

THE MCGREGOR STORY

INTRODUCTION

The following is all I have been able to gather at present about the ancient, the famous, the fearful and, sometimes, dishonoured and dishonourable clan--the MacGregors. My story consists of three sections:

the first, a series of extracts from a variety of printed sources (pages 1 - 5) about the clan MacGregor; second, a collection of statements obtained through the kind assistance of many people (pages 6 - 15) regarding family ancestry; and third, an appendix. I owe a particular debt of gratitude to Mrs. Helen Cocks of Ottawa, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon MacGregor of Toronto, Mr. Robert Stewart of Guelph and members of the immediate family. They have provided me with considerable information about the forebearers and the relatives of my wife and sons. These stories, passed down as family legends or anecdotes over many generations, are generally true; in any case the information contained herein can be verified. Also, I am convinced that there is more information available somewhere, if only the right question is asked of the right person or if someone has a bit of luck in turning the pages of an old book.

Although the story of the MacGregors is of no special value, it might be of interest to the few who want to discover more about where they came from and who they are. So for what it's worth, this is the story of your family, the MacGregors. Just remember an old family saying, "Wherever a MacGregor sits is the head of the table."

Henry Ward

January 15, 1971

PREFACE TO THE SECOND PRINTING

On the occasion of the second printing, I have taken the liberty of making some additions. Chief among these is an outline of the family and descendants of John Caven Alexander Ross and Beatrice Leona Badgley (in APPENDIX 9). I have also added dates of death for Phoebe, Marjorie & Fred, and Jack & Bea.

Thanks to contacts via a genealogy section at the Electric Scotland website, I was able to make email connections in January and February of 1999 with Dr. Richard McGregor, who involved Malcolm McGregor in an exchange of information about the records for the Black Watch officers and McGregor officers from the War Office Records at the UK National Archives. This material may be found in APPENDIX 11. APPENDIX 12 includes The McGregors of the House of Glengyle, which I compiled by using the links at <http://www.clanregor.org/glengyle-house/index.html>.

Corrections and additions to the life of "Captain" Peter McGregor are in footnotes 1 and 2 on page 10; see APPENDIX 11, where information about Anne Urquhart's father is also included.

I added the underlined parts to John O. (M.D>) on page 11, to Havelock Dwight Hulburt on page 27, and to Dr. J. D. McGregor Alton on page 28. Information about Henry Ward's death has been added on page 15.

The name of Peter McGregor's second wife was changed to Isabela in order to agree with her monument beside the family mausoleum in the Old Union Cemetery in Waterdown. In APPENDIX 9, Mary Emile Robertson, wife of John Russell McGregor, is not buried in the family vault in Waterdown; these words have been removed.

I debated whether Anne Urquhart, Peter's second wife, should be called a stepmother to Ann McGregor (page 22), since she was a stepmother to Ann's father, Lachlan McGregor. Sometimes genealogy is fun.

J. Douglas Ross

June 20, 2005

THE McGREGORS OF THE HOUSE OF GLENGYLE

SECTION I WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE MacGREGORS

- A. The Crest of the Clan: A lion's head, erased, crowned with an antique crown, proper

Motto: 'S Roigmal mo dhream (Royal Is My Race)

Battle Cry: The High Wood

Gaelic Name: MacGrioghair

B. FROM THE "TARTANS AND CLANS OF SCOTLAND"

 "S Riogmal mo dhream" (Royal is my race) is the claim of this, one of the most famous of highland clans, and the principal branch of the Clan Alpine. The clan trace their history to Griogar, son of King Alpin, in the 8th century.

 The home of the clan was the eastern border of Argyll and the western border of Perthshire, including Glenorchy, Glenstrae, Glenlyon and Glengyle. The earliest possession of the clan, Glenorchy, previously owned by the Campbells, was bestowed on the MacGregors for services rendered to Alexander II in his conquest of Argyll. For a long time the MacGregors maintained possession of their lands by right of the sword, but the enmity of surrounding clans resulted in attempts to displace the clan, and the inevitable retaliation by the MacGregors, who thus earned the reputation of being a turbulent clan. During these conflicts the Campbells were enabled to obtain grants of the MacGregor lands, the name of MacGregor was proscribed, and severe enactments were passed against the clan, whose unfortunate members were prosecuted and persecuted. Charles II, because of their support, repealed the acts against Clan Gregor, but upon the

accession of William of Orange the acts of proscription were renewed, and it was not until 1775 that the penal statutes against the MacGregors were finally repealed. After the restoration of their rights a meeting of the clan was held and John Murray of Lanrick, afterwards Sir John MacGregor, Bart. , descended from the family of Glenstrae, was recognized as chief.

Rob Roy (1671 - 1743), the celebrated freebooter and hero of Sir Walter Scott's romance, was a son of Lieut.-Col. Donald MacGregor of Glengyle.

C. FROM "THE STORY OF SURNAMES" by L. C. Pine, London 1965

There is one clan, which for the past two hundred years at least can claim purity of blood. This is the clan MacGregor, and the story is so illustrative of clan history that it is worth telling. The MacGregors claimed descent from Gyrice, the third son of King Alpin, who came to the throne in 787. The name was Latinised into Gregorius, and although the pedigree cannot be proved from this point, it at least accounts for the name 'sons of Gregor'. This clan is the most unfortunate in the history of the clans. For a long time it lost land to the Campbells, and at last came into conflict with the royal power. This was at the very beginning of the seventeenth century when the Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland was about to be accomplished. Between 1602 and 1603 the clan was in conflict with the Colquhouns of Luss, who were given the royal commission. At the battle of Glenfruin, in 1603, the MacGregors defeated the Colquhouns with great loss. Among the victims are said to have been some students from Glasgow University, who had come to see the battle, and who committed the imprudence of ridiculing the chief's half-brother, who was known from his hairy appearance as the Giant Mouseman. He butchered the laughing students. Apart from this outrage, the slain were so numerous that their wives and daughters went in procession to James VI of Scotland (soon to

be James I of England) , wearing their menfolk's shirts over their clothes to show the bloodstains. The King in horror gave orders that the MacGregors were to be outlawed and an Act of the Scots Parliament was passed by which for all time coming the name of MacGregor was to be done away with. They were further forbidden on pain of death ever to assemble in numbers greater than four.

Inconsequence of this, despite their fierce pride, the MacGregors practically disappeared from the land. In fact they adopted the names of various clans, such as Campbell (the famous Rob Roy MacGregor was often known as Mr. Campbell), Cunningham, Dougall, Grant, Murray, etc. The present head of the family is a baronet and his ancestor, the first baronet, was known for the earlier part of his life as Murray. The ban lasted for some hundred and fifty years. In 1661 it was lifted by King Charles II, in consideration of the fact that the clan had fought for Charles I under Montrose. It was reimposed in 1693 under William of Orange and was not finally removed until 1784. At that time 826 persons came forward to demonstrate that they were MacGregors and that the chief of the clan was John Murray of Lanrick, who became Sir John MacGregor, the first baronet. Now these 826 must have been people whose forbearers had prided themselves on being MacGregors and who were consequently more likely to have had MacGregor blood. It may have been, of course, that before 1603 the clan had been much mixed, but if it had lost its lands, as indeed it had before that date, then the chief would not have been in a good position to offer protection to any. So it seems that the MacGregors are the purest in blood of the Highland clans. And by an Act of Parliament in 1774 this ancient name had the unique distinction of being the only name in history that ever rose from the grave after being buried, so to speak, for 200 years; also, the only name in the United Kingdom privileged to carry the crown on its crest.in recognition of its ancient royal origin.

D. 1. FROM THE "TARTANS AND CLANS OF SCOTLAND"

Rob Roy

The Rob Roy tartan of red and black checks, perhaps the best known of all the Scottish tartans, was used by Robert MacGregor possibly because of the proscription of the clan name of MacGregor.

Rob Roy was the younger son of Lieut.-Col. Donald MacGregor of Glengyle, and his mother was a Campbell of Glenfalloch, and a granddaughter of Sir Robert Campbell of Glenorchy. He was born about 1671. In early life he was gentleman cattle drover, and became involved in financial difficulties with the Duke of Montrose. The Duke obtained possession of Rob Roy's lands of Craig Royston, and Rob declared that in future the Duke would provide him with cattle and that the Duke would regret the quarrel. For thirty years Rob carried out this threat and continued to take all the cattle, goods and money he required.

Rob was a brilliant swordsman and led a very adventurous life as an outlaw. The government erected a fort at Inversnaid and garrisoned it with an English regiment to keep the MacGregors in order, but Rob Roy captured the fort, disarmed and dispersed the garrison, and set fire to the fort. Rob, escaping all attempts to capture him, died at home in Balquhider in 1734, and was buried in the churchyard there, where his grave and that of his wife Helen are still visited by many admirers of his romantic life.

