

# THE ANDRESS FAMILY - RESEARCH NOTES

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(Ed. Note: Many thanks to the work of James Blaine and Leonard Watson in their research of the Andress family. We are especially interested in the Andrus families who migrated from England to Canada to New York and Pennsylvania, and then to Oklahoma and Kansas. With the help of research done by James Blaine, Leonard Watson and others we have been able to trace our Andrus relatives all the way back to Thomas Andrews, who was born in Carlisle, Cumberland, England in about 1232.) - Roger Navarre

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## **Some Interesting background information while researching the Andress family name**

The Andress family came originally from Holland. The original spelling was ANDRES; they fled the country after helping William III of Orange fight against King James II.

In 1852 there was an Angeline Andress married to a Chauncey Latham in Norfolk County, Ontario Canada. She and her brother David sometimes used the spelling "Andrews". While researching the ANDRESS family some interesting name spellings are found and when you use the Internet you sometimes are sent to these spellings:

Aindrias Ambners Anders Andersen Anderss Andersson Andores Andras Andrawes Andre Andrea Andreas Andree Andrejah Andres Andress Andreus Andrew Andrewes Andrews Andrewsen Andricus Andrik Andris Andrisch Andrist Andro Androe Androes Andros Androse Andross Androuse Androw Androwes Androws Androwse Andrus Andruss Andrwss Ands Andss Anereasen Anrias MacAndrews

In the original Greek "Andrew" was written "Andreas" which became "Andreus" in Latin. On the Continent, and Germanic Societies especially, the form "Andrik" developed which was Latinised into "Andricus". In England and Scotland however the Greek form seems to have prevailed and from which all the easily identifiable surnames, such as "Andrew", "Andrews" and "Andrewes" have evolved. It has also generated the much less familiar forms of "Andros" and "Andrus". Otherwise the Continental versions are responsible for such creations as "Andress", "Andres", "Anders", "Andre" and "Andrea".

## **The Andrist name**

The Andrist family name is of Swiss origin. There are parish books, which show the existence of Andrist family in the Canton of Berne (State of Berne). There are four national languages in Switzerland (German, French, Italian, and Raeto Romantch). The Andrist name is of Swiss German origin. Local people will pronounce the name as 'Undrisht'. The Andrist name is a folksy version of 'Andreas' (English: Andrew). I was told when people got registered in middle age, countryside they usually had no family name. Therefore the first name of the father or the profession (Miller, Shoemaker) has later often been taken as the family name.

The Andrist name, different spellings: There is not a lot known on different spelling and links to the Andrist name. Other derivatives for Andreas (Andrew) are 'Andris' or 'Andres'. Both are independent Swiss surnames today. 'Andris' (no 't') is a surname of former German origin. They immigrated to Switzerland around 1910. No Andrist family links to this surname are known. For 'Andres' (which is of Swiss origin) there is known a completely different family tree. The places of origin are not similar to Andrist's. 'Andress' name, since 1953 citizen of Teuffenthal, Berne, is of German origin. 'Andrisch' (which sounds quiet close to what Swiss German people would say for Andrist in their dialect) are reported to be registered in the USA but there is no such Swiss surname. There is no known link to them today.

It should also be noted that Robert Ross Andress had stated that original spelling of the family name was "ANDRES". A good book for the earlier years of this family is Reverend Alfred Andrews: The Genealogical History of John and Mary Andrews (1872). In the introduction he admits that he fudged the spelling. Instead of using ANDRESS or ANDRUS (S) as in the manuscripts. He elected to use the "SCOTISH" spelling with a "W" for reasons unknown.

Some earlier family historians were anxious to connect this group up with Bishop Lancelot Andrews in England because he had nephews with names similar to some of the immigrant ancestors. A little investigation there shows that his relatives never left England. This is an unprofitable line of investigation.

### **The Ancient and Distinguished History of Andress Sept of Clan Ross**

The Venerable Bede, the "Father of English History" who was born 673, tells us that the Pictish race, one of the founding races of the British Isles, arrived in Scotland from Brittany about the 15th century B.C. The surname Andress is claimed to be derived from the founding race.

King Nechtan was the first recorded Pictish Monarch about 724 A.D. The Orcadian Vikings who penetrated as far south as Caithness invaded the Picts from the north. They were left with a territory on the eastern coast of Scotland from Aberdeen south to Edinburgh. Manuscripts such as the Inquisitio, the Black Book of the Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, The Ragman Rolls, the Chronicles of the Picts and Scots, and various other cartularies of parishes in Scotland were used to research this name. From these archives they produced the early records of names in Caithness. This name was strongly associated with the Clan Ross. It was originally known as the Clan Siol Andrea, meaning the race of Andrew. However, from about the year 1100 the Andrews moved south to Dumfriesshire area of southwest Scotland. Duncan Andrew, Chief of the Clan, rendered homage to King Edward I of England in 1296.

During our research the surname Andress was found in many different forms and spellings. From time to time the surname was spelt Andrew, Andrews, MacAndrews, Androw, Androe, Andro, Andree, and some of these versions are still used today. These changes in spelling frequently occurred, even between father and son. One clanswoman on record was born with one spelling of her name, married with another and died with yet another.

