born 1781 at Dunardry (probably Dunans house), died 20 JUL 1855 at Kilchrist Castle, Stewarton, Campbeltown, Kintyre.

-John George MACTAVISH, who later changed his spelling to MCTAVISH, was born ca 1787, at Dunardry (Dunans house), Knapdale, Scotland, and died 20 JUL 1847 in Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes, Lower Canada. He initially went to Canada in the employ of the North West (fur trading) Company (NWC). He had two "county wives" (a somewhat accepted practice in the wilds of Canada in that era) of mixed-blood. His 1st "county wife" was Charlotte Thomas, about 1802, a daughter of John Thomas the Hudson's Bay Company chief at Moose Factory. But the NWC moved its operation and he had to abandon her. His 2nd "country wife" was Nancy McKenzie, daughter of former NWC trader, Roderick Mackenzie, and by her had issue, five daughters. He went back to Scotland on a trip where he met Catherine Turner, his 1st legal/traditional marriage, who died in 1841 at Lake of Two Mountains (near Oka), Quebec. His second legal marriage, MAR 1843, was to Elizabeth (Eppie) Cameron, niece of Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) Chief Factor Angus Cameron, with issue, two daughters. His will provided for all his children.

-Margaret (Mary) MACTAVISH. Married Charles Pasley.

-Flora MACTAVISH. Married 5 NOV 1815 Donald Maclean, Esq., Surgeon from Oban. She died 13 JAN 1816 at Dunstaffnage.

**Dugald MACTAVISH, 20th chief**, was Sheriff Substitute at Campbeltown, and Writer to the Signet. He married Letitia Lockhart, who died 29 AUG 1859. They are buried together in a family kist at Kilmartin Churchyard, North Knapdale, Argyll, Scotland.

Issue:

-Letitia MACTAVISH was born 1813 in Edinburgh, Scotland, and died of cholera 18 SEP 1854 in Sault Ste-Marie, Ontario, buried St. James' Cemetery, Toronto. She married James Joseph Hargrave of the HBC.

-Florence MACTAVISH was born BEF 1813?

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- Mary MACTAVISH was born BEF 1813? - and died 1846.  
(One of the daughters was born 3 DEC 1821.)
- William MACTAVISH was born 1815, Edinburgh, and died 15 JUL 1870, Liverpool, Eng. Succeeded as chief in 1855.
- Dugald MACTAVISH was born 10 AUG 1817 at Kilchrist near Campbeltown, Argyllshire. He worked for the HBC, as factor and chief trader in Vancouver, and later, Hawaii. He died 24 MAY 1870 or 71, at Montreal, Quebec. He was married Maggie McTavish, with no issue.
- John 'George' MACTAVISH, (named for his uncle) born after 1818. Migrated to the West Indies, flourished in the Sugar Trade. Died unmarried in 1859, Tobago, West Indies.
- Lockhart MACTAVISH, born JAN-FEB(?) 1828, Campbeltown, Kintyre, was a prominent Sheep Rancher in Dunedin and Otoga, Australia, died 15 FEB 1899, at Moray Place, Edinburgh, Scotland. Buried Marchmont (alternate name: Southern) cemetery.
- John MACTAVISH<sup>15</sup>, born at Kilchrist near Campbeltown, Kintyre. Died young.
- Alexander MACTAVISH, born 1829-30, at Kilchrist near Campbeltown, Kintyre, died unmarried in Australia.
- Hector MACTAVISH, born at Kilchrist near Campbeltown, Kintyre, drowned 1844 in Hudson's Bay, Canada.

**William MACTAVISH, 21st chief**, became Hudson's Bay Company Governor of Assiniboia and Rupert's Land, in Canada. He married Sarah McDermott in 1858 (b.1829, d. 1872), daughter of Andrew McDermott and Sarah McNab. He was officially found heir to his father and registered 8 March 1858 in 'Service of Heirs' records.

### Issue:

- James William MACTAVISH, M.D., born 1860, Fort Garry, Assiniboia, Hudson's Bay Territory (Winnipeg, Manitoba), Canada; died 2 APR 1900 in Brighton, England.
- Florence "Belle" (twin). Born 13 FEB 1861 Fort Garry, Assiniboia, Hudson's Bay Territory (Winnipeg, Manitoba), She wed 1890, Col. Samuel Lawrence Bedson (b. Eng. 1842), who when in the Quebec Rifles served during the North-West Rebellion. No issue found.
- Mary Louise or Maria Laititia (twin). Born 13 FEB 1861 Fort Garry, Assiniboia, Hudson's Bay Territory (Winnipeg, Manitoba). Died: UNK. She married 1883 Henry Roderick McDermot, brother of Miles or Myles McDermot of the HBC. Henry was a District Inspector-Royal Irish Constabulary, a descendant of "THE MCDERMOT, Prince of Collavin", and had issue: 6 children, 5 girls and 1 boy, Roderick (Rory) who was in the Irish Rebellion of 1916, and later a Captain in the Irish Free State Army. (Re: Florence and Mary as children: were 'godmothers' of two of the bells at St. Boniface Cathedral, the Red River Settlement.)
- Andrew Dugald (Dougall) MACTAVISH, who succeeded his brother,