D.2. FROM THE ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA

Rob Roy (Gaelic, "Red Robert") 1671 - 1743, the Scottish Robin Hood

Till 1661 the "wicked clan Gregor" had been constantly pursued with fire and sword; the very name was proscribed. But from that year until the revolution, 1745, the severe laws against them were somewhat relaxed, and Rob Roy lived quietly as a grazier on the braes of Balquidder. In consequence of losses incurred about 1712 in unsuccessful speculations in

cattle, for which he had borrowed money from the Duke of Montrose, his lands were seized. Maddened by these misfortunes, Rob Roy gathered his clansmen and made open war on the duke in 1716, sweeping away the whole cattle of a district, and kidnapping the factor with rents to the value of more than £3,000 Scots. At last he ended his days in peace under the protection of the Duke of Argyll.

E. FROM THE "TARTANS AND CLANS OF SCOTLAND"

Highlanders Oath Against Tartan 1746 Those who refused to take it were treated as rebels.

I, A.B., do swear, as I shall answer to God at the great day of Judgement, I have not, nor shall I have in my possession any gun, sword, pistol or arm whatsoever, and never use tartan, plaid, or any part of the Highland Garb; if I do so may I be cursed in my undertakings, family and property, -- may I be killed in battle as a coward, and lie without burial in a strange land, far from the graves of my forefathers and kindred; may all this come across me if I break my oath.

Listen, Men!

This is bringing before all the Sons of the Gael that the King and Parliament of Britain have for ever abolished the Act against the Highland Dress that came down to the Clans from the beginning of the world to the year 1746. This must bring great joy to every Highland heart. You are no longer bound down to the unmanly dress of the Lowlander. This is declaring to every man, young and old, Commons and Gentles, that they may after this put on and wear the Trews, the Little Kilt, the Doublet and Hose, along with the Tartan Kilt, without fear of the Law of the Land or the jealousy of enemies.

(The above is a translation of the Gaelic Proclamation intimating the repeal in 1782 of the Act of Parliament passed in 1746 prohibiting the wearing of the Highland dress.)

SECTION II

A CHRONICLE OF THE MacGREGORS

Clan Gregor - Lairds of Gregor - Lennox County - Lower part of Loch Lomond, Scot.

Armorial Bearings - a pine tree crossed saltirewise with a naked sword the point of which supports a Royal Crown.

Motto: Royal is my race

War Cry: The Hi~ Wood

Gaelic Name: MacGrioghair

Chief of the Clan Gregor is MacGregor of Edinchip (1961)

As far as we know the story begins with Alpin, King of the Scots, in the year 787, who, according to legend, was of original Celtic descent. He was killed by the Picts in 834.

+ (he married and had the following sons)

King Kenneth 2, subdued the Picts in the year 839. He was the first king of all Scotland.		Donald	Prince Gregor (Gregorius) McAlpine – married Duchina, daughter of Duncan, King of Scotland +their son, MacGregor, was the founder of the clan MacGregor + ~ + Gregor MacGregor of Glenorchy - married + their children were:	
son	son	John "Chaim" (Blind of an eye) MacGregor of Glenorchy, died April 19, 1390. Is buried at Dysart in Glenorchy, north of the high altar - married + their children were:		
others	Gregor "Aulin" (perfectly handsome) McAnce Chaim MacGregor Died at Glenorchy 1413 -married Iric, daughter of Malcolm MacAlpine of Finwick + their children were:			others

Duncan "Beg" MacGregor of Roro.
Died February 17, 1477
- married ?

Dougal "Ciar" MacGregor
(Mouse-coloured) alive in 1433
- married ?
+ their children were:

Duncan MacGregor – settled in Glengyle
(near Loch Katrine) as a crown tenant
- married
Margaret MacFarlane, daughter of
Duncan MacFarlane of Arrocher, 6th
heir of MacFarlane, believed to be granddaughter
of King James IV of Scotland
+ their children were:

Dougal Ciar MacGregor "MacCoulkeir" of
Corrochlaid or Corryarklet in Glen Arklet
- married
A daughter of Stewart of Coireachan
+ their children were:

others

Malcolm MacGregor, outlawed
November 18, 1533, died before 1590
- married
Findlay "Glas" Mac"antyre
+ their children were:

others

Gregor "Dhu" MacGregor in Glengyle.
He was obliged to take a lease of
Glengyle when the Marquis of Montrose
procured a charter from the Crown to
the lands of Glengyle; the fee right
to that property was afterwards
purchased from the Marquis. He fought
at Glenfruin 1603
- married
Janet Buchanan, daughter of Thomas
Buchanan of Carbeth. She died in
1626.

Malcolm "Og" MacGregor
"McCulkeyr" (Younger) of
Inverlochlarig. He was
executed at Edinburgh
February 3, 1604, for
taking part in the Battle
of Glenfruin 1603
- married to ?
+ their children were:
(see page 8)

son

son	Dougal MacGregor in Kyleter (Kerletter) Glenfalloch, also styled Dougall McCallus Dougallkeir - cited to attend the Commissioners of Council at Inverlochy, October, 1678 "to give Bond in terms of Law" - married ? + their children were:		
Malcolm MacGregor	Gregor "Dhu" MacGregor - MacDhugail (John Campbell) in Kerletter, Glenfalloch. He bought the lands of Inverardran and Marchfield and was founder of the Inverardran and Marchfield family. He was, also, celebrated as brave and generous. He took the name John Campbell because the clan surname was proscribed by law. - married Mary MacGregor, a sister of Donald (Glas) MacGregor of Glengyle + their children were:	John MacGregor	
Malcolm MacGregor (Murray) - Murray of Marchfield, a foolish man, because he lost all his father's lands. He set out for America, but died at Oban, Buried in the family burying ground at Inverardran in the parish of Killin, Perthshire, Scotland. - married Isobel Darroch, a gentlewoman from Cintyre. She died at a very old age at Inverardran and is buried with her husband. + their children were:		Donald MacGregor of Kerletter Scotland.	son
1 John MacGregor	2 Duncan MacGregor	3 Captain Gregor MacGregor	4 Daniel MacGregor
1. John MacGregor was a Captain in French service where he died. 2. Duncan MacGregor married a daughter of Campbell of Glenfalloch. He also died in the service. 4. Daniel MacGregor died before February 15, 1755. 3. Captain Gregor MacGregor (Drummond) of Inverardran. He was born in 1689. When the 42 Highland Regiment was formed in 1732, he became a member. He was taken before King George II as a model of a Scottish soldier and			

then immediately appointed a Captain in the West Middlesex militia under the name Captain Drummond (1743) "Gregor Boyac" (beautiful). He restored the old property of Inverardran. On November 25, 1774, he was able to have the name MacGregor (MacGregor was the accepted spelling until this generation) restored and the acts of proscription against the members of the clan were repealed.

- married

Mary MacGregor, who was a first cousin of Sir John MacGregor of MacGregor chief of the clan

+ their children were:

Captain Daniel McGregor of Inverardran (only son) was in the service of the East India Company

10 married

Miss Austin

+ their children were:

Sir Gregor McGregor

Anne McGregor
married
Dr. O'Rielly

Jane McGregor
married
John McGregor
of Glengyle

[illegible]

There appears to be a break in the lineage here; at least the ancestry of Captain Duncan (below) is uncertain; he could be descended from John MacGregor (son of Gregor "Dhu") or from Donald McGregor of Kyletter (Kerletter) or the latter's brother, name unknown.

Captain Duncan McGregor 1732 – 1790

Duncan was in the 42nd Highland Regiment and served under the British Flag in both American wars of the 18th century (The Seven Years' War, 1756 – 1763, and the American War of Independence, 1776 – 1783). He was stationed at Fort Duquesne (Fort Pitt), Pennsylvania, U.S.A. and, on May 10, 1777, in the Revolutionary War, was left for dead at the Battle (see accompanying letter Appendix #1). Afterwards he used a long walking stick. He died in Scotland and is buried in Leith. He married Judith Clark of Edinburgh. She died at Mrs. Wishart's house at 42 Rankeiller Street, Edinburgh, on May 24, 1814, and is buried in the old Buccleuch graveyard in the south of that city.

+ (their son)

Captain Peter McGregor (1763 – 1827)

He was born on October 9, 1763 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., from which he returned to Scotland with his parents. Like his father he was a captain in the famous regiment, the 42nd Highlanders or Black Watch, in the Peninsular Wars. Apparently he saved the life of the Prince Regent, afterwards King William IV at the Battle of Maida in this campaign.¹ In 1812 he was stationed in Quebec, Canada, in charge of Transport, with his family. In 1813 he returned to Scotland, was discharged, and in 1814 returned to Canada. It was passed in Council of Upper Canada December 10, 1818, that "Peter McGregor of Kingston, Gentleman, shall receive a grant of 500 acres of land as a Reduced Lieutenant of the late 4th Royal Veteran Battalion." The grant was larger than usual in recognition of his having saved the Prince's life. (See Appendix #'s 2, 3, 4 and 5.)

He settled in Nelson Township, Halton County, Ontario and is buried at St Paul's Presbyterian Church on the Dundas Highway near Nelson, Ontario. He died on April 9, 1827. The church was founded in 1822 and worshippers came from Bronte, Port Nelson, Wellington Square, Waterdown, Ash Zimmerman and Mount Nemo. His silhouette was done in Edinburgh. His medals were: 1808 - Vinniera, 1809 - Talona, 1811 - Almeida, 1812 - Trinidad, Badrigo and Badizorge. He had a cousin, Sir Gregor McGregor, who fought in South America and married a Spanish beauty.² He died in Caracas, Venezuela.