More specifically the surname developed in the original territories of Dumfriesshire, although they continued to play an active part in Caithness, where Andrew Andrews was Bishop of Caithness. Their territories became established in Kyrknes, and Louchor, in 1395, and Alexander Andrew was Sergeant of Aberdeen in 1463. Alexander held lands in Glasgow in 1660 and was also a judge. Their family seats were at Sore Place, Down House, Saint Briavel's House. Rathenny, and others.

The newly found passionate fervour of the Church of Scotland during the 17th century rejected all who could not pass "The Test" of taking an oath of belief in the Church. Those failing the "Test" were sometimes burnt at the stake or, more kindly, banished to Australia, the Carolinas or the Islands.

Many Clansmen were freely “encouraged” to migrate to Ireland. Families migrated from Scotland to Ireland with promises of cheap Irish soil. They became known as the “Scotch/Irish”. Forty heads of families settled with their families mostly in Antrim and Down. The New World beckoned the adventurous. Some sailed voluntarily from Ireland, but most sailed directly from Scotland, their home territories, across the stormy Atlantic aboard small sailing ships known as “White sails”, ships such as the Hector, the Rambler and the Dove. These overcrowded ships, sometimes spending two months at sea, were racked with disease, sometimes landing with only 60 % of their original passenger lists.

Research of passenger lists, showed the first migrants that could be considered kinsmen of the surname Andrew, or having a variation of the family surname spelling. They were Ralph Andrew, son of Thomas Andrew of Carlisle, who landed in America in 1664. John Andrew, son of Sir John Andrew of Charlton, landed in 1650. William Andrew settled in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he was a ships captain who settled in 1634. John Andrew settled in Charles Town S.C. in 1767. Anne Andrews settled in Maryland in 1720; Barbara Andrews settled in Virginia in 1670; following Edward who settled in 1637; Daniel Andrews settled in Savannah Ga. in 1820, and many more. In Newfoundland, the ancestor of John Andrews settled in Port de Grave before 1658; John, Francis, and Mary were descendents of a family who settled in Harbour Grace before 1675; Elais was a bookkeeper of St John’s in 1681; Ambrose in Petty Harbour in 1703; Charles in Brigus in 1809; Aaron was a planter of Hants Harbour in 1826; and the family also settled in Bonavista, Trinity Bay, and many more.

The American War of Independence divided many families. Some remained loyal to the cause, whilst others became United Empire Loyalists and moved to Canada. Many prominent people were a part of this notable name: those being Professor Edward Andrew, Physics. Reverend Sir George Andrew; Robert Andrew, Diplomat; John David Andrew, Executive, President Consolidated - Bathurst Pulp and Paper Ltd., Montreal, Canada; Sir Christopher Andrews; Dame Cecily Andrews; Sir Edwin Arthur Andrews; Lt. Colonel Harold Marcus Andrews; Rt. Hon. Sir John Andrews; Air Vice Marshall John Oliver Andrews; Archie Moulton Andrews, American Embassy, London, England; James Thomas Andrews, C.B.E., Banker, National Bank of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand; Julie Andrews, British Actress; Harry Fleetwood Andrews, British Actor, and many more.

### **Who were the PICTS? And why should they be mentioned?**

The Picts were the true ancestors of the Scottish nation - our indigenous people. While it is known that they lived in Scotland in the first millennium AD, and their territory was taken over by the Scots in the 9th century, little else is definite. What has mainly survived is the great heritage of their carved symbol stones, which remain for us to study and cherish. Picts were ancient inhabitants of Central and Northern Scotland and of Northern Ireland. They were of rather short stature and of dark complexion. They are believed to have arrived in Scotland from the Continent about 1000 BC and in Ireland from Scotland about 200 A.D.

Roman writers first mentioned the Picts in the late 3rd century AD as raiders who harassed the Roman province of Britain from the north. Hadrian's Wall was built to protect the Roman colonies from their attacks. The Picts figured in connection with the campaigns of Roman Emperor Constantius Chlorus in Britain in AD296 and 306. In Scotland the northern Picts were converted to Christianity probably in the 4th century, and the southern Picts were converted probably in the 5th century. At first the Saxons kept clear of the Picts, but as the former pushed farther northward, they too encountered these northern people and were defeated by them in 685. For a long time thereafter border warfare was carried on. The Picts, who by this time were united under a king, also fought continuously in Scotland with the Scots who had settled there in the 4th century. In 850 Kenneth I, king of Scotland defeated the Picts. Kenneth united the domains of the two rival tribes and thus founded the kingdom of Scotland.

## **Background - Early Scotland**

The question of the Picts should be approached as an integral part of the heritage of Scotland (and Celtic Britain and Europe as a whole) rather than as some isolated oddity. Various individual tribes who were ruled by people of Celtic origin populated early Scotland. The oldest recorded language found in Scotland is of Celtic root but what should be remembered is that there are a number of different Celtic languages. (Watson: Celtic Place Names of Scotland). Also present at this time were the people whom the Romans called the Hiberni. These Hiberni were the Irish of the time. In Southern Scotland there were also the various tribes of the Britons. Both the Hiberni and the Britons were of Celtic origin.

