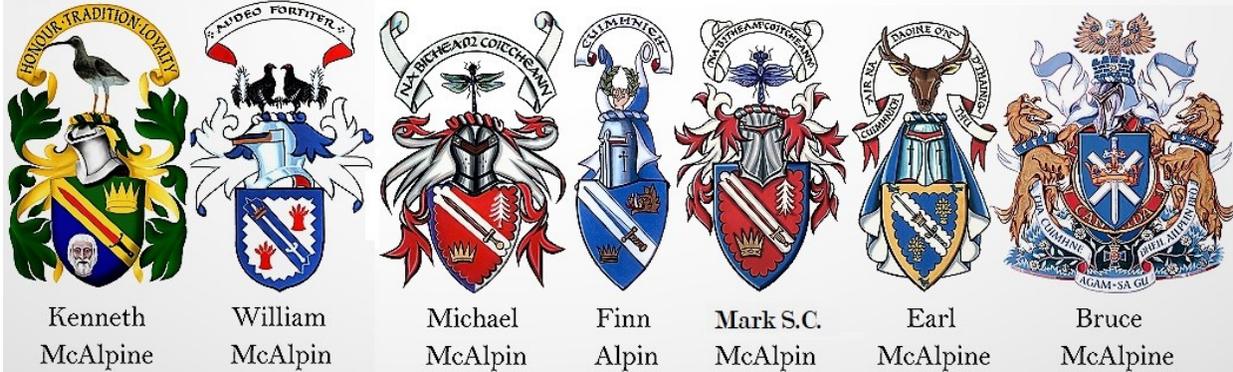


# Remember Those From Whom You Came

## Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines  
1st Quarter 2021 ~ Volume 51



### Commander's News

There has been but little activity as a consequence of the continuing Covid pandemic, but hopefully, some return to normalcy will be at hand soon. I hope all are staying safe. For my part, I have taken the last 300+ days of lockdown as an opportunity to study the Gaelic language, and though far from fluent, I can muddle through good portions of the Gaelic newspaper now.

Our old website [www.macalpineclan.com](http://www.macalpineclan.com) has been hacked and is now closed. Our new website is [www.clanmacalpine.com](http://www.clanmacalpine.com), or [www.macailpein.com](http://www.macailpein.com) (the original Gaelic spelling. Please stop by either site and check it out.

There is a great index of all the articles from the newsletters over the last 20 years in the newsletter section <https://macailpein.com/newsletters-1>

As of this time, the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina will be operating in July, albeit with proper Covid related safety precautions. We will be at the games, and our AGM will coincide with that event.

Àdhamh Ó Broin who runs a Gaelic speaking consultancy in Glasgow, is compiling known film footage, audio recordings and written transcripts of the last Gaelic speakers from the heart of the Craignish, Lochaweside, Kilmartin, Kilmichael, Knapdale, area. This would be the dialect of our ancestors.

Àdhamh is now working on a series of videos that teaches the distinct language of generations of our forebears. I am very pleased to sponsor his effort. More updates will be forthcoming as his work progresses.

Michael T McAlpin  
Commander, Name of MacAlpine



**Commander:** Michael T. McAlpin  
**Society Officers:**  
**President:** Earl Dale McAlpine  
**Vice President:** Mark McAlpin  
**Treasurer:** Janet McAlpine  
**Secretary:** Sue Potter  
**Member at Large:** Finn Stavnsbo Alpin  
**Newsletter Editor:** Janet McAlpine

## President's News

Greetings from Florida. Robin and I have moved to SUN 'n FUN in Lakeland, Florida and live on their beautiful campus. We have committed to volunteer here from January through April 24<sup>th</sup>. This is the home to the Aerospace Center for Excellence, a high school academy where students can learn about and achieve a pilot's license, air frame & engine maintenance certification, instrumentation, radio & controls



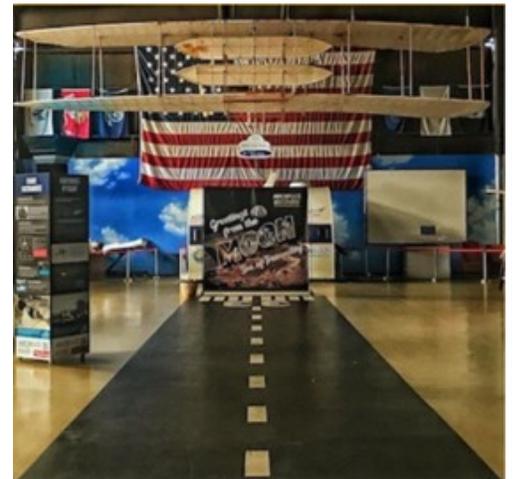
(727 Classroom)

maintenance certification, and JROTC. The campus hosts many different events throughout the year; dog shows, car shows, car auctions, and gun shows, to raise money for scholarships for students. The grand event is a yearly Aerospace Expo and Fly-in. This year featuring the Blue Angels.



We are actively working to setup for the Annual Fly-In Air Show in April. Our evening entertainment is driving to the outer fence of Lakeland Airport and watching Amazon Prime's Boeing 737 and 767 aircraft take off and land along with other private experimental aircraft from leer jets, vintage aircraft to war birds.

Also housed here is the Florida Air Museum. They are building a new building that will house educational opportunities as well as a plethora of aircraft. I can't wait to see it. (museum pictured right)



Robin volunteers as administrative support in the main office and I work in the maintenance shop repair facility working on equipment and vehicles. It's a wonderful feeling to be part of an organization that promotes the education of young people while housing a ton of volunteers. The staff of 21 oversees more than 3000 volunteers each year that accounts for millions of volunteer hours. We work about 24 hours per week which allows us plenty of time to explore the state of Florida (and WDW), which we plan to make home.