Peter had two sisters and a brother: Judith, born in Edinburgh Castle, who died in infancy and Mary, born on the Isle of Man, who married Captain Alexander Wishart, who was Peter's life-long friend and a witness of the latter's will; and Duncan, who was drowned at sea, a bachelor, en route to India.

NOTE ¹: Actually, Prince William was the younger brother of the Prince Regent (Prince of Wales). William was named Duke of Clarence in 1789 and King William IV in 1830. The Battle of Maida occurred during the Napoleonic Wars in 1806 just prior to the Peninsular Wars, and it proved to the British that Napoleon's French forces were not invincible.

NOTE ²: According to John McGregor's papers/manuscript/autobiography with the *History of Clan Gregor*, Josepha Maria de Lupera was "Sir" Gregor's second wife.

Peter married twice: (1) in Scotland about 1799, Jane Maclean. She was born in Scotland in 1770 and died in Edinburgh, September 21, 1806.

+ (their children were):

twins	
Isabel McGregor born on March 10, 1800, lived 2 months	Lachlan McGregor ³ born March 10, 1800 died January 15, 1887

They were born in the harbour of Cittadella, Island of Minorca, aboard a troopship.

(2) Three years after Jane's death Peter married Anne Urquhart, on March 6, 1809. She was born in Fort George, Scotland on November 11, 1774 in the Parish of Calder and was a person reputedly of superior upbringing. She brought her maid with her to Canada in 1812; also, she had "nice things" and lived like a lady. When a widow, she lived in the red brick house across from Limestone Hall, Nelson Township, Ontario.

Peter and his second wife, Anne, departed from Fort George, Scotland, which is in the Moray Firth near Inverness on February 27, 1812; left Cromarty on March 5; received orders to embark on the store ship MONAGUE on June 8; sailed for Spithead on June 18. On account of her health, they were put on board the sloop of war THRASSIAN June 28 and landed in Quebec in about three months. In her later days, when she had become a widow, she rode on horseback to Wellington Square (Burlington, Ontario) to get her army pension cheque and visit her daughters-in-law.

Her granddaughter, Anne McGregor of Eramosa township, came to live with her as a child and was raised by her. It was there that Anne met her husband-to-be, Robert Stewart, the master builder, who built Limestone Hall in 1853. Anne Urquhart died in 1853 and is buried with her husband at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on the Dundas Highway, Ontario.

(Anne's father, William Urquhart, a lieutenant in the 42nd Highland Regiment was wounded at Toulouse, France on April 10, 1814, during the Napoleonic Wars when Marshall Nicholas Soult, one of Napoleon's generals, made an unsuccessful stand against the allied armies under the Duke of Wellington. See APPENDIX 11.)

NOTE ³: For information about Lachlan see APPENDIX #6

Peter McGregor

married March 6, 1809

Anne Urquhart

+ their children were:

John Charles James born July 24, 1810 Fort George, New Brunswick	Duncan	Donald
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Anne and Peter had three sons of their own: (1) John who was born in Fort George, New Brunswick, July 24, 1810 and from whom you are descended;
(2) Duncan and (3) Donald who were born in Upper Canada.

1. The above, John Charles James McGregor, returned with his parents to Scotland, but sailed again to Canada in 1814 to take up permanent residence in a new land. The family lived first in Kingston but later received a land grant and built a log cabin of dimensions 18 by 20 feet, west of Toronto. Later they built a red brick house on the west side of Walker's line south of #10 cross road on lot #8 concession 4, Nelson Township, Halton County, Ontario. By terms of his father's will, John was left the east half of lot #15 in the Third Concession in the Township of Eramosa. He sold his farm which was next to his stepbrother, Lachlan's, and purchased the farm across the road from his mother's--lot #8, Concession 5, Nelson Township. John first acquired 300 acres of land between Rattlesnake Point and Flamboro Head where he built a log cabin.

In 1853 he built on this lot his new home--Limestone Hall (see appendix #7). It was a cut-stone mansion and is now, in 1970, the home of Col. Allen Burton, the Chairman of the Board of the Robert Simpson Company. In the early days it was gay with parties and its occupants lived in the grand manner. They grew celery and grapes and raised mink for their ladies' capes. John died on November 28, 1879 and is buried at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Dundas Highway.

- married

Phoebe Zimmerman (December 16, 1811 – August 30, 1890) of Pennsylvania Dutch stock who came from the village of Zimmerman near Limestone Hall. I have not been able to discover the date of their marriage, but their union produced twelve children: Peter, from whom you are descended, Mary, William, James, Ann, Donald, Maria, Margaret, Phoebe, John O. (M.D.), Charles and George. Also, Little Annie who was adopted when one of their own children died.

John McGregor

14.married

Phoebe Zimmerman

+ their children were:

1. Peter (February 25, 1835 – December 1, 1920) was born at Waterdown, Ontario. He, and his brothers and sisters as they arrived, spent their early years at Limestone Hall. When he left home Peter established his own farm in Nelson township; later he moved to Cedarville where he operated a general store; later again he moved, this time to Dundalk, Ontario, where he established a saw mill. He was the local magistrate for many years and was also noted as the best tooth-puller in the district. He married twice.
 - a. Mary Ann Wilson, born 1835, buried December 25, 1905, who married him on May 3, 1855. She, also, was born at Nelson and, in addition, was of United Empire Loyalist stock. Her mother died when she was five years of age and her father did not marry again. Her brothers and sisters were: Andrew, Samuel, Janet, Agnes, William, George and Isabel. (See Appendix #8)

Following the death of Mary Ann, Peter retired and moved again to Waterdown where his younger brother, the doctor named John lived.

b. Later Peter married Isabela, his first wife's younger sister (born 1839, died 1914). In subsequent years, Mary Ann's body, which had been buried in Dundalk, was moved to the family vault at Waterdown, where the three of them rest side by side.

There were five children of the first marriage:

Peter McGregor
-married May 3, 1855
Mary Ann Wilson
+ their children were:

1	2	3	4	5
Janet Maria	John Russell	Phoebe Louise	William Wilson	Mary Petricia

(see Appendix #9 for numbers 1 - 4)

5. Mary Petricia McGregor was born at Dundalk, Ontario on November 12, 1879, attended school there and 'eventually came West to Lethbridge where she taught piano lessons. While there she met Alexander Peter Hanley; they were married in Cranbrook, B.C. at the home of her brother William Wilson McGregor on Labour Day, September 6, 1914. Later they lived in Medicine Hat, Alberta as well as Hatton and Wapella, Saskatchewan; finally they established themselves in 1921 in Drumheller, Alberta, where they resided until her death on December 20, 1969.

Mary Petricia McGregor
-married September 6, 1914
Alexander Peter Hanley
+ their children were:

Janet Elizabeth (Jean)	William born Sept. 1917 died at 3 months
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Their only daughter, Janet Elizabeth, was born on June 2, 1915, at Wapella, Saskatchewan. She took all her schooling in Drumheller; attended the University of Alberta from 1933 – 1937, graduating with a B.A. degree and a teaching certificate. She taught for one year at Naco, Alberta; at Llanarthney School for Girls in Edmonton, and for a year in Wetaskiwin High School where she met her husband-to-be.

Janet Elizabeth Hanley
-married on August 5, 1940, at Drumheller
Henry Gerrie Ward

The latter, who was born in Edmonton on June 15, 1913, lived most of his life there. He attended the University of Alberta obtaining a B.A. and a B.Ed. degree, 1932-1937. He spent his working years in Manyberries, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton in many positions in his field: teacher, assistant principal, principal of Bonnie Doon Composite High School and finally, Director of Staff Development of the Edmonton Public School Board. He and his wife, Jean, moved from Wetaskiwin in 1942 where they had lived for two years and have resided continuously from that time in Edmonton. Henry died August 30, 1976, of a heart attack while he and his wife were driving to Vancouver.

They had two sons:

William Peter
born February 11, 1943
-married September 30, 1967
Patricia Caroline Suitor
born October 11, 1943

John Edward Henry
born May 3, 1946

AN ANECDOTE FROM THE

* HISTORY OF THE HIGHLAND REGIMENTS

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7. "On this occasion Sergeant Macgregor, whose company was immediately in the rear of the piquet, rushed forward to their support with a few men who happened to have their arms in their hands, when the enemy commenced the attack. Being severely wounded, he was left insensible on the ground. When the piquet was overpowered, and the few survivors forced to retire, Macgregor, who had that day put on a new jacket with silver-lace, having, besides, large silver buckles in his shoes, and a watch attracted the notice of an American soldier, who deemed him a good prize. The retreat of his friends not allowing him time to strip the sergeant on the spot, he thought the shortest way was to take him on his back to a more convenient distance. By this time Macgregor began to recover; and, perceiving whither the man was carrying him, drew his dirk, and grasping him by the throat, swore that he would run him through the breast if he did not turn back and carry him to the camp. The American, finding this argument irresistible, complied with the request, and meeting Lord Cornwallis (who had come up to the support of the regiment when he heard the firing) and Colonel Stirling, was thanked for his care of the sergeant; but he honestly told them that he only conveyed him thither to save his own life. Lord Cornwallis gave him liberty to go whithersoever he chose. His lordship procured for the sergeant a Situation under government at Leith, which he enjoyed many years." --

\* Stewart's Sketches, *History of the Highland Regiments*

## APPENDIX #2

ORIGINAL MILITARY GRANT OF PETER McGREGOR

IN COUNCIL 10 DECEMBER 1818

Ordered that Peter McGregor, of Kingston,  
Gentleman, shall receive a grant of Five  
hundred Acres of Land as a Reduced Lieutenant  
of the Late 4<sup>th</sup> Royal Veteran Battalion.