To the Romans, the tribes were recognized by the Latin equivalent of their tribal names. However, it was only the tribes, which came into contact with the Romans, usually in the form of battles that were naturally considered by them to be the most powerful and prominent. From this came the Roman habit of calling the land after whomever they saw as being the most powerful tribe.

## **Origin Myth of the Picts**

An early Irish origin myth gives 'Cruithne' as the eponymous ancestor of the Picts. In this myth it is said that the seven sons of Cruithne gave their names to the seven divisions of the Pictish kingdom. The names of the seven sons were Fib, Fidach, Foltlaig, Fortrenn, Caitt, Ce and Circinn. Fib is equated with Fife, the site of Fidach is uncertain, the others being Athfotla, Fortriu, Caithness, Aberdeenshire and Angus respectively. Regardless of the accuracy of the myth, these seven divisions did exist historically within Pictish territories.

It is interesting to note that Athfotla, i.e. Atholl, is equated with one of the sons, Foltlaig. Athfotla means 'new Ireland' and an area once identified as being occupied by the Picts, Argyll, is omitted entirely from the divisions of the Pictish Kingdom. So it seems that this creation myth came at a time when the Dalriada kingdom was already in place in the Argyll area. There is also a possibility that the Picts were of Gaulish descent. The Pictones, sometimes given as Pectones, were a Gaulish tribe to be found on the Bay of Biscay south of the Loire.

## **Historical Records**

The first ever written record of the people known as the Picts came from Roman sources. In 297 A.D. the orator Eumenius referred to the Britons as 'already being accustomed to the Picti and Hiberni as enemies', implying that they had been making their presence felt for some time.

The people we call the Picts never used such a term for themselves. Scotland at that time was made up of tribal peoples who identified themselves simply by the name of their tribe. The idea of kings and kingdoms was only beginning to come into being. Concerning the tribal identity of the peoples who came to be called the Picts, one reference came from a Roman in 310 A.D. who mentions "the Caledones and other Picts". There is some controversy over this translation, others giving it as "the Caledones, Picts and others". Depending on which translation you accept, this could either imply that the Caledonians were Pictish, or that the Caledones and Picts were only two of several tribes in the area.

Other tribal names of early Scotland, of Celtic root, include Caereni, (people of the sheep) Lugi, (of the raven) Smertae (the smeared ones') and Decantae (nobles). Besides the Caledonii (the 'hard ones'?) were the Vacomagi and Venicones. Other tribes included the Epidii on the West Coast and the Damnonii, Novantae and Selgovae further south. In later times a number of these tribes merged to form what became the 'Pictish kingdom'.

It was not long after this point that the influence of the Picts began to be felt in the north of the country. It is also from this point that confusion can set in. While the Caledonians were the power in the north, the Romans called the country Caledonia. So when the Picts came into power they likewise called the country Pictavia. The people were also then called Picts. At the same time the Irish were still calling them Cruithne. In Watson's own words: "it is important to keep in view that while all Picts were Cruithne, all Cruithne were not Picts".

The Picts were therefore one tribe amongst many others who happened to gain control over a particular area. They did not gain control over the areas in Ireland that the Irish Cruithne or non-Gaelic tribes lived on. Therefore, the Irish Cruithne were not Picts and should never be called such.

### **Why bother writing about the Picts?**

They did not even call themselves "the Picts". No body of evidence seems to have been written by them to describe their legends, their culture, their laws, their beliefs, their battles or their daily life. What facts are known about them?

If you are looking for some explanation for the occurrence of red hair amongst the Rosses, you need not explore any further than the Picts. The dirk and targe originated during their Bronze Age. During the time of Robert the Bruce, the Earl of Ross maintained a fleet of galleys, and most of the red-haired Rossmen carried these weapons. Their non-Celtic form of inheritance of the kingship was from the matrilineal royal lines. The Scots adopted this system of tanistry, when it suited their purposes, as the preferred method of succession to the throne. However, they added a new dimension. The element of killing off one's competition was introduced through Kenneth I, son of Alpin, and was perpetuated by subsequent rulers from Dalraida. This early "Scottish custom" was made to appear weird and wild by the genius of William Shakespeare in his play about Macbeth, a Mormaer of Moray, who killed Duncan I to become King from 1040 to 1057. Although Pictish kings could rule anywhere between Moray and Argyll, the royal seat was established at Scone from the earliest times.

They named places such as Skye, Lewis and Caithness. [The legendary first Pictish king Cruithne, son of Cing (e), ruled 100 years. Caithness was so named either from one of his alleged seven sons: Fib, Fidach, Foltaig, Fortrenn, Cait, Ce and Circinn (who gave their names to their seven sub-kingdoms) and/or from Caitt, referring to the giant sabre-tooth cats which were allegedly still alive in the area early in the first century.]