We had planned to attend the Northeast Florida Scottish Highland Games in February and finally be able to present a new article and photos, however, Robin had the flu and we were not able to go. While we are sorely disappointed, we are thankful that her covid test was negative and she is back up and moving forward.

Like the rest of you, we are so ready to travel and get back to a normal life. I can't wait see all the beauty God has given us.

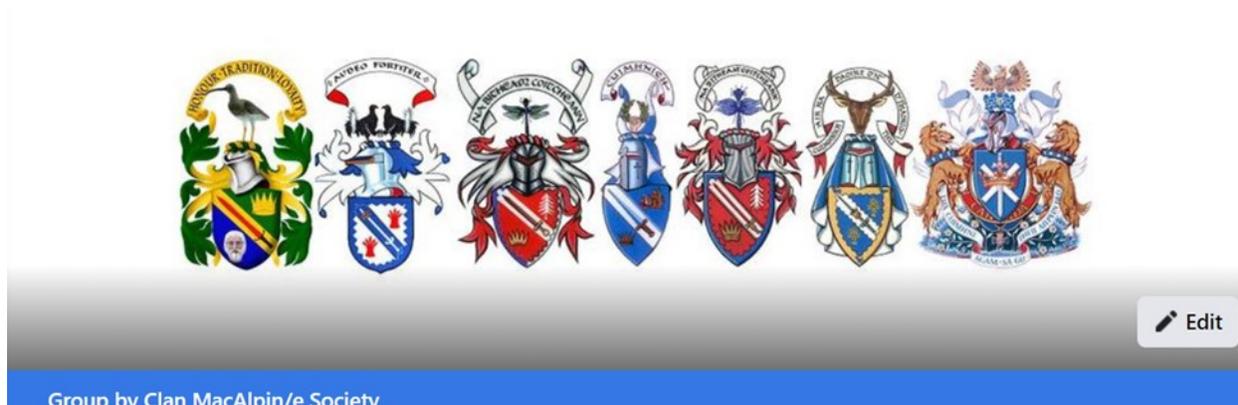
In Kinship,

Dale McAlpine  
President, Clan MacAlpin/e Society

# MacAlpine Arms

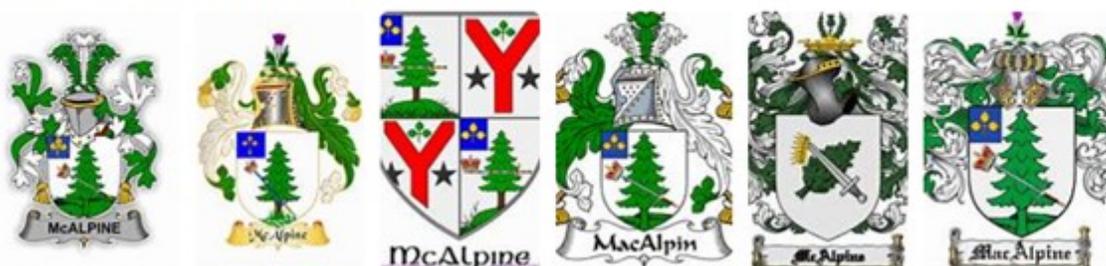
Submitted by Robin McAlpine

Have you ever looked at the header on the Society Facebook page and wondered “what are those things and what do they mean?”



I'm guessing at some Highland Game you have attended you have seen the genealogy booth and looked up the MacAlpine family crest and motto. Or when you Google the same you get a selection and you wonder “how do I know which is mine?” The truth of the matter is that none of them are yours or mine. Arms are created for one person and are only his. They are passed down from generation to generation as a personal treasure or house would be. Therefore, downloading a coat-of-arms and using it as your own because the name is the same as your own, is equivalent to property theft. In Scotland, one may be required to pay fines for using another's coat of arms.

## Images for mcalpine family crest



(Image from Google, NONE of these are REGISTERED arms)

This will be the first in a series of articles relating to the arms, with particular attention paid to the crest of each of our Armigers. In order to understand the crest, one needs to understand a bit of history of heraldry. Countries take their heraldry seriously, so much so that there are actually governing bodies over such matters.

Below I have provided a list of each:

- Governing Bodies England and Wales– College of Arms Established 1484
- Ireland – Ulster King of Arms 1552
- Scotland – Lord Lyon, King of Arms 1399
- France – College d'armes 1407
- Spain – Cronista Rey de Armes 1496
- United States – violation of Constitution: Article 1, Section 9

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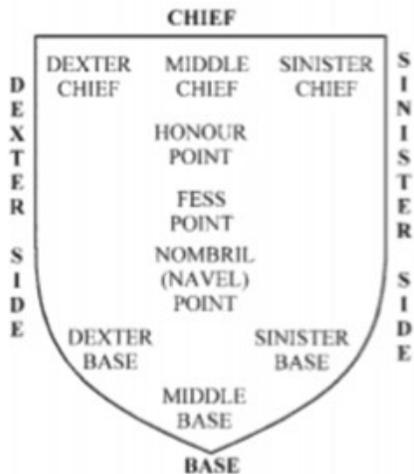
## MacAlpine Arms . . . continued from page 3

Heraldry contains clues to the origins of a family and the relationships between those bearing similar arms. Understanding the historical-heraldic context is a specialist's task.