John Beikiz  
Conf clk

The Surveyor General

## APPENDIX #3

CERTIFICATION OF SETTLEMENT DUTY AND CLAIMOF PETER McGREGOR

|                 |                                               |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Gore District ) | Personally appeared before me Peter           |
| To )            | McGregor one of His Majesty's Justice of      |
| Wit )           | the Peace in and for the said District,       |
|                 | William Robertson and Lachlan McGregor        |
|                 | maketh Oath and saith that the have done      |
|                 | the Settlement Duty on Lot No. Fourteen       |
|                 | and East end of Lot No. Fifteen in the        |
|                 | third Concesssion in the Township of          |
|                 | Eramora as follows Viz, Cut and Scrubed       |
|                 | the roads in front of the Lots two rod in     |
|                 | width and slashed one Chain acrofs the fronts |
|                 | of said Lotes, Cleared one acre and fenced    |
|                 | it and Built a House eighteen feet by Twenty  |

Sworn before me  
at Nelson this 16th July 1824

Peter McGregor J.P.

Gore District

( Wm. Robinson

( Lachlan McGregor

( Admitted

John Strachan E.C.

WILL OF PETER MCGREGOR

Upper Canada ) Probate of the Last Will and Testament of Peter McGregor  
                   ) of the Township of Nelson in the County of Halten in the  
 District of     ) District of Gore and in the Province of Upper Canada, Esquire.  
                   )  
                   ) In the Name of God Amen

I Peter McGregor of the Township of Nelson in the County of Halten in the District of Gore and Province of Upper Canada being of sound mind and memory blefsed be God for all his Mercies, do make and publish this for my last Will and Testament and request that it may be received and acknowledged by all concerned as such --

First, I give and bequeath to my dear wife Ann McGregor during her widowhood the East half of Lot Number eight in the fourth Concefsion in the Township of Nelson in the County of Halten in the District of Gore --

Second, I give and bequeath to my Eldest Son Lachlan McGregor lot number fourteen in the Third Concefsion of the Township of Eramosa forever & to his heirs and afsigns.

Third, I give and bequeath to my Second Son John Charles James McGregor and to his heirs and afsigns forever the East half of Lot Number fifteen in the Third Conceision in the Township of Eramosa --

Fourth, I give and bequeath to my third son Duncan McGregor and to his heirs and afsigns forever the west half of Lot Number eight in the Township of Nelson in the County of Halten in the District of Gore - -

Fifth, I give and bequeath to my Fourth Son Donald Evan McGregor and to his heirs and afsigns forever that certain tract or parcel of land and situated and being the East half of Lot Number eight in the fourth concefsion of Nelson County of Halten

District of Gore province of Upper Canada with all its improvements  
 erectments and appurtenances thereunto belonging and appertaining to  
 succeed and inherit the above mentioned at the death of his Mother or  
 in case of her again marrying --

Sixth, All the residue of my Estate real and personal after the  
 payment of my Funeral expenses which I request to not be extravagant  
 but desant and becoming my rank and after the payment of all my just  
 debts I give and devise to Dear and affectionate wife.

Seventh, I nominate, constitute and appoint Alexander Wishart, Esq.  
 of west county of Halten District of Gore and my dear and  
 affectionate wife Ann McGregor executors of this my last will and  
 testament -- in witnefs whereof I hereto set my hand Seal this Fourteenth  
 day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
 twenty-two.

|                                      |          |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Signed, Sealed acknowledged in the ) |          |                |
| presence of us whose names )         | (signed) | Peter McGregor |
| are hereunto subscribed. )           |          |                |

A. Wishart

Titus Gus Simons

Henry Beasley

ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RECORDS  
AND ARCHIVES

TELEPHONE: HISTORICAL BRANCH 365-4021  
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MAILING ADDRESS:  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
TORONTO 5

August 18, 1969

Mr. H. G. Ward  
Principal  
Edmonton Public School Board  
8205 - 90 Avenue  
Edmonton 82, Alberta

Dear Mr. Ward:

In response to your enquiry of August 11, 1969, I hope the following information will answer some, if not all, of your questions.

After the War of 1812 Peter McGregor of Kingston, formerly a Lieutenant in the 4th Royal Veteran Battalion not the 78 Rosshire Regiment as you supposed, was granted 500 acres of land by an Order-in-Council dated December 10, 1818. Subsequently, Tickets of Location for this grant, situated in both Nelson and Eramosa Townships, were issued on May 10, 1819 and December 24, 1819 respectively. It consisted of Lot No. 8 (200 acres) in the 4th concession of Nelson Tp. in Halton County. Nelson Tp. is no longer in existence since its absorption by the town of Burlington. Also included were Lots Nos. 14 and the east half of 15 (300 acres) the 3rd concession of Eramosa Tp. in Wellington County.

As a civilian Peter McGregor became a Justice of the Peace for the Gore District, which today comprises of Halton, Wentworth and segments of Brant, Waterloo and Wellington Counties. On July 16, 1824 he was able to certify that William Robinson and his son Laughlin had performed the settlement duty, which entailed clearing a portion of the land and erecting a house on the Eramosa property.

In his Will, dated February 14, it said Peter McGregor bequeathed the land in question to his four sons. To Donald he gave the east half of Lot No. 8 which the west half went to Duncan. Laughlin received Lot No. 14 and John was the recipient of the east half of Lot No. 15.

After his death, which occurred sometime between 1824 and 1827, probably 1827, his sons claim to this land was posted on April 9, 1839. The Heir and Devisee Commissioners, with jurisdiction in these matters, recognized their claim as legitimate and issued land patents to their respective properties on September 12, 1839.

Yours truly

Brian Speirs  
Archivist

BS/dea



LACHLAN MCGREGOR

He was with his parents in the Peninsular Wars and at Edinburgh, Scotland in 1806; at Fort George, New Brunswick (had been built in 1784 near St. Andrews) in 1810; and in Quebec in 1812. In 1813 he returned to Scotland with his father and step-mother, returning again to Canada in 1814. Lachlan, who, it is said, was educated at Edinburgh Universities, lived with his parents in Nelson Township, Ontario, settling eventually in Eramosa Township, Ontario. The Crown Deed reads, "Free Grant to Lachlan McGregor, 200 acres, recorded October 3, 1839, province of Upper Canada, Lachlan McGregor, of the Township of Eramosa, in the County of Halton (now called Wellington County) in the District of Gore. Yeoman" (a yeoman was a man of respectable class, a freeholder in the position to own his own land).

One of the Devises in the will of Peter McGregor, deceased, bequeaths to him 200 acres, the east and west halves of #14 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> concession of the Township of Eramosa. The present location is Lot #14, 3<sup>rd</sup> line, Concession 3, Eramosa. He built a 2-storey log house. The farm is now owned by (1962) George Storers and the house is plastered over. Mr. Storers has the Crown Deed in his possession. The only road from Lake Ontario to Eramosa Township was the old Indian Trail from Wellington Square (Burlington, Ontario) to the Grand River in Garafraxa Township, part of which is still in Eden Mills. It is now the Guelph Line from Eden Mills to Port Nelson. He had a hand in making the first survey of the town of Guelph. He died at Wardsville, Ontario, while visiting his son, John.

Lachlan married Elizath Bell (1812 – 1871) who bore him four sons and seven daughters, two of whom married into the Stewart family of Guelph. One, Ann McGregor, 1831 – 1922, was born in Eramosa Township and raised by her stepmother, Anne Urquhart McGregor.

FROM "THE BURLINGTON GAZETTE" -- June 17, 1961

Pages From The Past

Gina Lollobrigida once considered buying the stately, century-old home on Walker's Line just below the 10th Side Road.

And a Toronto group interested in turning the house and 200-acre property into a golf club, looked at the site before it was finally purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Allan Skaith of Toronto.

Recently, an auction of furniture and farm equipment and livestock attracted more than 1,000 people to "Limestone Hall" which was formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Dixon and Guy Dixon.

For the Dixon's, the sale signified the end of almost 60 years of occupancy by the family in the home and it was with some sadness they moved, for health reasons, to a home in Milton.

ENGLISH MANSION

From the air, the residence resembles an English mansion. Situated on a slight knoll, the house looks down on the Limestone creek trickling by a short distance away; running through the north end of the farm is a spring.