The Picts defied and eventually defeated Rome ... never to be conquered by them. However, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Roman, Tacitus, for the first solid paragraphs of Scottish history. The Picts were among the first peoples to enter the Iron Age (circa 500 BC), and they were the first to use the metre-long sword in battle. A warrior-aristocracy dominated the Picts. As such, they mastered the skills of offence and defence. Evidence of the latter may be found at populous coastal sites, where hill-forts (e.g.- Cnoc an Duin near Scotsburn west of Tain) and drystone towers or brochs (e.g.- Dun Alascaig near Easter Ross overlooking the Dornoch Firth) may be found. In addition, it has been noted that the Romans feared the Pictish Navy. An early King Bridei of the Picts (554-584 AD) defeated King Gabran of the Scots and lay waste to Scottish holdings in Dalraida. Had he pressed on and expelled the Scots from Argyll, the country of Scotland might still be Pictland or Alba today. As the kingdom of Alba developed during the transition from Pictland to Scotland, the concept of the seven Pictish provinces or sub-kingdoms persisted, and each sub-king (Righ and Mormaer or "steward of the sea") was responsible to the high king (Ard-Righ). Between the mid-ninth century and the mid-twelfth century the seven ancient sub-kingdoms survived as Angus, Athol (derived from "Foltaig"), Strathearn, Fife (from "Fib"), Mar, Moray and Caithness (from "Cait"). Rebellious Moray was forfeited to the crown in 1134 and its territory of Ross was established in 1160 as a separate earldom under Malcolm Macbeth, the first Earl of Ross and one of the "seven Maister Men of Scotland".

Scotland was not a single unit; the old pieces that made up Pictland still had a life of their own, Atholl and Gowrie, Fife and Fortriu (or Fothrif, which may have been Kinrosshire), Angus and Mearns, Mar and Buchan, and most distinctive of all, Moray and Ross. Since Pictland was composed of seven districts, each ruled by related royal families, the concept of a leader being King of the people (rather than of the land) was born. [e.g.- Mary was "Queen of Scots" just as a chief was the leader of the clan. Under Norman influence, many clan chiefs later forgot or ignored this trust which their people held.]

The art on their Symbol Stones was unique, perhaps rivaled only by the stonework of the Norse. [The straight-line characters of Ogham and Futhark merit comparison as well.]

As sailors, they knew the outline of their eastern peninsula in the shape of the head of a horse. The Teutonic name, Ross, was very likely in their pre-Celtic Ogham and P-Celtic vocabularies. They had a concept of eternity and the infinite. The unending interlacing geometric designs on their Symbol Stones are proof of this. After 30 years of patience and restraint following repeated battles as far north as Inverness, the Picts finally butchered the Teutonic armies of the Anglo-Saxons who occupied their southern lands. The slaughter took place on May 20, 685 AD, at Nechtansmere in Angus. Had this later King Bridei lost, the whole of Scotland might have been English.

The concept of a "duthus" as a sacred clan centre was an early tradition in Ross. The church of St. Duthac (Dhubthaich or Duthus) was greatly revered. King Malcolm III Canmore of Scots, who ruled from 1057 to 1093 (after Macbeth), proposed that clan chiefs be named from (or give their names to) their duthus. As the clan system became strengthened under his rule, Scotland replaced Alba.

#### **NORSE VIKING RAIDS ... THE SCOTS TAKE OVER**

The Roman departure from the British Isles was partly due to the invasion of Europe and the Roman Empire by the Huns (372 AD - 453 AD). Attila's hordes were also responsible for the dispersal of many Teutonic tribes. Among these were the people who would populate Scandinavia: the Norse (Norwegian) Vikings and the Danish Vikings and the Swedes. Unlike the Picts: the Scandinavians had remained in Europe long enough for their Runic language (Old Futhark), to be greatly influenced by the steady incursion of the linguistically. Ancestral peoples from the Balkan Peninsula, and the grassy steppes North of the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea between 4000 and 2000 BC, and to be classified as strongly Indo-European.

The Norse looted Western Scottish monasteries (793 - 806), established resorts in the Inner and Outer Hebrides until they settled Skye and Lewis at the beginning of the 9th century AD, settled parts of northeast Ireland, evicted Danish Vikings from the Shetlands and Orkneys, and went on to settle Iceland (870 AD) and Greenland (900 AD) before exploring the Atlantic Coast of Canada (1000 AD). The Danes slowly established settlements in England in general, none of the native Britons or Angles were able to stop these Northmen in any significant way. The northern Picts and Scots seemed to have something in common with the Norse Vikings; intermarriages, common in Caithness and Sutherland, were even more extensive throughout the Western Isles.

The 8th century British historian, Bede, noted that Pictish royal succession was through the female royal line. Pictish kings were not succeeded by their sons, but by their brothers or nephews or cousins in this rare matrilineal society, which was complicated by a series of intermarriages between seven royal houses. [The Pictish Chronicle also corroborates this.] These traditions and others would eventually be carried forward into the new Scotland.

The Annals of Ulster record a battle near Perth in 839 AD between the Picts and Norsemen, in which the Pictish King Uven Mac Angus (son of Oengus II), his brother Bran, kinsmen and chief nobles were all slain. Left leaderless, the Picts of the southern kingdom passed swiftly in 845AD under the control of Kenneth Mac Alpin, the king of

Scots of Dalriada. Since Kenneth I was the son of Alpin and a Pictish princess descended from the royal house of Fortrinn, he had a claim to the Pictish throne through the Pictish matrilineal law of succession. [Alpin's kingship over the Scots had been taken over by Pictish King Oengus I, who was the first king of both Picts and Scots from about 741 to 761 AD.] Rival Scots kindred, the Cenel Loairn, took over the role of the Pictish high kings in Moray and Ross. His descendants challenged the successors of Kenneth I for the right to rule Scotland until the 13th century, by which time the Pictish society and culture had been completely assimilated by the Scots. Pictish "Symbol Stones" and art would come to an end.