### COMPOSITION OF ARMS



### (SHIELD)



**Metals**  
Or  
Argent

**Colours**  
Azure  
Gules  
Purple  
Sable  
Vert

The Shield, also known as the escutcheon

Tincture or Color

Continued on Page 5

## MacAlpine Arms . . . continued from page 4

### Heraldry has its own language:

The description of arms is known as the blazon and stems from the need to describe arms in an unambiguous way when it wasn't possible to draw or paint them. As Arms became more elaborate, the language of the blazons acquired its own rules, vocabulary and composition.

### Blazon (owned by President Earl Dale McAlpine)

Argent, a sword, Azure angled upward with a gold crown enfiled, between two gold bundles of grain (garbs). Above the shield is placed an helm, befitting his degree with a mantling Azure doubled Argent and thereon a wreath of the Liveries is set for a Crest a California deer head cabossed Proper. In an Escrol over the same this Motto "CUIMNICH AIR NA DAOINE O'N D'THAINIG THU"

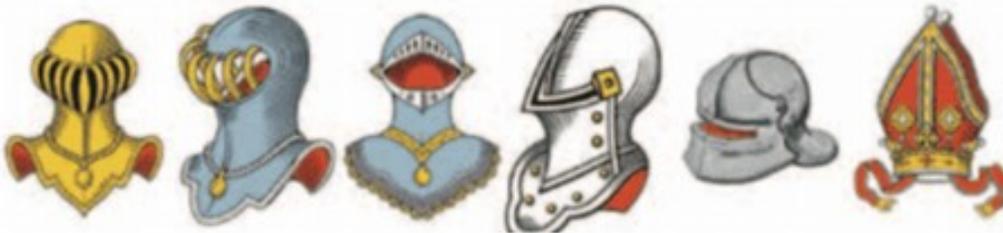


### Read the Blazon in this Order

1. The field of the escutcheon (shield) – give the color, which here is Azure (blue)
2. The main charge or partition on the field – in this case, a sword, Azure angled upward with a gold crown enfiled, between two gold bundles of grain (garbs)
3. Charges not central – here within a gold border
4. Charges on the last mentioned – three martlets (robins) Azure

### Helmet

All coats of arms may be displayed with an appropriate helm or helmet, which sits above the shield and carries the crest. The form of the helmet depends on the rank of the armiger and has a complex set of associated rules derived from conventions laid down in the 1600s. Corporations use a helmet called a sallet.



King, Queen or Prince; Peer; Baron or Knight; Esquire or Gentleman; Sallet; Bishop

### Crest

The crest tops the helm, arising from a torse (wreath) of twisted cloth in the two main colors of the coat of arms. Crests identified a knight at a joust, and were often but not always an animal. Since Tudor/Stuart times, crests have been granted with all coats of arms, except to women, who would not have fought in a medieval tournament. The crest in heraldry can be almost any object, real or imaginary. The example shown below, from the coat of arms of Commander Michael T. McAlpin, is blazoned as a green Damer Dragonfly.



Stay tuned for the next newsletter when I examine the earliest recorded MacAlpine Arms.

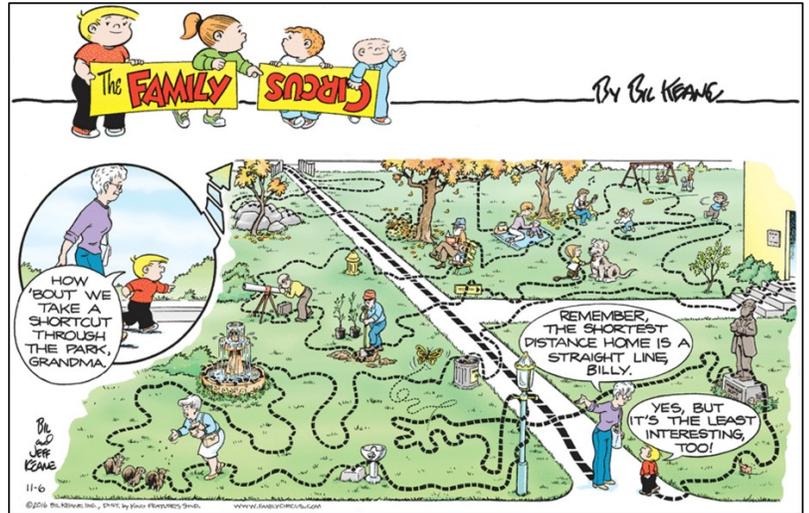
# My Tasty Travels Through Scotland

By Laura McAlpine.

In 2019, I made my second trip to the Auld Sod, and took a 3-hour tour for 14 days. Originally I planned to travel alone, but a friend sidled up to me one day and I heard I was planning a great trip and wondered if I wanted someone to travel with. I had to think about that because I was really looking forward to meandering on my own, but after some conversations we had a great agreement and I'm glad she was along for the ride. As we made our way around the countryside of this beautiful land, I realized after we were up and down and over and out, that the food in Scotland is excellent!! In years gone by, conversations involving countries with exquisite cuisine never included Caledonia.

My travels were amazing and busy and the travel route looked a bit like one of the old comic strips of The Family Circus. I did so much pre-planning and thought I had made a pretty good travel plan, never accounting for the twists and turns in getting from A to B. Perhaps this Bill Keane cartoon sums it up!

Along the way on our journey we had the opportunity to eat at a variety of joints, many of them with stories of their own written in the walls. Oh, if only those walls would talk but if you were lucky enough, one of the locals would be present and they were more than happy to share the stories tucked into the brick and mortar.