The Lord Lyon, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney stated in a letter dated 6th DEC 1950, to the MacTavish family that William was chief 1845-1870 (it is thought the actual years were 1855, the year Sheriff Dugald died; and 1870 the year Gov. William died at Liverpool). A copy of the William's will disappeared from the HBC archives in the later 1940s. A copy of the will may still reside in England at the Kew Archives, but is misplaced.

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**Dr. James William MACTAVISH, 22nd chief.** He married Agnes Maud Cayley, (b. 1861), in Kensington and Chelsea, London, England, 2 OCT 1889. James was a doctor of medicine and practiced in Stonewall, Manitoba, Canada. James and Agnes had no issue. He was succeeded by his brother Andrew Dugald.

**Andrew Dugald MACTAVISH, 23rd chief.** He married Marguerite (Margaret or Maggie) Marie McTavish, 17 JAN 1888, daughter of John Henry McTavish (d. 1888) and wife Maria Rowland. John Henry worked for the HBC at Fort Garry, and later for the Canadian Pacific Railroad from which he retired. Andrew Dugald was erroneously reported in certain newspaper articles on Clan MacTavish as Andrew Douglas MACTAVISH.

Issue:

-John William Alexander Joseph MACTAVISH, born 20 NOV 1889; died 24 DEC 1954. Chief designate. Contacted by Lord Lyon, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney.

-Lorna Mary MACTAVISH, was born 22 JAN 1893, and died in 1983.

-Mary Cecelia MACTAVISH, was born 29 APR 1899 and died 22 DEC 1976. She married Daniel A. Towne, in AUG 1926.

-Andrew Dougall "Dugard" MACTAVISH (2nd), was born 20 DEC 1890 and died 14 FEB 1970. He married Marie Anne Florestine Pelletier. He succeeded his brother John William Alexander MACTAVISH.

-Georgina Flora (Flora) MACTAVISH, born 10 FEB 1895, Le Domaine, Quebec, Canada, and married Charles FROST.

**John William (called J.W.) Alexander Joseph MACTAVISH, 24th chief,** born 20 NOV 1889; died 24 DEC 1954. Chief designate, after historian Margaret Arnett MacLeod had traced the family at the request of Lord Lyon (See *Lethbridge Herald* following). Lord Lyon Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, encouraged J.W. to formally register his claim to the armorial bearings of the Chiefship of Clan MacTavish, but as he was a very ill man J.W. did not matriculate.

The *Lethbridge Herald* (Newspaper), Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, Monday, November 20, 1950, p. 4, reported the following:

"Scotland is calling the MacTavishes. The Lord Lyon of Scotland has written a Winnipeg historian in an attempt to find the chief of Clan Tavish in time for a gathering of the chiefs of all Scottish clans in 1951. The last chief of Clan Tavish on record was William MacTavish, the last governor of the Western Canadian region of Rupert's land."

The *Minutes of the MacTavish Clan Reunion* held on July 10, 1948 at Wasagaming (Clear Lake) Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba, Canada exhibits the following entry:

"Mrs. Margaret MacLeod has had considerable correspondence with the Lord Lyons King at Arms, and he has expressed himself as being quite satisfied with the credentials of John William, and has written him urging him to make application for Matriculation in the Lyons Court so that the matter can be dealt with there. John William would be the 24th Chief, in an unbroken succession, one of the longest lines in Scottish Clan history."

**Andrew Dougald (or Dugald) "Dugard" MACTAVISH, MM, 25th chief,** held the rank of Sergeant in the famous and storied Royal North West Mounted Police, and later was an Inspector (Law Enforcement Officer, C.P.R.) for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. He

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married Greeba Olivia LaLanne on 2nd APR 1921, in Regina, Saskatchewan. Served World War I. Awarded the British Military Medal (MM) for bravery in battle. He succeeded his brother, John William.

Issue:

-Margot MACTAVISH, living. Descent private.

-Edward Stewart Dugald MACTAVISH (26<sup>th</sup>), born 14 JUL, 1929, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**Edward Stewart Dugald MACTAVISH, 26th chief**, married Shirley Eileen Ferris. He became the first registered chief of Clan MacTavish since 1793. Formally ratified by Lord Lyon as Chief of the Clan MacTavish on 23 JUL 1997. He died 25 July 2005, in Vancouver, BC.