Meanwhile, Easter Ross had become a borderland, a unique zone where Picts, Scots and Norse intermingled and collided. The sagas around 890 AD tell of "resorts" under Norse control as far south as Loch Ness and of a further extension of their influence to Moray from 1014 to 1064 AD. Places, such as Cadboll, Arbol, Bindal "sheaf-valley", Shandwick "Sand-vik or Sandy Bay", Dingwall "Thing vollr or Place of the Parliament", Falls of Rogie "Roke or splashing foaming river", Gizen Briggs, and other sites, retain Viking names. Legend has it that Port an Righ (Bay of the Kings) on the Black Isle is the site where a ship holding three Viking kings was wrecked in the 10th century. Cairn Irenan still marks the spot on the Kilcoy estate (Killearnan Parish, Black Isle), where the Viking prince Irenan was felled in battle and buried. In or around the year 995, Findlaec, mormaer of Moray [and father of Macbeth, the future King of Scots] challenged Norseman Sigurd the Stout on a pitched summer's battle in Caithness. Three men who carried his finely embroidered raven-banner were killed, but Sigurd was able to claim a victory of sorts.

History was to demonstrate how much influence the "Northern Teutonic tribes" would have upon the British Isles. The Norse were credited with forays as far as the Mediterranean and Baltic seas around 700 AD. In 910, they settled the Normandy area of France more permanently and, as Normans, they invaded the Angles in 1066.

### **The Ancient and Distinguished History of Clan Ross (Andress was associated with this Clan)**

The Ross Clan is one of Scotland's oldest Clans and most historians now agree that their origin is from the ancient Clan Andrew, which is derived from Anrias, a progenitor of the Ross and MacKenzie Clans. Anrias was descended from the O'Beolains, an Irish Gaelic tribe of the sixth and seventh centuries, who first brought Christianity to Scotland. They became hereditary abbots of the old monastery of Applecross founded by St. Maelrubha, who later created the Earls of Ross. Their territory was Easter Ross and the first documented Chief was Fearchar Mac ant – Saqairt (a Farquhar), the Priest's son, who helped King Alexander II against the old Celtic dynasty.

Farquhar joined forces with the King to crush a rebellion in the province of Moray in 1215. Even though he was a direct descendant of the Irish King Naill of the Nine Hostages, he was granted a Norman knighthood by King Alexander and, a few years later, the Earldom of Ross (1234).

At this time, Tain, an early shrine created by St. Dutlac, was the capital of Ross. Now a ruin, it played an important role in Scotland's religious history during the Middle Ages. In the late 15th and early 16th century King James IV made annual pilgrimages there. However, battered by its enemies, and many of its relics destroyed by changing religious influences, the capital was transferred to the town of Dingwall.

The fifth Earl of Ross, William, died in 1732, leaving a daughter, Euphemia, an heiress who carried the title by marriage to Sir Walter Leslie. Eventually the title passed to Lord of the Isles through her son, Sir Andrew Leslie. But before that event, the Chiefship of the Clan passed to Hugh Ross of Rariches who was the progenitor of the Rosses of Balnagowan. In 1390, the family charter and other precious documents were destroyed by fire in the cathedral of Beaulieu. This was a sad loss as historians feel that these documents would have demonstrated that the Ross was the oldest Clan in Scottish history.

Eventually the lands of Kilravock were acquired, and Hugh, the 7th, built Kilravock Castle in the 15th century: a picturesque fortress on the banks of the Nairn that remains the home of the family to this day. At this point in time the Ross Clan branches held lands in Balnagowan, Rariches, Kilravock, Hawkhead and Applecross and had become an extensive Clan. In the north the Clan was still known by a traditional name of Leandries. Later branches developed in Shandwick, Invercharron and Pitcalnie – all branches of the Balnagowan.

Despite the turbulent Clan was fare between 1400 and 1600. The Ross Clan lived in comparative peace. Even in the uprisings of 1715 and 1745 they remained aloof, although some Rosses were recruited into the Independent Highland Companies to fight on the side of the Government. The Rosses and MacLeods routed the Camerons in Lock Arkaig, one of the last stands of the Royalist group in 1745. After '45, however, the fortunes of the Ross Clan declined.

The Clan as a whole figured prominently in the Highland Clearances as the Government and Lairds introduced sheep into the Highlands. To relieve the economic situation, many highland regiments were formed. The Ross Clan contributed 400 officers and men to the Aberdeenshire Highland Regiment that was formed in 1778 and lasted for five years. They also contributed to the Seaforth Highlanders, the Gordon Highlanders, and the Ross and Cromarty Rangers. But these Regiments were disbanded (1800) they caused a great surplus of men in the Highlands, already devastated by the introduction of sheep. There followed evictions of families, starvation, migration to the cities and three mass exoduses to the colonies. Of the many incidents on record, two are particularly shocking. In 1773, two hundred people of Ross boarded the Hector for Nova Scotia. They landed after a long and hard voyage in October, but found little reception in the colony. The following spring only eighty had survived and remained in the settlement, the other incident occurred in 1820 when Sheriff MacLeod served writs of removal in Strath Oykel. This “final straw” to fifty or sixty years of evictions of Rosses resulted in what is known as “The Massacre of the Rosses”. How many Rosses died or were put in prison is difficult to estimate; yet 400 to 800 Ross Clansmen had lived in the Strath (with the Munros), twenty – five years later, the Glen was deserted.