One of the first memorable stops was in Rosemarkie, a quaint little village on the south coast of the Black Isle Peninsula in Ross-shire, northern Scotland. It's at the northern point of a stretch of sweet little villages along the way from Inverness including Fortrose and Cromarty. The Plough Inn was originally built in 1651 though the revamped building has a date of 1907. The bar boasts 4 seats and a little 2 top table by a window. From the bar area you step through the ordering counter area and down 2 little steps to the seating area. It was so quaint in every way that we didn't know what to expect. We were not disappointed! My friend and I split an order of Haggis Balls, which wasn't the most appealing sounding item on the menu but they were quite a surprise and served with a zesty dipping sauce and let me tell you,

they were fantastic! It was a delightful day spent in Rosemarkie.



The day came for us to pack it up and head down to Musselburgh where we had our Airbnb, not far from Edinburgh. Leaving Avoch (pronounced Awk) we journeyed through village and town and wide open spaces, taking in all the splendor before us and became more magnificent at every turn! We came upon Braemar Castle which was under repair and closed, but walked the estate and imagined the events that may have occurred in years gone by. Continuing on this adventure, and halfway through our days destination, we made a coffee stop at Iain Burnett's Chocolate Lounge in Pitlochry. The Highland Chocolatier is a modest little place worth getting to!

**Continued on Page 7**

## *My Tasty Travels Through Scotland . . . continued from page 6*

This enchanting little chocolate house has so much charm it would be easy to pass the time away sampling chocolates and sharing conversation lazily over a decadent hot chocolate or a lovely tea. We each sampled a few bits of chocolate and marveled over the furnishings, the stairwell and of course, the chocolate case!



It wasn't long before we found ourselves down in the greater Edinburgh area and counting our steps left and right. We'd been in the car quite a bit over the last 3 or 4 days so the first day at our Airbnb started out with sunshine and warm weather and brought all the locals out to Portobello Beach. We were staying nearby and walked over to the promenade along the active beach full of families and volleyball enthusiasts, a little music here and there, and loads of buzzing energy that was contagious. Delightfully we spent quite a bit of time wandering in and out of little shops along the pathway, and enjoyed the architecture of many homes as we meandered along the way. Rows and rows of attached single dwellings boasted doors of different colors, beautiful floral garden displays while each faced the view of a beautiful seaside beach looking out over the Firth of Forth.



To my delight, as we were wandering back to our humble abode, we came across a local church having an afternoon tea. I sauntered in and immediately met two of the most congenial women who encouraged me to join them at their table. They were so pleasant and warm and I could hardly believe their ages! Meet Iris (on the left) and Elizabeth, who had become best friends very shortly after becoming neighbors and finding themselves attending the same church down the road. Iris is 93 and Elizabeth is 87. I'm still amazed when I think of these two



women and the interesting conversation we had that day not to mention a proper tea! For a mere pittance, I was served tea in a beautiful tea cup and saucer with all the options I wanted of cream, sugar or lemon along with this dainty tray of delightful choices. I wish I had arrived with an appetite!



In Edinburgh we noshed and nibbled here and there and not once did we have anything that was less than excellent! I was a little surprised that while visiting a bakery or two, I couldn't find a Fern Cake anywhere! Where we grew up in Michigan, Ackroyd's Scottish Bakery had the best Fern Cakes and I was certain we would be able to find them somewhere in our travels, but that was not to be. We visited Cold Town House on Sunday after church and again were pleasantly satiated with our choices from our Mocktails to our lunch choices.



The view from the rooftop restaurant was excellent, especially because we had a pretty day to view! This establishment was originally built as the Robertson Memorial Church in 1884 and has 3 stories being used in a variety of ways. Additionally, what was the original bell tower has steps open now to get to each floor for serving but the bells are exposed for an impressive look. I tried to

find some written history regarding the bells in this church building but didn't come across it anywhere, so I make up my own when I think about it.

***Continued on Page 8***

## *My Tasty Travels Through Scotland . . . continued from page 7*



Probably the highlight of our travels was an “experience” suggested through Airbnb which included going to the home of a chef in the area who opened up her own kitchen for a 2-hour cooking lesson of local cuisine. This was an amazing way to spend some time having genuine conversation around a kitchen table. Of course we paid for our time there, but it was well worth it! At our table of six, was a young couple from Germany who were visiting before returning to University in Edinburgh, an employee from a Canadian company filling a free afternoon, a woman from Iowa traveling solo, and then my friend and me. On our menu that day was Cullen Skink which is a chowder type soup with primarily Haddock and potatoes.

We also made some oat cakes for those who were gluten free, and wheat bread. This was followed by Cranachan, which is a tasty and light dessert boasting whipping cream, fresh raspberries and a drop of whisky to enhance the flavor. This afternoon was truly a highlight as we had the opportunity to relax and enjoy enchanting conversation and the fruit of our labor as we broke bread together.



Lest I forget, and near the end of our trip, we boarded a train early one morning at Waverly Station in Edinburgh to Dunfermline, the home of famed philanthropist Andrew Carnegie and once known as the royal capital of the Kingdom of Scotland. As an aside, I love the trains in Scotland and would definitely use the train system for my mode of regular transportation if I visit again or lived there. They do it well! We started our morning with breakfast at Bob and Berts, a friendly cafe with large cups of coffee and the well known Scottish Breakfast. It was a wonderful way to start the day! As you can see, the portions are more than plentiful, yet I can see they are necessary if you're walking everywhere as many do in Scotland. We walked on the average of 15,000 steps per day and few days we logged over 20,000!