The symmetric front facade features a door with side and fanlights surmounted by a Doric portico.

The house has 30 windows and 19 rooms, spacious hallways and dressing rooms off the bedrooms. A winding staircase of walnut has a hand rail and newel post of mahogany and the woodwork and floor is made from original pine.

Some of the furniture sold in the auction was older than the house.

One of the three pianos, a rosewood Gilbert piano with brass sounding board and five octaves, was about 125 years old.

Other antiques included a spinning wheel, platform rocker, an apple drier, five matching spool beds, two rope beds and a high maple buffet.

## LIMESTONE USED

The house gets its name from the material used in the construction. Stone masons took two years to cut the stone which was quarried locally and used to build the 22-inch thick walls.

The house was built in 1853 by Robert Stewart, of Guelph, for John McGregor, whose father, Captain Peter McGregor first came to Canada as an officer in the war of 1812 and later came from Scotland to settle in 1815.

The Stewart Lumber Company has the original contract, written in long hand, for this home. Robert Stewart received 100 pounds sterling, including his board lodging, to build it, and the McGregors supplied all materials.

The land was a Crown grant for 300 acres.

Mrs. Dixon said many people stopped by to look at the old home before it was finally sold to the Skaiths.

Miss Lollobrigida came last July with her husband and young son. They looked over the property with a real estate agent and then left for an appointment in Niagara Falls.

"I was waiting inside to see them and didn't know until they had left who they were," Mrs. Dixon recalled.

Her husband and two children, Robert and Ruth—who placed third in last year's Miss Burlington contest—have lived in the home all their lives.

John McGregor built himself a modest log cabin a short distance from the site of his new home. When Limestone Hall was finished, it was furnished with the best pieces of the day and luxurious draperies.

Driving horses and carriages were frequently seen on the property and the women of the day wore mink furs—a luxury in early Upper Canada.

A newspaper account, written some six years ago, notes: "The owners were most progressive and grew celery and grapes. Throughout the district they were known for their hospitality and gracious entertainment."

MARY ANN WILSON b. Lot 3, Conc. 2, (New Survey) in Nelson Twp. in 1835.

Married Peter McGregor (b. February 25, 1835 in Nelson) May 3, 1855. Farmed on Lot 6, Conc. 6 Nelson at least until 1871 and four of their children were born there (Recorded in Nelson Census 1871). Moved to a farm near Dundalk. Mary Ann died December 25, 1905.

Mary Ann was sixth child of Janet Carr and William Wilson. Both were born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, married there July 27, 1822.

Andrew b. November 3, 1823 in Hamilton) Scotland.

Samuel b. 1825 in Scotland. Died in Nelson Twp. 1842. Stone in St. Paul's Cemetery, Nelson.

George Russell b. 1827. Died Fergus, May 7, 1863 ac. 35

Janet b.c. 1829 m. William Davison 1828 - 1911. Buried in St. Paul's

Agnes b. 1832 m. Peter Dow (1832 - 1913) farms in Nichol Twp. D.,

Mary Ann b. 1835 d. 1905

William b. 1837 - 1918 Bachelor. Inherited part of Wilson farm

Isabel b. 1838. Lived with her father and brother William. Later married Peter McGregor after her sister's death.

Here is the McGregor entry in the 1860 Census of Nelson Twp.

|            | <u>Age</u> |                              |
|------------|------------|------------------------------|
| John J. C. | 51 M       |                              |
| Phoebe (Z) | 50 M       |                              |
| Peter      | 26 S       |                              |
| William    | 25 S       | Lots 7 and 8, Conc. 5 N. S.  |
| Mary       | 21         | Nelson 307 acres             |
| James      | 19         |                              |
| Ann        | 18         | William and John O. became   |
| Donald     | 16         | doctors, and two of John O's |
| Maria      | 15         | sons also became doctors.    |
| Margaret   | 11         |                              |
| John O.    | 9          |                              |
| Charles    | 7          |                              |
| George     | 10         |                              |

Another Ann appears at the end of the list; no age given. Was adopted.

Other Children of Peter McGregor and Mary Ann Wilson, married May 3 1855

1. Janet Marie McGregor, born 1861, died 19     She married James Marshall, a retired farmer, in 1920. There were no children. Both are buried in Milton, Ontario.
2. John Russell McGregor was born February 24, 1863; died in Hamilton on October , 1940, and is buried in Waterdown. He married Mary Emile Robinson in London, Ontario. She was born on October 21, 1866 and died in Paris, Ontario in 1931, and is buried at Waterdown.

John Russell was a man of some consequence in business and political affairs. He was a druggist and also operated an insurance agency; in addition he was an Indian agent and owned some timber berths on the Manitoulin Island and dealt in lumber there. The story is told that he upset the Liberal Government of Ontario on a matter of graft in connection with timber rights. In his later years, when a widower, he was reputed to be comfortably well off and he travelled extensively in a large Hudson sedan. To a number of the younger members of the family he was known as, "Uncle Who Knits", because of his skill with the knitting needles.

He had three children:

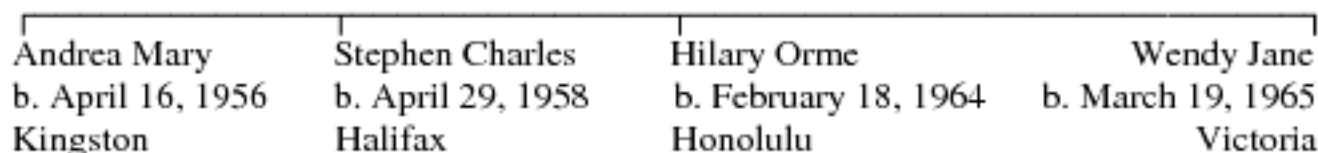
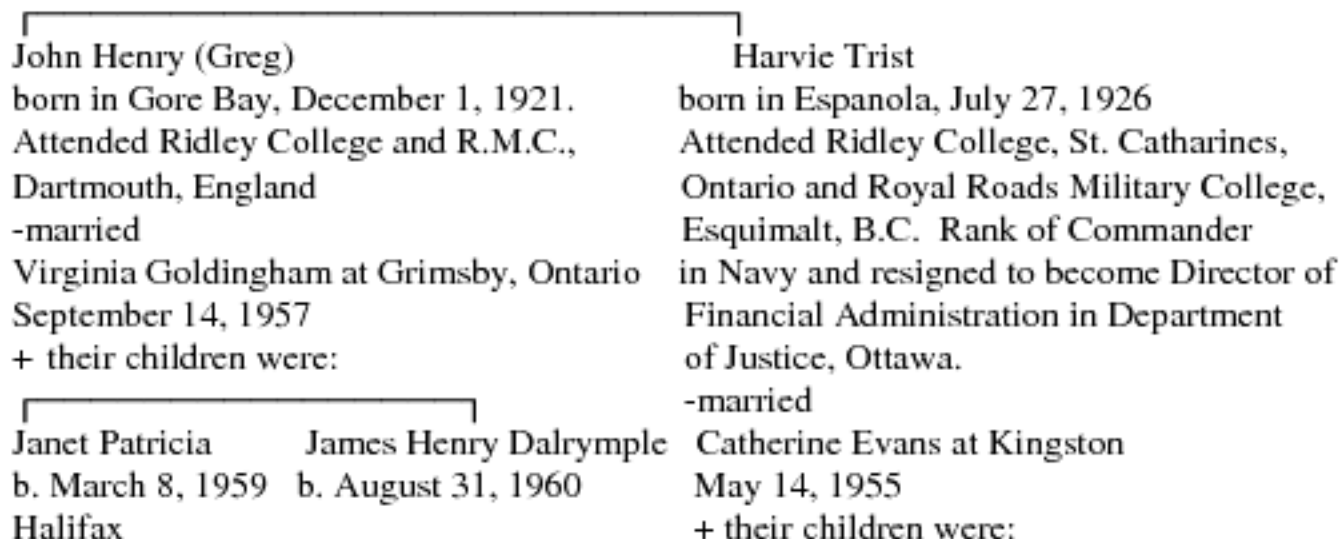
- I) Helen Mary McGregor, born August 11, 1892 in Toronto. Married Rev. H. F. Cocks, Anglican, born in Devonport, England in 1888, and died June 26, 1970. He served as clergyman in Espanola, Cobalt, Sarnia, Chaplain M.D. #1 at London, and later in Montreal and Halifax. He returned to London after the war to become Rehabilitation Officer at Westminster Hospital until 1950, then Chaplain at Veterans' Hospital at Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Helen Mary McGregor

-married

Rev. Henry Charles Frederick Cocks

+ their children were:



2) Jean Russell, born May 15, 1894 in Toronto

- married

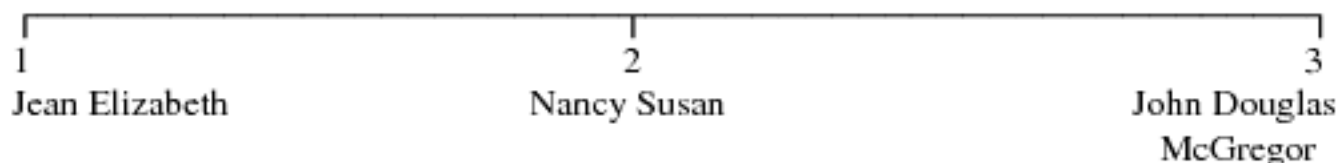
Havelock Dwight Hulburt

a salesman

+ no children

3) Margaret Douglas, who was born on October 15, 1895 and died on October 30, 1962 in Edmonton. Douglas, who was born at Gore Bay, graduated from MacDonald College, St. Anne de Beaupré in Home Economics. She married Dr. John A. Alton on June 17, 1922. He was born on May 17, 1888, in Sundridge, Ontario, and died in Lamont, Alberta on May 10, 1961 where he had been a physician for many years (Dr. Archer Memorial Hospital)

They had three children:



1) Jean Elizabeth, born in Lamont, Alberta, October 4, 1923, married

a) On November 8, 1943 Leonard Milton Eckel, later deceased

Their child: Wendy Elizabeth (Eckel) Kibblewhite, born

June 18, 1948

- b) On July 9, 1955 Jean Elizabeth married Edward James Kibblewhite  
born (date not available)

Their children are:

- i) Douglas James, born July 11, 1958
  - ii) David, born November 8, 1959
- 2) Nancy Susan Alton was born in Lamont on November 15, 1924. She was married in Edmonton, August 6, 1949, to Dr. Kenneth Allan McMurchy, who was born June 22, 1923.

Their children:

- i) Laurie Susan, born October 31, 1951 in Lamont
  - ii) Greg Douglas Duncan, born September 25, 1953 in Edmonton
  - iii) Geoffrey Ian, born September 19, 1955 in Lamont
  - iv) Shannon Elizabeth, born April 2, 1964 in Edmonton
- 3) Dr. J.D. McGregor Alton, born February 18, 1926 in Lamont, Alberta. He married Mary Jane Schlosser (born August 26, 1930) in Edmonton on December 26, 1951. Their children:
- i) John, born in Liverpool, on March 9, 1955
  - ii) David, born in Edmonton, on November 22, 1956
  - iii) Heather, born in Edmonton, September 11, 1958
  - iv) Susan Helen, born in Edmonton, October 5, 1962
  - v) Bruce McGregor, born in Edmonton on February 11, 1967

3. Descendants of Phoebe Louise McGregor, born in 1868 in Waterdown and died in 1938. She married John Ross, a Presbyterian Minister. Both died in Toronto and are buried at the mausoleum in Waterdown. Their children were:
- i) Ewart Ross, born August 7, 1888, in Meaford, and died in 1906 by drowning in Lake Erie at Cedar Beach.

- ii) Mary Fraser Ross, born April 1, 1890, in Meaford, and died April 22, 1965 in Toronto. She married Mr. M. J. McPherson, a farmer. There were no children by this marriage, which was his second.
- iii) Phoebe Jean McGregor Ross was born on August 21, 1898, in Churchill, Ontario. She did not marry and spent all her adult life as a resident of Toronto, working at the Ontario Hydro for 43 years. She died at the Toronto General Hospital on June 24, 1973. Her urn with ashes was placed in the Family Mausoleum in Waterdown.
- iv) Marjorie Isobel Ross (November 4, 1902, to April 28, 1985) married Fred Noble (January 10, 1905 – 1987) on May 17, 1939, a widower and engineer, who had a son named Gordon by the first marriage. The son of his second marriage was named Donald, born on June 4, 1942.
- v) John Caven Alexander Ross was born February 6, 1904, in Churchill, Ontario. Jack was a tinsmith, a metal finisher and a tool-and-die worker by trade and worked for General Motors. He was married twice (the first ending in a divorce in 1960): (a) to Beatrice Leona Badgley, born in Detroit, Michigan, on November 17, 1906, and died in Oshawa, Ontario, on May 6, 1998; (b) a divorcee, Florence “Bud” Love, of Oshawa, Ontario, c. 1963. Jack died in Oshawa on December 29, 2000.

There were two children by his first marriage:

John C. A. Ross

married by Rev. John A. Ross on July 6, 1929

Beatrice Leona Badgley

+ their children were:

A.

John Douglas

Born May 11, 1930

- married July 1, 1967

Patricia Dianne Bassett

Born January 21, 1942

B.

Marilyn Joan

born October 27, 1934

- married September 11, 1954

Bertram Lloyd Beckell

born May 23, 1930



A. John Douglas Ross, who was born at the Badgley home in Oshawa, lived most of his life in Toronto where he obtained his B.A. at Victoria University (UofT) in 1954 and an M.Ed. degree in 1963. His career in education include positions in the Municipality of York (Toronto) as a teacher, vice-principal (Keele Public School, Silverthorn Public School and Memorial Junior Public School), principal (Harwood Junior Public School and Lambton Junior Public School), president of the York Principals' Association in 1968, on the Metro Salary Negotiation Team 1968 – 1969, instructor in statistics for a Departmental Guidance Course 1969 – 1970, and a programme developer for computer enrichment before retirement in 1987. During these years as an educator, his book, *Education in Oshawa from settlement to city*, was published by Algier Press in December of 1969 and paid for by the (Oshawa) Durham Board of Education, and his manuscript, *Our Ross Family Story*, was published by North York Offset between 1978 and 1982. In his fourth year as a vice-principal, Doug returned to Silverthorn Public School for the first time since the fire in 1957, and George Brownlee, the principal of Silverthorn Public School, introduced him to his future wife, Patricia Dianne Bassett, in the hall near the office during the week before school started.

Pat, who was born "Gail Patricia Nicholson" at the Toronto General Hospital on January 21, 1942, was adopted and spent most of her life in Toronto except for two years of teaching in typical rural schools north of Lake Superior in Minnitaki and Dymont, before returning to Toronto. Following the birth of their two children, Pat was encouraged to return to university, where she earned an honours degree in Science at York University. While attending, she travelled to Igloolik and Sarcpa Lake during a High Arctic Tundra Field Study Course in 1979, drove by van to Susanville (California) and environs (including Wendell Canyon) during a Desert Ecology Field Course in 1978. She delivered a paper at the Symposium of Asian Pacific Mammalogy in Beijing during July of 1988 and successfully presented her Ph.D. thesis *Morphological Variation and Phylogeny of Palaearctic Hamsters (Rodentia Cricetinae)* at the University of Toronto in 1992. As an associate of the Centre for Biodiversity and

Conservation Biology at the Royal Ontario Museum, she managed the laboratory of molecular systematics; assisted the associate editor of the scientific periodical *The Southwestern Naturalist*; was sent to the Northern Studies Centre at Churchill, Manitoba, to collect some lemmings in 1994; and volunteered to travel to the Churchill Northern Studies Centre to collect Arctic fox samples for the Mammalogy Department at the Royal Ontario Museum in 1995. She became a member of the Toronto Chapter of Sigma Xi (the Scientific Research Society) in 1995, and served as its president from 2002 - 2004.

Doug had the bans posted at Runnymede United Church, and they were married at St. Timothy Anglican Church on Canada Day, July 1, 1967. They went on their honeymoon to Trinidad & Tobago as well as Belem and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. They lived on Bloor Street across from High Park until they purchased a home in Willowdale in June of 1969.

John Douglas Ross  
married on July 1, 1967  
Patricia Dianne Bassett  
+ their children were:

|                                                            |                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>a.</p> <p>Jennifer Elizabeth<br/>born April 7, 1968</p> | <p>b.</p> <p>Robert Douglas<br/>born August 7, 1969</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|

B. Marilyn was born on October 27, 1934, at 3:00 PM, a 10 lb. baby delivered by Dr. Wilson at the family's rented home on Montrave Avenue in Oshawa. The family moved to several locations in Oshawa, until their parents built a home at 22 Alexander Boulevard (later Grenfell Street) in the Westmount area during World War II. Both Doug and Marilyn had the same teacher as their mother in Grade VIII at Westmount Public School (i.e. Miss Amelia Lear). After completing her education at the Oshawa Collegiate and Vocational Institute and the Oshawa Central Collegiate Institute, Marilyn worked as a teller at the Bank of Montreal in Oshawa.

On Saturday, September 11, 1954, Marilyn was married to Bert Beckell at Centre Street United Church. Bert, born on May 23, 1930, to parents Garnet Vernon "Barney" Beckell and Mary Irene Prouse, took over the family farm and potato business, and he became known as the "Potato King of Ontario" when he expanded the operation to include importing and distribution. Marilyn was the secretary until Bert retired and handed the business over to his eldest son. Marilyn died in their home at Balsam Lake, Ontario, from incurable pulmonary fibrosis on January 16, 2002.

Marilyn Joan Ross  
 married on September 11, 1954  
 Bertram Lloyd Beckell  
 + their children were:

|                                                                             |                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>a.<br/>         Jeffrey Lloyd Beckell<br/>         born June 6, 1956</p> | <p>b.<br/>         Robert Alan Beckell<br/>         born November 17, 1957</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

4. William Wilson McGregor (Uncle Bill) born probably at Dundalk in 1869 and died on May 17, 1948 in Vancouver. A delightfully amusing and lighthearted man, he came west in the early days and worked as a "drummer" for Ashdown's, making his country calls out of Calgary by democrat and team before the coming of the automobile. He married Annie Christie of Hamilton on April 30, We have no birthdate for her and she died about three months before her husband. Very warm, pleasant and altogether delightful people. Bill was a successful salesman and retired about the age of 45, just before the beginning of World War I. It was at their home in Cranbrook that Mary Petricia married Alex Hanley.