Nevertheless, these refugees enriched the new societies in North America. Colonel George Ross signed the American Declaration of Independence, his brother John died fighting for the same cause, and his widow designed the flag of the United States. On the other side of the coin, the Clan provided premiers of both Ontario and Quebec, and it was Gen. Robert Ross who burnt the White House to the ground in the War of 1812. He was killed in Baltimore in 1815 and his body was brought back to Halifax where it is now buried. The Rosses were also early settlers in the Ottawa Valley, in the 1830's. Meanwhile the Chiefship passed to a Hawkhead line in Scotland, and then in 1903 to Miss Ross of Pitcalnie who became established as Chief of the Clan. Pitcalnie is a branch of the original Balnagowan line.

*Early origins:* O'Beolains

*Gaelic name:* Ros, Rois

*Clan crest:* A laurel wreath held in a hand

*Motto:* “Spem successus alit” (Success nourishes hope)

*Coat of Arms:* Red with three silver lions rampant

*Chief:* Ross of ilk

*Plant Badge:* Juniper

*Clan seats:* Balnagowan Castle, Delny: Ross – shire, Pitcalnie, by Tain

*Tryst:* St. Duthacs, Tain

*Memorials:* Fearn Abby

*Pipe music:* The Earl of Ross's March

## **The Ross Clan's Homeland in Ross & Cromarty**

Ross & Cromarty is a northern county of Scotland. It was originally the land bounded by the Moray Firth and Dornoch Firth. Cromarty was formed from the lands in the north of the peninsula known as the Black Isle, to which were added various estates from Ross-shire.

Ross was constituted as a county in 1661 and Cromarty in 1685 and again in 1698. They were amalgamated in 1889.

The mainland portion is bounded by:

- North by Sutherland and Dornoch Firth,
- East by the North Sea and Moray Firth,
- South by Beaully Firth and Inverness-shire and
- West by the strait of the Minch.

The island portion, consisting of as much of the island of Lewis as lies north of a line drawn from Loch Resort to Loch Seaforth, is bounded on the West, North and East by the Atlantic, and South by Harris, the southern part of Lewis. Many islands, most uninhabited, are scattered principally off the West coast of Lewis and the mainland. On the North Sea front, the chief indentations are:

- Beaully Firth and Inner Moray Firth, marking off the Black Isle from Inverness-shire;
- Cromarty Firth, bounding the districts of Easter Ross and the Black Isle;
- Moray Firth, separating Easter Ross from Nairnshire; and
- Dornoch Firth, dividing north-east Ross from Sutherlandshire. The area of the mainland is 1,572,294 acres and of the islands 404,413 acres, giving a total for the county of 1,976,707 acres or 3088.6 sq. m.

## **More Information on Clan Ross**

In Gaelic, Ros, Rois: (place name in Ross – shire), with ros meaning promontory: the dominant feature of Easter Ross. From this, the ancient Celtic O'Beolain Earls of Ross, the Celtic Moramaers and the people take their name. They are known in the Highlands as Clann Gille Aindrias, the children of Andrew.

In the Sept list for Clan ROSS: (\*) Mac GHILLE AINDRAIS (in the old county of Argyll). Dated: 14th century. AINDRIAS means `son of Andrew' or `son of St. Andrew'. (SAINT ANDREWS (in the old county of Fife). Name found on Scottish maps: St Andrae. Date: 1158.

Earliest record: Ecclesia Sancti Andreae Date: 1130. Meaning: from Saint Androis, the name given, possibly by King Kenneth McAlpine (c. AD 850), to the church founded here by St Regulus who traditionally brought relics of the apostle to Scotland in the 4th century).

The Address Family uses the Ross Clan Chiefs Crest, with the name Address below the crest; there is a connection with this Clan located in Scotland in the Parish of Kilmuir. In the Highlands of Scotland the Ross Clan is known as "Clann Gille Aindrias, the children of Andrew". If you say Aindrias real fast several times it does sound like Address. Being with the Clan Ross the Clan chiefs and possibly clan members were probably welcome at the Balnagowan Castle.

Septs of Clan Ross: Anderson, Andison, Andrew (s), Corbet (t), Crow (e), Croy, Denoon, Denune, Dingwall, Duthie, Fair, Gair, Gear, Gillanders, Hagart, Haggart, MacAndrew, Anderson, MacCullie, MacCulloch, MacLulich, MacTaggart, MacTear, MacTier, MacTire, Taggart, Tullo, Tulloch, Tyre, Vass, Wass

The chambered cairns, the brocks and vitrified forts in Ross-shire attest to a people skilled in construction for thousands of years. Ptolemy of Egypt, in the second century, referred to the people of Easter Ross as the Decantoe, "the noble folk". In 1160 Ross takes precedence as the first erected clan in the time of Malcolm, Earl of Ross.