Following our breakfast, we walked through town and landed upon Dunfermline Abbey, where Robert the Bruce is believed to be buried. It's an amazingly well kept structure and still in use on Sunday's. The grounds around are beautifully manicured and peaceful. The stained glass windows and stone work within and without is really breathtaking. Outside of the Abbey is a graveyard and the ruins of the original Abbey, the gatehouse and connecting to the Palace. You need much more than half a day to visit this magnificent location.



Very near the Abbey, is the Carnegie Library which truly deserves much more time than we had to offer. By the time we made this day trip we were counting minutes



against activities to get it all in, so sadly this visit was shorter than I liked. One of the most enjoyable parts of the library was looking out the wall of windows over the gardens that are cut and trimmed to perfection. There is a delightful little garden which beckoned me to come, where I found the Robert Burns characters of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny enjoying the morning discussing a myriad of topics and having a little chuckle, probably at the many tourists like me! I just couldn't resist joining in, hoping to catch a whisper of banter, but I wasn't swift enough. However, I did get a quick snapshot to mark the occasion as memorable forevermore.

All in all, this trip was wonderful from beginning to end and the food and drink in Scotland is all that and more. Hopefully, the world will right itself soon and the gates will be open to visit again! Slainte!

## Flowers of the Forest

### Chief of the Name and Arms of MacPherson

We are saddened to have heard the news that Sir William Macpherson of Cluny and Blairgowrie – 'Cluny' died peacefully at home on February 14<sup>th</sup> age 94. Cluny was very active in promoting Scottish heritage and touched the lives of many. To his son Jamie and daughter Annie, their families and Lady Hilary we offer our condolences. James Brodie (Jamie) Macpherson of Cluny, becomes the 28th Chief of Clan Macpherson, following the funeral at the end of last week of Sir William.



Sir William MacPherson



James Brodie MacPherson

### Chief of the Name and Arms of Irving of Bonshaw

We have the sad news to report that Captain R.A.S. Irving RN (Retired) Chief of the Name and Arms of Irving of Bonshaw passed away peacefully in his sleep at home in Chapmanslade, near Westbury on 17th February 2021. Captain Robert Irving was born in Valletta, Malta, on November 4th 1930. In 2014, the Lord Lyon King of Arms conferred the recognition of Chief of the Name and Arms of Irving of Bonshaw. Captain Irving first met his future wife Elisabeth at a Naval colleague's 21st birthday celebration and six years later they married on November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1956. He has three sons, four grandsons and three granddaughters. Our condolences to his family.



## Peat and Creels

Submitted by Mark McAlpin, Shennachie Elect

In the somewhat harsh climate of the Highlands, not a lot of trees can grow. In the 19th century, while people living in other parts of the world could simply gather branches or chop up wood for fuel, the Highland crofter needed to cut his fuel out from the ground. This fuel was in the form of peat.



Back in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, access to peatlands was part of the crofters' tenancy and became the fuel of choice, even after the arrival of coal around 1900. Peat, unlike coal, was free, only requiring the kind of back-breaking work that subsistence farmers like crofters were used to. During springtime, families head out from their crofts into the moor, using a spade to remove the layer of living vegetation, before using a *tairsgeir* or tusker to cut the peat bank for fuel.



The peat blocks were then dried and moved back to the croft and into the crofter's home. At least 15,000 peat blocks could last a family of four for a year (Crawford, 2018, p. 67). Cutting, drying, and transporting the peat blocks was a big job, a job that was not restricted to the man of the household; everyone—man, woman, and child—needed to lend a hand. The blocks were carried in creels, worn like backpacks.

For many centuries these woven baskets were used to carry peat, seaweed, earth, fish and even babies and young children over distances. The creels used in the Highlands and Islands were usually made of willow with an open 'band' mid-way up the side, called the *brigan* or *breugan*, that could be used to put a strap through to help carry it, or for helping someone mount the creel on the back. creels enabled people and ponies to carry peat, seaweed, potatoes and other produce across rough ground that wheeled carts were not able to access.

# Captain Donald McAlpine, Fencing Master

Submitted by Finn Alpin

Donald McAlpine Served as a sergeant in Captain Archibald's Company in the "78<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot" during the French and Indian Wars. The regiment was known as "Fraser's Highlanders" and had been raised in Inverness in 1757 by Lt. Col. Simon Fraser of Lovat, son of the famous Jacobite, Simon "the fox" Fraser, 18<sup>th</sup> Chief of the Frasers of Lovat. The regiment had been sent to America the year it was raised and fought with distinction at the siege of Louisburg, the battle of the plains and the capture of Montreal.

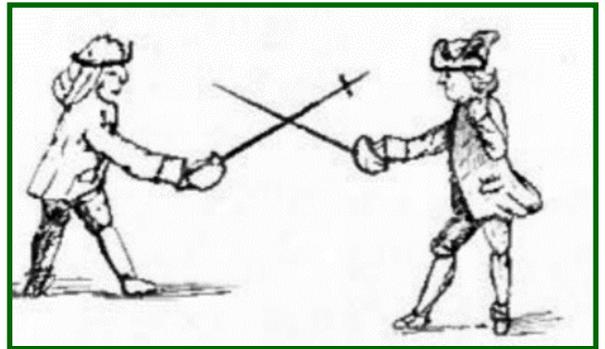
After the war, McAlpine remained in North America and is recorded as arriving in Boston in 1769 from Nova Scotia, in the company of "Captain Gorham from Nova Scotia." The same year he set up his fencing school, and announced it in the Boston Chronicle, Nov 27<sup>th</sup>, 1769:

"To lovers of the noble Science of Defence. Gentlemen who chuse to be instructed in the Art commonly called the Backsword, are desired to apply to Donald McAlpine, formerly Serjeant in the 78th Regiment, who will instruct them in said Science to their entire Satisfaction, for Ten Shillings Sterling per Month, at his Room in Mr. Carne's House near the Meetinghouse, New Boston, from Hours of One until Five in the Evening. Any Gentlemen who chuse to be instructed in said Science privately, may be waited upon by applying to said McAlpine. — Likewise said McAlpine will instruct Gentlemen and Ladies in French, in a most concise Manner and on reasonable Terms. "

The "Meeting House" which McAlpine mentions as the site of his school was the West Church at Lynde and Cambridge Streets. The backsword that McAlpine taught consisted of a heavy, single-edged blade with a basket-hilt to protect the hand and was the indigenous weapon of the Scots. Some evidence of McAlpine's instruction still survives among the journal notes of Benjamin Thompson, who would one day become the famous Sir Benjamin Thompson Rumford. Thompson left a series of sketches which are currently the only known illustrations of eighteenth-century fencing technique in the American colonies. He also transcribed some of McAlpine's instructions:

Directions for the Back Sword:

I. To put yourself in a proper posture of Defence, viz., hold your Sword firm in your Right hand, with your point elevated as high as your Antagonist's head, and your hilt a little depressed, bringing your sword to range with your Antagonist's body and with his eyes: then step forward with your right foot about a foot, forming a square with your two feet: then stand upright and take your distance, just so as to touch your Antagonist's breast: then bend your left knee, which will bring your body in a proper Posture of Defence. These directions (taking one's distance) are consistent with fencing techniques that are still taught to this day, and Thompson's sketches of the combatants' postures closely resembles illustrations in Scottish backsword treatises of the period.



McAlpine's school seems to have fared well, for in 1771 he was still teaching at the Green Dragon Tavern on Union Street, where he warned his students that "they must begin very soon, as McAlpine has a Call to teach in another Town, and this Quarter is the last he intends to teach in Boston." He returned to the city, however, by 1775, when he announced that he would once again teach the backsword at "the Sign of the Two Gladiators" on the north side of King Street (now State Street) near the Long Wharf.

## Captain Donald McAlpine, Fencing Master . . . Continued from page 10

McAlpine then continued his military service in the Loyalist cause and had raised 85 volunteers to serve in Major William Stark's Corp of New Hampshire Volunteers. The unit was disbanded, April 1777, and absorbed into the Queens Rangers, the successor to the legendary "Rogers Rangers", considered to be one of the first units of Special Forces to operate in North America. Donald McAlpine was Appointed as Captain of a new company, formed of the many members from the New Hampshire Volunteers. They served with distinction in the battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania, 11<sup>th</sup> September 1777, attacking American positions. McAlpine resigned from the unit on September 19, 1777. He was then appointed Captain in the South Carolina Rangers by Lord Rawdon, which was later to be absorbed into the Royal North Carolina Regiment under command of Lt. Col. John Hamilton, where he served as a Lieutenant in Captain McNeill's Company, 1780-1781. Of his service, McAlpine wrote:

"In the year 1781 being then a Captain in the South Carolina Rangers, I had the misfortune in an action with the enemy, to be severely wounded in several places and to be taken prisoner and continued several months as a prisoner..."

*Donald McAlpine*

McAlpine later recounted that, in February 1781 he had been in a covering party on the Congaree river and had been wounded by a couple of musket balls, still lodged in his body, with the resulting loss of the use of his left arm. As he was taken prisoner he was stripped of his uniform and his baggage plundered. He remained a prisoner, until he was exchanged in the summer that year at Charleston.

McAlpine's loyalty would end up costing him the loss of his possessions. In his petition for a pension, he listed his loss of property as follows: An elegant house, all that it contained, 15,000 pounds, 1200 acres of land and a herd of cattle. His library, two dragoon horses, a pair of pistols, his sword and two slaves.

His petition was attested by several friends, former students of fencing and his Commanding officer, John Hamilton, who wrote "McAlpine has ever behaved himself as a very gallant and spirited officer."

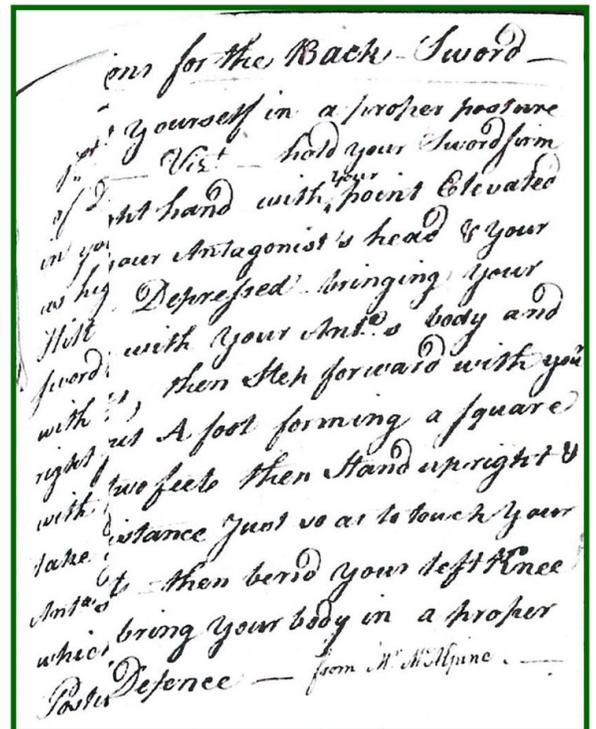
Donald McAlpine died on January 25, 1789 from lingering wounds received at Camden and in action at Congaree River on 23 Feb 1781. He left behind his wife and 3 children.