Issue:

-Steven Edward Dugald MACTAVISH, born 19 FEB 1951 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**The Much Honored Steven Edward Dugald MACTAVISH of Dunardry, Present and 27<sup>th</sup> Chief of the Clan MacTavish, Chief of the Name and Arms of MacTavish**, succeeded upon his father's death in 2005 as MacTavish of Dunardry, and was advanced to Membership in the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs. Has living issue.

### Endnotes:

1 National Library and Archives of Canada: *Hargrave-MacTavish Papers*, Letter by Sheriff Dugald MacTavish of Dunardry, dated Kilchrist, 18 Feb. 1845.

2 For example: The descent of the Campbells and MacTavishes in *the Manuscript History of Craignish* is contradicted within that work's Appendix from that appears written in the body of the main text.

3 *Argyll Transcripts* : charters, sasines, etc., 1257-1741, and *Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland*.

4 *Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland*, 142, p. 155, The entry is dated: 1531-32, March 9, for the Legitimation of Lauchlan Makcaus, son of Dominus Eugenius Makcaus, and listing Lauchlan's three sons. [Author's note: The entry is postdated, or was undated and thereafter included on the date recorded. There frequently occurred the transcription of entries from older independent documents into (then) contemporary registers, accounting for the *Privy Seal* date. Recalled in reference books for Scotland, registers are frequently misdated, by days or even years. The *Miscellany of the Scottish History Society* (2004), provides an example of such: "There is reference to a meeting of the Edinburgh gild court in 1403; but this is probably a misdating and should, in fact, be 1453". Here is found a 50 year error. If an entry is unsupportable in days or years, it may yet be held correct in substance, when based on auxiliary records. Considering this, the name evolution contained the 1533 Dunardry charter unequivocally provides the familial progression. The name evolution, given in the 1547 Dunardry Precept of Clare Constat reinforces the descent again, counting two documents in support of the resultant proof in *Reg. of the Privy Seal*. What is missing from text in 1533 and 1547 is that the Chiefship, and land, fall upon direct male heirs of line who are cousins and contemporaries. In the early Celtic faith of St. Columba, many manner of men, including warriors, became lay priests. The faith did not preclude them from taking or maintaining wives, and indeed marriage among these churchmen took place for many generations.]

\* A grandson in this context may mean great grandson, or even great-great grandson (i.e. usage of Vc vice Mc). There was no standardized form for writing lineage in muniments (asset ownership documents), and often generations were skipped over to make clear the origin of the persons mentioned. Lineage was not always written to the fullest extent in such documents.

5 *The Clan Tavish*, N. D. Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll, p. 4; "Ean appeared at an Inquisition held at Inverary, on 21 July 1563 (and is subsequently, in 1657, referred to as having been the great-grandfather of Eoin MacTavish of Dunardarie)". This is the same Ean Gorum, referred to in the charter to the Friar Preachers of Glasgow made by Donald MacLachlane of Strathloachlan.

6 Ibid. *The Clan Tavish*, N.D. Campbell, self-published booklet, ca 1870, p. 4.

7 The territorial title "Dunardry" and the MacTavish chiefship existed prior to the 1533 Dunardry charter, the first feudal document/charter of these lands; which were later re-granted to the

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MacTavish under the relatively new Campbell Earldom of Argyll.

8 [Author's Note: As in the Poltalloch Writs (P/W), \*Alexander McCavis, Rector, or head clergy at Kilmoir (Kilmore), a cousin of chief Dugall (Dugald), and probably descended from Donald MacTavish of Clachan, Ardtalnaig, or via one of the sons of Lauchlan Makcawis noted in Reg. Of the Privy Seal. It is not clear at this time which line of descent is accurate.]

9 *Inventory of the Lamont Papers*, SHS, p. 114.

10 *Scotland and the Protectorate*, Firth, Scottish History Society, Vol. XXXI, 1899, p. 309.

11 *Ecclesiastical Monuments*, RCAHMS, vol 7, #72, pp 151, 152.

12 *Non Oblitus*, Clan MacTavish, January, 1993.

†Author's note: *BTB - Believed to Be* of Dunardry. Katharine was either the youngest dau. Of MacT of Dunardry, or a dau. of MacT of Dunoransay (Dunrostan). The pedigree is not clear. Her collateral relatives are included in the genealogy of the Auchnabrack Campbells in *Highland Papers*, Vol. IV.

13 *Ladies of the Covenant, Memoirs of Distinguished Scottish Female Characters, Embracing the period of the Covenant and Persecution*, Rev. J. Anderson, Redfield, Clinton Hall, New York, 1853, pp. 408, 494.