ANCESTRY AND FAMILY OF HOWARD GORDON MCGREGOR OF BURLINGTON, ONTARIO

The grandparents of the above were: John James Charles McGregor, who was born at Fort George, N.B. (?) on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1810, and his wife, Phoebe Zimmerman, born at Zimmerman, Ontario on December 11, 1811. John was the builder of Limestone Hall referred to in Appendix #7. They were married in 1835. During their married life, Phoebe bore her husband 12 children and when the ninth child died, adopted another. Eventually there were two children of the same name in the family -- Big Annie and Little Annie. Of the seven boys, two were farmers, two were doctors; two were chemists and one became a lawyer. John and Phoebe died in 1890.

Howard Gordon McGregor is descended from the youngest child and Youngest son, George K.C. McGregor, born January 18, 1854, and killed in an accident on December 9, 1911. On September 6, 1882, he married Charlotte Isabelle Switzer who was born on November 14, 1857. She died on December 21, 1928. There were three children of the union:

1. James Walker Switzer McGregor, born June 5, 1883. There is no record of him other than the report that he left home and, after one brief contact initiated by his mother who found him in Los Angeles, was not heard of again. A family tale has it that he married four times and fought in World War I. Gordon and Frances combed California in order to find him, but were unable to discover a trace.

2. Frederick George McGregor, born September 25, 1887, was married in June, 1914 to Ann Larsen of Grimbsby, Ontario. There is no record of her birth, nor of a family, if there was one. After Frederick died on November 22, 1924, she married a second time somewhere in California.

3. Howard Gordon McGregor was born on August 14, 1893, and married on March 30, 1918 to Frances Cornelia Johnstone, whose birthdate is

December 15, 1894. They have two children:

a. Frances Winn<sup>4</sup>fred McGregor, born December 16, 1918, who is not married, and

b. Jean Lillian McGregor, born November 7, 1921. On May 6, 1944, the latter married Charles Edward Rockett (born May 15, 1922) and they have two children:

i. Dorothy Ann Rockett, born May 17, 1948, is at present teaching school in Burlington, and

ii. James Edward Rockett, born September 17, 1951, who commenced university in the fall of 1970.

Additional Informationre. Peter McGregor (1763-1827) and Duncan McGregor (1732-1790)

In January of 1999, Malcolm McGregor compiled some biographical details about Peter from the War Office records at the Public Records office in the UK National Archives, as follows:

“Commissioned from Sergeant 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot (Black Watch) as an Ensign in the 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Veteran Battalion 16 May 1805; promoted to Lieutenant in the 10<sup>th</sup> Royal Veteran Bn 29 November 1810 (the 10<sup>th</sup> RV Bn latered renumbered as 4<sup>th</sup> RV Bn), Retired on full-pay of 4<sup>th</sup> RV Bn 24 September 1816; restored to the active list as Lieutenant 10<sup>th</sup> RV Bn 1 November 1819, which was later cancelled by London Gazette entry dated 4 April 1820 and reverted to retired list 4<sup>th</sup> RV Bn. Died 4 April 1827 at Nelson, Halton County, Canada. In the War Office Pension Records WO42-30, folio M189 there is a declaration by his widow Anne, with which is a marriage certificate showing that he married 6 March 1809 at Fort George to Anne Urquhart, together with two baptismal certificates for Duncan, born 4<sup>th</sup> and bapt 13<sup>th</sup> July 1813 at Quebec, and Donald born 31 August, bapt 1 October 1815 at Quebec.<sup>1</sup> Records of his commissions as an officer are WO65 55 and 66; I do not have an exact date of birth or baptism just the year 1763.<sup>2</sup>

I have not found Duncan's details and I am fairly certain that he was not commissioned as an officer, but left the army as a sergeant from the 42<sup>nd</sup>. I note the anecdote by Stewart of Garth in his Sketches, which as you say is fairly long, describing Sergeant McGregor's (no first name of Duncan quoted) exploit in forcing at dirkpoint the American soldier to take him back to camp after recovering his senses whilst being carried on the soldier's back. As you say an incredible story, but Stewart of Garth's writings were considered at the time to give a reasonably accurate account of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, particularly as he was an officer in that Regiment for many years and knew many of the early veterans personally.”

---

NOTE 1: John Charles James McGregor was born on July 24, 1810, at Fort George, New Brunswick, and died on November 28, 1879, in Nelson Twp., Halton County, Ontario. Henry Ward stated that John's brothers Duncan and Donald Evan were born in Upper Canada; at the time of their births, Quebec was known as Lower Canada. The first son of Peter McGregor (with his first wife Jane Maclean) was Lachlan (b. March 10, 1800), with a twin sister who died 2 months later, aboard a Troop ship in the harbour of Cittadella, Island of Minorca – d. January 15, 1887, in Eramosa Township, Halton County, Ontario.

NOTE 2: Peter McGregor was born on October 9, 1763, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA. He died on April 9, 1827, in Nelson Township, Halton County. The term “Captain” may indicate how oral/written accounts can be exaggerated as they are exchanged between close families, such as the McGregors and the Wisharts.

Additional Information about Anne Urquhart's Father, William Urquhart <sup>3</sup>

I have a little information also on Lieutenant William Urquhart, father of Anne, which may be of interest to you; born circa 1794 and commissioned as Ensign in 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot 12 February 1812; Lieutenant 5 January 1814; transferred to half-pay on reduction of Regiment 25 December 1814. Name was omitted from the half-pay list 24 January 1835, which suggests he probably died sometime in 1834 or earlier. Served in the Peninsula with 1<sup>st</sup> Bn 42<sup>nd</sup>, being wounded on 10 April 1814 at Toulouse. Resided in Aberdeenshire, from War Office Military records WO-25 182, 186 and 776.

Regards,

Malcolm

---

NOTE <sup>3</sup>: Anne Urquhart became Peter McGregor's second wife on March 6, 1809. We are descended from their first child.

### The McGregors of the House of Glengyle

Abbreviations: MM = Malcolm McGregor Clan Gregor in the Forces of the Crown. Amelia = Amelia Murray McGregor

History of Clan Gregor. GD50 = Papers of John McGregor WS at the Scottish Record Office.  
The Quaich is a magazine of McGregor history and genealogy published and edited by Sheila McGregor, 8 Greenhill Place, Edinburgh EH10 4BR.

**Gregor McGregor of Glenorchy.** Boasting descent from Alpin, king of the Scots who ruled in the year 833 through Griogar his third and youngest son and his descendants for five hundred years. It is presumably this Griogar, or Gregor, who was the true name-father of the Clan.

'--**John "Cham" McGregor of Glenorchy**, clearly the same man as Iain Cam (one-eyed), above, even his death date, 19 April 1390, is the same. However the Dick/Calderwood tree allows him many more children:

1--1. Malcolm. dsp 1420.

1--2. John of Bruckleg (Brackley). (Here the brother of Gregor Aluin rather than his son. Defeated the McNabs at Crianlarich. m a daur of the Laird of McLachlan. Ancestor of the McGregors of Glencarroch (=Glencarnoch, Glencarnaig - see the tree above, and of the present chiefs of Clan Gregor.

1--3. Several daurs.

1--4. Gillespie Archibald McGregor.

1--5. Patrick McGregor, of whom we have no record beyond his name.

1--6. **Gregor "Aulin" (Aluin). d Glenorchy** 1413. m Iris daur of Malcolm McAlpin of Finnich.

1--A. Duncan "Beg" of Roro d 17th Feb 1477. Ancestor of the McGregors of Roro, a line senior to that of Glengyle, and which seem to have died out.

1--B. **Dougal "Ciar". Ancestor of the McGregors of Glengyle.** So far there are a few discrepancies between the Dick tree and the authorised version, but in giving the descendants of Dougal Ciar they differ widely. One - perhaps both! - may be partly invention, or perhaps Dougal Ciar had two sons. PD60/92 has Dougal Ciar the fifth son of Gregor Aulin.

'--**Duncan.** The AV has Alastair only son of Dougal Ciar, but the Dick tree gives Duncan a noble wife:

m Margaret daur of Duncan McFarlane of Arrochar 6th Laird of McFarlane.

Believed to be a grand-daughter of King James IV of Scotland. Correspondent P. J. Lawrie points out the severe discrepancy between the dates of James IV's rule and his alleged 2g-grandson Malcolm's outlawry in 1533 - see below - roughly two generations too early. PD60/92 has this Duncan the first in Glengyle.

'--**Dougal McGregor McCoulkeir of Corryarklet in Glenarklet.** m a daur of Stewart of Coireachan. Amelia II:250 calls this one Dougal Ciar. PD60/92 calls his father-in-law Stewart of Kymachin.