Following his death, Lt. Col. John Hamilton wrote in a petition on their behalf: "I Certify that Mrs. McAlpine has three small orphan children and on the death of her husband, Capt. McAlpine is deprived of all annual income and is destitute of support for herself and family. I do therefore most humbly but most earnestly recommend her to the humane attention of the Board of Commissioners as an object truly worthy of their benevolence and attention for temporary support."

Captain Donald McAlpine, Soldier and fencing master, to this day, holds a significant place in the American history of fencing.

McAlpine's "Directions for the Back-Sword" as transcribed and illustrated by Thompson. Courtesy of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

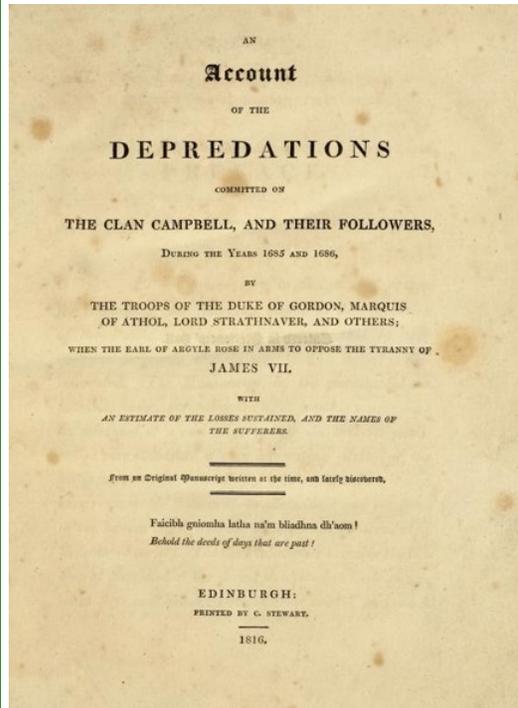
(Source: "Scottish Fencing", by J. Kirby, P. MacDonald and B. Miller)



## Aftermath of Argyll's Uprising, and the MacAlpines

In 1685, in protest against the accession of Charles II's brother, James II of England and VII of Scotland, the 9th Earl of Argyll, Archibald Campbell, led a rebellion in Scotland. In the aftermath of the rebellion 177 of Argyll's followers were transported to Jamaica, while 100 were sent to New Jersey. Argyll was eventually captured and executed in Edinburgh.

"After the death of Argyle, the troops of the Duke of Gordon, the Marquis of Athole, and Strathnaver, including their plundering attendants, committed cruel ravages on the estates and tenantry of the county of Argyle, of which the following is a particular enumeration." The earldom of Argyll was restored to Argyll's son in on August 1st, 1689, his lands were restored, and he petitioned parliament for remuneration of the damages incurred by Atholl's forces, with a detailed listing of damages to not only the Earl's estates, but to the property of his tenants.



The MacAlpine's were tenants of the Campbells of Argyll at the time of the rebellion and as a consequence of their association with the rebellion, many were arrested, others were listed amongst the property that was plundered.

In 1816 an "Account of the Depredations" was published, which gives a fascinating glimpse on life at the time.

In an era when annual earnings were perhaps 10 pounds, and the losses were devastating.

"List of goods robbed and Imprimis, taken from Jon M'Alpine in Ardnia; aon plaid, worth 4 lib. , eleven ells and one half of gray cloth at 4.Lib. scots, aon pair of blankets worth 3 lib. ten ells and aon half of linen worth 4 lib. aoe red petticoat worth 2 lib., aon waistcoat worth 3 lib."

"Item, taken by the M'ilvorie from Malcolm MacAlpine in Ardintrave, of household plenishing 12 merks worth, with 2 wedders, at 3 merks per piece."

"Item, taken from William M'alpine yr, aon pleugh horse worth.. "

"Item, 2 stotts, taken from him be Archbald M'alpine in Lochaik syde, at 16 lb. per peice, is, in merks, Attour coast, skaith, and dammage. "

Lib - Scottish pounds

Ell - a measurement of 37 inches.

Aon - one

Merk - Scottish coin worth 2/3 of one pound.

Wedder - goat

Stott - bull

## MacAlpine Annual Meeting to be held at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games July 10-11, 2021.

**"A wee bit of Scotland in the High Country of Western North Carolina."**

High in the Mountains of Western North Carolina the ancient Celtic spirit beckons. Answering the call, as hundreds of tartan banners unfurl, are the sounds of bagpipes echoing through the valley, and once again, thousands of kilt-clad Scots make their way to MacRae Meadows for their annual gathering and games. Nowhere in the New World is there a place more reminiscent of the Scottish Highlands than the home of America's grandest Highland Games—Grandfather Mountain, North Carolina.



## The Glen

Many MacAlpines trace their origins to the Parishes of Kilmartin and Kilmichael-Glassary.

Map of the The area consists of rocky hills covered by heather, tempered by pine forests, and 1,200 acres of raised bog known as the Moine Mhor (the Great Moss). The Add river flows through the southern part and one of the key features is Dunadd (Fort on the River Add).

In the seventeenth century there were 59 large farms, each let to tenants who cultivated it jointly. One of the many locations MacAlpines lived was Dunamuck Farm, pictured on the map just north of Dunadd.