In The History of the Ross Clan we see mention of the Balnagowan Castle. So it is important that the castle is mentioned below, with some rather surprising information into who now owns the castle.

## **BALNAGOWAN CASTLE**

Balnagowan Castle, in the Parish of Kilmuir, was the seat of the chiefs of Clan Ross from early times until their line came to an end in the person of David, 13th Chief.

Balnagowan Castle sits on a fault line, not merely a geographical one between the mountains and coastal plain, but also a social one between a fiery independence and a staid community spirit. The castle reflects these tensions. The front large windows, a welcoming porch, and battlements and turrets which are more ornamental than real. Before it stretch raked gravel, neat lawns and flowerbeds, and then lush green parkland. The back is quite otherwise. Sheer walls hardly relieved by small windows, stand on top of steep grassy slopes, so that the castle dominates the narrow wooded valley of the Balnagowan River. The hills beyond are thickly forested and almost bare of habitation.

Traditionally, any Scottish Castle worthy of the name must be hiding several skeletons behind those thick walls. In fact, the ancient Castle of Balnagowan beside the Balnagowan River in Easter Ross is reputed to have two ghosts, one of whom is a murdered princess whose body was sealed in the Red Corridor. The only reputable record notes that the ghost of the very gentle, friendly princess, with flowing golden hair, was seen in a grey dress walking from the dining room into the drawing room towards the Red Corridor, where it vanished.

Heavier footsteps, heard tramping along the Red Corridor, are believed to belong to Black Andrew, a 16th century laird named Andrew Monroe during his lifetime. Eventually the Chief of Clan Ross ended the evil antics of Andrew by throwing him from the top tower window of the Monument Room with a rope around his neck. Always fancying himself as a "lady's man", Black Andrew only appears when a lady visitor spends the night in the castle. (There are thirty-four bedrooms in the castle).

It was probably built in the 15th century, the west tower, with its high pointed roof and turrets, being the oldest part. The thirteenth Chief and Laird of Balnagowan, David Ross, who was particularly interested in architecture, rebuilt the main portion and also added to it about the end of the 17th century. Since his time, the Castle has been repaired; in 1838 the Gothic East Wing was added to conform in harmony with the older parts. In the course of these repairs, a recess was discovered in one of the walls of the dining room. The walls of the recess were covered with drawings of figures in the military garb of the 15th century. Above the fireplace in the Main Drawing Room in the portion built by David, there is a lintel above the fireplace, on which are shown three circles. Above the middle circle are the letters: A-M-M-F. Below the circle are the words: SOLI-DEO-GLORIA (To God alone be the glory). Inside the circle is a minister, in a Geneva hat, gown and bands, holding an open Bible, on which is inscribed the words: FEAR-GOD-IN-HEART-AS-YE-MY-BEDEED. Around the ministerial figure are the words: SERVIRE-DEUM-EST-REG-NARE (To serve God is to rule). Underneath are the initials: M-H-M-E-R. In the other circles are escutcheons, one of which bears the motto: NOBILIS-EST-IRA-LEONIS (Noble is the wrath of the lion).

When, the late Dr. John Robert Ross recalled a visit to the castle. During which a Factor (prior to the purchase by Arabs), he was shown a escutcheon of three lions rampant and bearing the date 1680, which was carved upon the

headboard of a four post, oak bed, carrying the motto “Nobilis—Est—Ira—Leonis” (Noble Is The Rath Of The Lion). The date is 1680, probably the date of the building of this part of the Castle by Chief David. Balnagown is a magnificent example of the old Baronial Castles of Scotland. It is finely situated on the banks of the Balnagown River.

As mentioned earlier the Balnagowan castle and the estate were sold in 1973. They were bought from the last remaining member of the Lockhart-Ross representatives. They weren't properly entitled to be known as the “Chiefs of Clan Ross”.

The new owner is Mohamed Fayed, who changed his name to “Mohamed Al Fayed”, much in the same fashion, as a Highland Chief might correctly be known as “The Ross”. The “Al”, thus defines him as the chief representer of all Fayed.

When Mohamed Al Fayed bought the Castle it was in a dilapidated state. Mohamed Al Fayed safeguarded the structure, refurbished the interior and returned this historic landmark to its former splendor. This recent restoration was completed at a cost of millions by 1995. While doing the renovations Mr. Fayed placed a Clan shield on the main gate. David Ross of Ross, Chief of the Clan Ross, made quiet objections to this affront, but Mr. Fayed ignored all requests. Accordingly, as Scottish law dictates, the case was brought before the Lord Lyon who upheld the right of the Clan Ross Chief as the owner of the arms. Mr. Fayed obeyed the order of the Lord Lyon to remove them. To do otherwise, would involve the police and ultimately a jail term. Other Coats of Arms, carved in many parts of the castle itself, may not be removed because of existing building regulations.

### **William III of Orange: So who is he?**

William III of Orange as King of England, Ireland and Scotland also had an effect on this family as well as many others coming from the British Isles as well as Holland (at that time it was known as the Netherlands). He having caused or being the cause of them leaving their homelands to fight against James II of England.