'--(i) **Malcolm.** Outlawed 15th Nov 1533 for harrying the land of the Earl of Menteith. d before Feb 1590.

m Findlay Glas McEantyre.

'--a. Dougal Og. In Glengyle as tenant of the Laird of Buchanan. Killed with his son Duncan in a battle with the Campbells of Glenorchy at Bentoig in April 1804. Issue--> extinct.



'--b Gregor Dubh III of [in] Glengyle. He fought at Glenfruin 1603.  
m Janet daur of Thomas Buchanan of Carbeth. She d 1626.

"Gregor Dubh a'Croic". Said to have had nine sons F7. Rev W. A. Gilles' In Famed Breadalbane p 134 says 'Gregor in Ardchyle was grandfather of Rob Roy'. This conflicts with many other accounts. This Gregor was Rob Roy's great grandfather. [Children: Malcolm "Og" McG, Catherine McG, Duncan Oig McG, John McG, Gregor "a'croic" McG, and Duncan Beg.]

'--c **Malcolm "Og" otherwise Malcum McCoulquheir of Inverlochlarig** (Innerlochrie) under the Laird of Tullibardine. With twelve others of the Clan he was escheited 8 Sep 1589 for the murder of two of the Stewarts of Glenbuckie in Balquhiddel. Executed at Edinburgh 1604 for taking part in Glenfruin. He must be distinct from Malcolm Og at the start of this tree because the latter was alive in 1630

l--1. Gregor (Dowe) McOlchallum McCoule Cheir in Glengyle (alias John Murray). Tried for the harrying of Aberochill but pardoned 2nd April 1614 (Great Seal). m (178-33?) [Children: Malcolm McGregor Dow in Glengyle, Duncan McGregor Dowe McG in Stronachlachar, and Gregor McGregor Dowe in Portnellane.

l--2. **Dougal McOlchallum McCoule Cheir**. In Kerletter (=Coilleitir), Glenfalloch. m

'--A. Malcolm

'--B. **Gregor dubh MacDhugail alias John Campbell** of Inverardoran 1707. m a sister of Donald Glas in Glengyle. According to one account in Amelia II 261 Gregor bought Marchfield with hidden treasure.

l--A. **Malcolm Murray of Marchfield in Balquhiddel.**

d at Oban on his way to America. m (2 Mar 1712)  
Isobel daur of James Aikman, Commissary Clerk of Argyllshire. On 20th or 27th July 1711 he signed the Balhaldies Election. See Amelia II:261 and GD50/184/84/4 /184/84/4 A40. m(2) (Balquhiddel after 28 May 1721) Sarah McGregor who was the mother of at least Janet, Margaret and Sarah (Balqdr OPR). Marchfield or Leidreich was made up of Monachylebeg, Wester Invernenty, and half of Wester Drumlich. In the Balqdr register he was called Malcolm Murray in Drumelich. JM (A40) says he was dead before 16Mar1732 but the sequence Malcolm McG/Sarah bapt in Balqdr. runs from 1722 to 1741 (Ian Hodges May 1994). However there is a gap from 1733 to 1737 so the later bapts may be another Malcolm McG/Sarah, perhps from Muthil where Robert bapt 14 Mar 1731.

l--John, bapt Balquhiddel 29 Mar 1708, a capt in the French service, dsp. "Chevalier John McGregor".

Letters from him to Balhaldies Amelia II 407+.

l--Dugald bapt 27 May 1716. (Donald in the OPR)

l--Duncan, m daur of Campbell of Glenfalloch s.p. (JM had doubts - A42).

l--Daniel, mentioned in a letter written by his brother John. Joined La Compagnie de Indostan, d in India prior to 15 Feb 1755. (Armelia II 408).

'--Daniel, mentioned in Sarah's memorial as 'my nephew Daniel in the East Indies'.

l--**Gregor Boyac (Gaelic: boldheach, beautiful)** 3rd son b 1715/6, alias Murray, Drummond. In 42nd Regt and West Kent Militia, Capt. 1777, m an English lady, m(2) who produced no issue but got all his estate (D18). This second wife was the target of Sarah's memorial - see below. Gregor's patronymics were: Gregor McCallum VcGregor VcDougal VcCallum. When the 42nd were ordered to England in 1743 he and 2 others were sent in advance so that Geo II, who was on the point of leaving for the continent, might see some of the soldiers of the regt. One of the men died on the road at Aberfeldy. McGregor and the other were paraded before the King at St James. Gregor threw the King's guinea (which would have kept him for a year at home) to the porter on leaving the Palace. Both men afterwards rose to commissions. Finally sold out of the army and became Laird of Inverardine in Breadalbane (Stewart-Scottish Highlanders). Buried at Strathfillan burying ground aged 63.

l--**Daniel**, Captain, of Inverardran, m Anne daur of Adam Austin M.D. Edinb. and the hon. Anne Sempill sister of Lord John Sempill, baron of Sempill, and daur of Brigadier Lord Hugh Sempill who commanded the left wing of the Royal Army at Culloden. The hon. Anne was also first cousin to Clive of India. (OVL).

'--**Sir Gregor**, m(2) Josepha Maria de Lupera. JM had his MS autobiography, quotes it on B49. Organised the disastrous emigration to the Mosquito Coast c1822. Disposed Inverardoran to Alexander McNicoll Esq of Succoch 15 Dec 1828 (E13). m(1) Maria Bowater dau Edward Bowater of Woolwich. d Venezuela (E19) In 1836 described as Sir Gregor McGregor late of Inverardran presently residing in Edinburgh (E27). Born there 24Dec1786 (MM) Children: Gregor (in Nassau), Constantine (in Paris) and Josepha Maria (in Ireland).

'--Ann, m Wm. Pinkerton O'Reilly M.D., Liverpool. Issue a son and three daurs.

'--Jane or Jean (E24), m John McGregor of Glengyle. Mentioned in Sarah's memorial 'my niece Lady McGregor of Glengyle'. Issue E19 (see above, near start).

'--A son, d young E19.

l--Robert b & bapt Muthill 14 Mar 1731.

l--Janet, bapt Balquhidder 17 Oct 1722.

l--Margaret bapt Balquhidder 10 Feb 1724.

'--Sarah - Memorial for Mrs Sarah Murray daughter to Malcolm Murray of Marchfield and sister german to the deceased Capt Gregor McGregor of Middlesex (sic) Militia. Date of this uncertain but after death of Daniel c1755 - perhaps 1779. (D16). In it she claims lands of Inverardran and money from her brother Gregor's widow. Sarah was bapt Balquhidder 26 Feb 1726.

l--B. Donald in Kerletter.

'--(ii) Duncan. Outlawed 1533. He killed fifty of the Government servants at Dumbarton, July 1546.

'--(iii) Patrick. Outlawed 15th Nov 1543.

l--7. John "Dhu" (Iain Dubh the third chief - see above). He was ancestor of the McGregors of Glenstrae and Kilmaran, a branch which died out about 1700.

Compiled by Doug Ross

MAP OF NELSON TOWNSHIP IN 1900  
SHOWING JOHN McGREGOR'S FARM  
ON LIMESTONE CREEK

Wellington Square (lower left)  
is now named Burlington, Ontario

41.

APPENDIX 13



From: Doug Ross  
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2005 11:57 AM  
To: Wray, Sylvia A.  
Subject: The McGregor Ross Mausoleum

42.  
APPENDIX 14

Dear Sylvia :)

If you have gone through the transcripts of the monuments in the Old Union Cemetery in Waterdown as published by the Hamilton Genealogical Society, any information about the presence or the absence of any records for John Russell McGregor and Mary Emile McGregor would be very helpful. Either way I could have more certainty that I have made the correct assumptions about Henry Ward's account in Appendix #9 (page 26) of The McGregor Story and the contents of the "vault" in my records for The McGregor Ross Mausoleum.

I was not present when the remains were cemented over in 1948. I must admit that I recollect a conversation about two boxes on the floor against the south side and I noticed boxes on a rack against the south end. If John and Mary McGregor were not buried in the cemetery, then it is entirely possible that they were placed in the vault (as stated by Henry Ward). It is just that I don't recall this detail in any conversation with my Aunt Phoebe.

Thanks for your past help. I would appreciate knowing about the presence or absence of any records for John and Mary McGregor. Either answer will help.

Yours truly,  
Doug Ross

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To: "Doug Ross" <ross-ter@rogers.com>  
Subject: RE: The McGregor Ross Mausoleum  
Date: November 8, 2005 1:55 PM

Mr. Ross

Thank you for your E-mail enquiry.

I have gone through the old list of burials in Union Cemetery, Waterdown that dates from 1916 and found that Mary Emily McGregor is listed as 2 July 1931 and John Russell McGregor is listed as 30 October 1940.

Neither of these persons has a marker to identify the site of their burial or is listed on a McGregor marker. John Russell is listed as interred in Lot 1, Block 7.

There is one other McGregor listed in the burial book, (Judith Patricia McGregor on 22 July 1933) who also has no monument or is listed on a McGregor monument.

I hope that this information is helpful.

Sincerely  
Sylvia Wray.