In 1672 Dunamuck, Farm covered about 800 acres and had seven tenants. In 1691 there were seven houses occupied, presumably by the tenants, together with a brewer and a miller. The brewer produced ale, while the miller operated a mill powered by the tiny stream that passes the farm, to grind oats for porridge and malt for brewing.

The 1692 list of men suitable for military service shows that the Dunamuck men were well armed. Seven of them had a sword, five had guns, and only two had no arms. The pattern is similar for other tenants in the area.

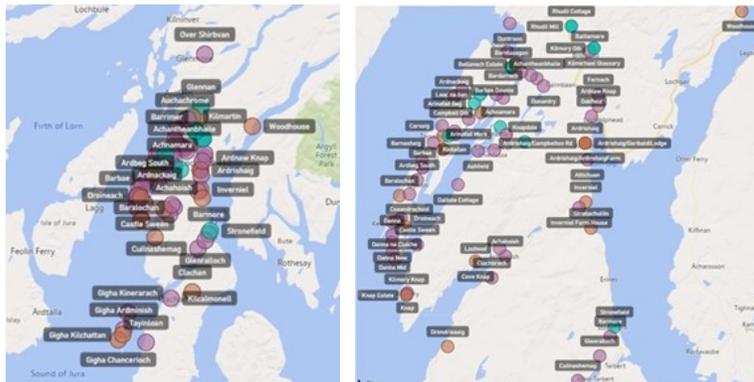
The tenants in the parishes lived in clusters of cottages with dry stone walls, thatched with rushes. There were no chimneys; the fire was in the middle of the floor and the smoke was allowed to escape from a hole in the roof. It was only in the early nineteenth century that fireplaces with chimneys were introduced. These groups of cottages were called a farmtoun.

The arable land around the farmtoun was divided into unmarked patches which were cultivated by the tenants, but, for equity, rotated between them annually. Beyond the arable land lay the hills, over which roamed Highland cattle, but not sheep. Sheep production only became important in the area after 1750.

By the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Valuation Rolls show that the land was owned by 19 families, two of which together possessed almost half the area, and the tenants consisted almost entirely of subsistence farmers living near the River Add.

Over one hundred cottages in the Kilmartin/Kilmichael/Glassary area were at differing times inhabited by MacAlpines. That the MacAlpines were geographically so tightly clustered confirms the oral tradition that they constituted a single family unit living in the area.

The area was economically backward. There were, for example, no real roads until the nineteenth century. The parish was divided by the River Add, often impassable during winter. The first publicly funded project ever realized was the bridge across the Add near Kilmichael-Glassary village, built in 1737.



At the start of the nineteenth century the parish was transformed by the creation of a new town, Lochgilphead in 1828, which by 1841 had a population of 2700. At the same time the herring fisheries expanded, but emigration was nevertheless common and by the end of the century much of the population had left either for opportunities elsewhere, settling in Australia, Canada, the United States or elsewhere in Scotland.

# Clan MacAlpine Information

We invite you to learn more about Clan MacAlpine Society by going to our website [www.macaalpein.com](http://www.macaalpein.com) and reviewing the wealth of information found there.

We hope you enjoy receiving your quarterly issues of this newsletter, *Remember Those From Whom You Claim*, that contains articles of interest and activities our members participate in. For those of you on Facebook, check us out. We have many contributors to that site.

On our website you will find the store where you can order the clan items shown on this page, get membership information, find information on the Clan MacAlpine DNA project, and a variety of other sections about MacAlpine history and the history of Clan MacAlpine Society.

Also on the website you have the opportunity to support your Society by checking out the page on "Funding Projects" to discover ways you can make a donation to Clan MacAlpine Society. It is through your donations that we are able to participate in or support heritage activities. You can earmark your donation for:

- ◆ General Society Operations
- ◆ Society Clan Tent Fund
- ◆ Kilmartin Museum Fund
- ◆ Pipe and Drum Band Fund
- ◆ Scottish Dancing Fund

Be sure to watch for Highland Games in your locale. Look for a Clan MacAlpine Society tent and celebrate your heritage by meeting fellow MacAlpines.



## Clan MacAlpine Challenge Coin



\$20.00 + 4.95 Shipping  
Available in store on Society website at [www.macaalpein.com](http://www.macaalpein.com)  
Contact [drscotmac@yahoo.com](mailto:drscotmac@yahoo.com) for further information

## Clan MacAlpine Lapel Pin



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Contact [drscotmac@yahoo.com](mailto:drscotmac@yahoo.com) for further information

## Clan MacAlpine Society Kilt Pin



Custom designed by Mark McAlpin, incorporating elements of the boar's head, pine tree, crown, and sword, all of which are linked to the MacAlpines, and appear prominently in MacAlpine Heraldry.

The pins are made of silver weighing approximately 1 ounce - Dimensions are 4"x 1 1/8"

\$75 USD payable by PayPal or check  
Please contact

[NotCommonKiltPins@outlook.com](mailto:NotCommonKiltPins@outlook.com) for questions or purchase

## Clan MacAlpine Society Information

**Website:** [www.macaalpein.com](http://www.macaalpein.com)

**Mail:** Clan MacAlpine Society  
102 Rainbow Drive #48  
Livingston, TX 77399-1002 USA

**Contributions:** Via PayPal at [www.clanmacalpine.com](http://www.clanmacalpine.com)  
Or made payable to:  
Clan MacAlpine Society  
c/o Janet McAlpine, Treasurer  
3530 Parque Verde Lane  
Reno, NV 89502 USA

Through the Society website via Paypal