William III of Orange, (1650 – 1702) was King of England, Ireland and Scotland (1689 – 1702). William was a STATHOLDER (Commanding Provincial armies) of Holland and took over effective rule of the UNITED PROVINCES (1692 – 1702), after the crises of the French invasion in 1672. In 1677 he married his cousin Mary of England, and was invited in 1688 by seven leading English politicians to save England from his Roman Catholic father-in-law, James II. In what became known as the GLORIOUS REVOLUTION, he landed at Torbay, met with virtually no resistance, and in 1689 jointly with Mary accepted from Parliament the crown of England. He defeated James II's efforts to establish a base in Ireland by the victory of the Boyne and suppressed the highlanders of Scotland. He commanded the Dutch army in the Netherlands and although he scored only one victory, at Namur in 1695, he was able to win a favourable peace at RYSWICK two years later. He was never popular in England and relied heavily on the Dutch favourites, such as the soldier Arnold Keppel. 1st Earl of Albermarle (1669 – 1718). Although he preferred the WHIGS to the TORIES, he tried to avoid one-party government. His reputation was affected by his failure to honour the Treaty of Limerick, a treaty (1691) in which William guaranteed political and religious freedom to Irish Catholics, and the massacre of GLENCOE (1692). Meanings for the words shown in Bold:

**Statholders:** Provincial leaders in the Netherlands as first appointed by the ruling dukes of Burgundy in the 15th century. Their duties included presiding over the provincial state assemblies and commanding provincial armies. During the Dutch Revolts (1568 – 1684), they were elected by the central States – General and subsequently by the provincial state assemblies. In the United Provinces the House of Orange – Nassau came to dominate the statholders. Within the province of Holland (note at this time Holland was not a country), there was protracted

dispute between the Orange statholders and the states for overall leadership. In 1795 the office of statholders ceased to exist.

**United Provinces of the Netherlands (or Dutch Republic):** The historic state that lasted from 1579 to 1795 and comprised most of the area of the present kingdom of the Netherlands. Spain recognized it as an independent state at the conclusion of the Dutch Revolts (1648) and power was subsequently shared between the Holland and Zeeland patricians and the Statholder princes of Orange. During its “golden age” before 1700, the United Provinces developed the vast Dutch Empire. Dutch merchants traded throughout the world, and art flourished. The United Provinces gave refuge to religious refugees, especially Portuguese and Spanish Jews and French Huguenots (Protestants), who made a notable contribution to the country’s prosperity. A series of wars fought against England and France in the 18th century. The commercial and military fortunes of the Netherlands declined as those of England and France improved. During the French Revolutionary wars between 1794 and 1795 France overran the country. There was a Dutch popular movement inspired by the ideas of the Enlightenment, that was ready to overthrow the ruler, William V of Orange, and to set up a Batavian Republic (1795 – 1806) under French protection in place of the United Provinces.

**Glorious Revolution:** The bloodless English revolution of 1688-89 in which James II was removed from the throne and was replaced by his daughter Mary and her husband William III (of Orange). It marked the end of the Stuart attempts at despotism, and the establishment of a constitutional form of government.

From his accession in 1685, James II’s actions aroused both Whig and Tory concern. In defiance of the law he appointed Roman Catholics to important positions in the army, the church. The universities and the government. He claimed the right to suspend or dispense with the laws as he pleased, and his two Declarations of Indulgence suspended penal laws against Roman Catholics and dissenters. The birth of a son to be king in 1688 appeared to ensure the Roman Catholic succession and provoked leading politicians of both the main parties to invite the King’s son-in-law William of Orange to England. William landed in November. James’s army refused to obey its Catholic officers, his daughters deserted him, and he was allowed to escape abroad. Parliament asked William and Mary to take over the vacant throne. James II landed in Ireland with French troops (March 1690), besieged Londonderry, and was defeated at the Battle of the Boyne (July 1690). He returned to exile in France. The Act of settlement of 1701 provided for the Protestant succession.

**Treaty of Ryswick:** (1697) The treaty that ended the Nine Years War, Louis XIV agreed to recognize William III as King of England, give up his attempts to control Cologne and the Palatine, end French occupation of Lorraine, and restore Luxembourg, Mons, Courtrai, and Barcelona to Spain. The Dutch were allowed to garrison a series of fortresses in the Spanish Netherlands, as a barrier against France, Strasbourg and some towns of Lower Alsace were the only acquisitions made since the Treaty of Nijmegen that France retained.

**Massacre of Glenoche:** (13 February 1692) a massacre for political reasons of members of the Macdonald clan in Scotland. By failing to swear allegiance to William III by January 1 1692, the rebellious clan Macdonald was technically guilty of treason: their chief’s delaying tactics had been compounded by bad weather, and his oath was six days late. The Campbell’s, hereditary enemies of the Macdonalds, undertook to destroy them, which they did after enjoying Macdonald hospitality for 12 days. The clan chief and more than 30 of his followers were murdered, but the rest (300) escaped. Although the king probably did not order the atrocity, he did little to punish the perpetrators.

Most of these clans were made up of the original clan members and any others, individual persons, groups or even whole clans, who wished to be with them for self-preservation.

It should also be noted that Nostradamus when he wrote his quatrains he had several different ones dealing with William III of Orange. William of Orange is in Century II quatrains LXVII, LXVIII and LXIX. In Century VI quatrain XLI. In Century VIII in quatrain LVIII.