14 Finguala, and its variant Fenella, means "white shoulder" in the Gaelic, and may signify blonde or flaxen hair.

15 John MacTavish, Letitia's brother, is not mentioned in Letitia MacTavish Hargrave's letters and is deemed deceased before Letitia married James J. Hargrave of the HBC.

### Additional Resources consulted.

1. *Highland Papers*, Vol. II, 1240-1716, Scottish History Soc. pub., "The Genealogy of the Campbells".

2. *The Clan Tavish* by Niall Diarmid Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll.

3. *Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland*.

4. *Register of Argyll Sasines*.

5. *Argyll Transcripts*, by Niall Diarmid Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll

6. *Poltalloch Writs* (extracts) from: *The Genealogist* (New Series), A Quarterly Magazine of Genealogical Antiquarian, Topographical, and Heraldic Research; edited by H. W. Forsyth Harwood, Barrister-at-Law; Volume XXXVIII; London, G. Bell & Sons, LTD, York House, Portugal Street, Kingsway, W. C. Z.; Exeter: William Pollard & Co., Ltd.

7. *The Letters of Letitia Hargrave*, M. A. McLeod, Champlain Society, Toronto, 1947.

8. Fonds of Margaret Arnett McLeod, University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections.

9. *MacTavish of Dunardry Family Papers*: Lochgilphead Manse, Argyll and Bute Archives, Lochgilphead, Scotland.

10. *Hargrave-MacTavish Papers*: National Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

11. *Families of Knapdale*, by S. MacMillan, Renfrew, Sct., Privately Published, 1960.

12. *A History of Clan Campbell*, Vol. 1, Campbell of Airds, Polygon, Univ. of Edinburgh Press LTD., 2000.

13. ARGYLSHIRE, *A Contribution to Argyllshire History, Being a Monograph Sketch of the SWEYNES OF SKIPNESS and the MACTAVISHES OF DUN-ARDRIGH, KNAPDALE, AND ELSEWHERE, their Ancestors, and descendants*, Mathews, D.D., L.L.D., self-published, ca 1870. Edited, expanded and footnoted by Patricia Adams © March 1, 2001.

14. *Notes and Queries*: Vol. 156, Oxford Journals, Oxford University Press, 1929, p. 94.

15. *Ladies of the Covenant*, Rev. Anderson, Armstrong & Sons, New York, 1880, pp. 408, 449.

16. *An Inventory of the Lamont Papers*, Sir N. Lamont, Scottish Record Soc., Edinburgh, 1914.

17. *Carolina Scots*, Chapter 4, D. and C. Kelly, Dillon, S.C., 1739 Publications, 1997.

18. *MacTavish Records*: Archives of the Hudson's Bay Company.

19. *Otago Daily Times* (Newspaper-Aus.), Issue 11351, 18 February 1899, p. 5.

20. *Cases Decided in the Court of Session*, Court of the Judiciary, and House of Lords, from July 20, 1900, to July 29, 1901.

21. *Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry*, Sir B. Burke, 1838, p. 84.

22. *Scots Magazine*, Vol. LI, Murray & Cochraine, Edinburgh, 1789, p. 204.

23. *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, Vol. 12, Blackwood & Cadell, London, 1822, p. 123.

24. *Saturday Night* (Magazine), SN Pub., Toronto, Vol. 66, Part 1, 1951.

25. *MacTavish of Dunardry*, E. F. Bradford, North Yorkshire, Self-published, 1991.

26. *O'Connell Family Tracts*, No. 2, Basil O'Connell, Brown & Nolan Limited, Dublin, ca 1946, p. 10. - RE: Mary Louise (nee MacTavish) McDermot.

27. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Ancestral File Numbers: 22XB-H9W and 22XB-H69 - RE: Mary Louise (nee MacTavish) McDermot.

28. *Pioneers and Early Citizens of Manitoba*, Manitoba Library Assoc., 1971; and 1891 Census,

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29. *The Bells of Red River*, Margaret A. McLeod, Stovel Co. Ltd, Manitoba, 1938, p. 22.
  30. *FASTI ECCLESIAE SCOTICANÆ*, Vol. IV, Scott, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, 1923, various pp.
  31. *Lethbridge Herald* (Newspaper), Canada, Wednesday, 7 March 1957, p. 2.
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  33. *Minutes of The MacTavish Clan Reunion*, Manitoba, Canada, supplied by Mr. David Nicholl, A MacTavish descendent residing in British Columbia, Canada (ancestor from Glen Quaich, Perthshire).
  34. *Lethbridge Herald* (Newspaper), Canada, 20 November 1950, p. 4.
  35. MacTavish Family correspondence & records, marriage and birth briefs, the Letters Patent of E. S. Dugald MacTavish of Dunardry/Matriculation of 23 July 1997, recorded in the official *Public Register of all Arms and Bearings in Scotland*, (Volume 82, Folio 36).

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