

CLACH·AN·AIRM

Vol. III, No. 1. Journal of Clan MacGillivray Society USA 2018

FEATURES:

**THE MCGILVRAYS
OF MULL**

**MY FIRST YEAR AS
COMMANDER**

**JOE MCGILVRA:
THE SYRUP MAN**

Photo credit: Andrew Saul

Pennyghael House Over The Years

Read the story on page 8.

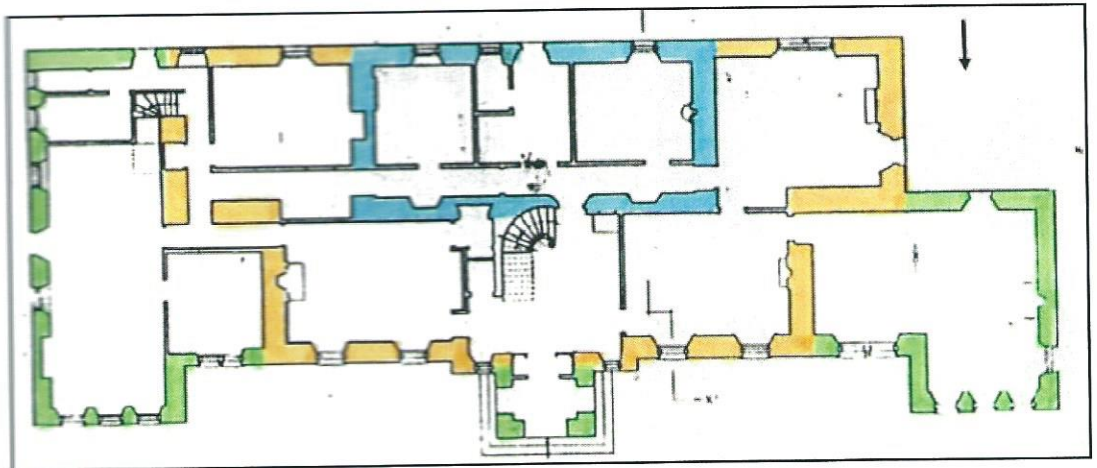


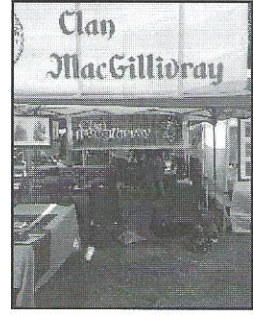
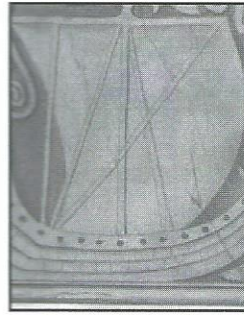
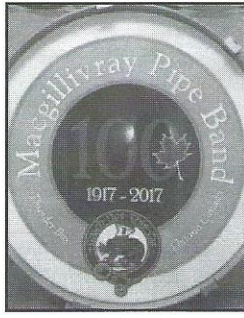
Photo Credit: Christine Leach, *Pennyghael-in-the-Past Historical Archive*

The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland conducted a full survey of the building in 1994 and described its "interesting building history":

Phase One: *A simple three bay two storied farmhouse, which appeared to date from the mid-18th century.*

Phase Two: *Once William MacGillivray had purchased the house in 1819 he enlarged the existing building. The central portion of the north front appears to date from this period: a rather plain seven bayed two-storied block added to the north of the house. The central three bays were advanced under a simple pediment.*

Phase Three: *1926 the two matching pavilions were added to create a large drawing room to the west with the principal bedroom suite above and further service accommodation to the east.*



CLACH·AN·AIRM

"STONE OF WEAPONS"

Volume III, Number 1

Journal of Clan MacGillivray Society USA

2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rodney McGillivray

FROM THE EDITOR

Thomas R. Cox

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Roy McGilvray

MY FIRST YEAR AS COMMANDER

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Thomas R. Cox

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ELECTION

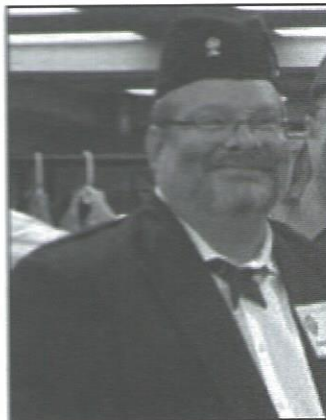
NEW CONVENORS

Published for the Society.

Contact the editor at P.O. Box 358, McCammon, Idaho 83250 or dogapple21@yahoo.com

From the President

Rodney McGillivray



Greetings to the wonderful Clan MacGillivray family:

Dan Hyde mentioned in his President's message in 2017 that it would be his final letter as President of the Clan MacGillivray Society USA. After seven years of great service as President, Dan has assumed a new role **with the Clan** (more on that later). We are grateful to Dan for his leadership and **look forward to many more years of service in his new role.**

My first message to the Clan MacGillivray Society USA is to **point out that we have entered a period of more developing, changing, and evolving than we ever had since our organization was founded.** We have a **Commander of the Clan** for the first time in 25 years. Much has already been written and said **about Iain's appointment.** At this time I will just say to stay tuned. His impact is already **being felt world-wide** and he's only just begun the work he plans to do.

After leading us as USA Commissioner for decades, **Bruce McGillivray** has passed those duties along to three new people: Dan Hyde (Central), Ron McGillivray (Eastern), and Jack MacGillivray (Western). Those three **were appointed by Iain** in the summer of 2017, and they are already at work **extending our outreach** to connect with existing and new potential members in their areas.

Bruce has also passed along the role of Editor of our journal *Clach-an-Airm* to Tom Cox. The journal was Bruce's creation and was **considered best in class.** I believe it will continue to be a top publication under Tom's **guidance.** We are quite lucky to have someone so able to carry on that work. I can **proudly add that my daughter, Allison,** is assisting Tom with the layouts and preparing the journal for print.

Founding President Jim McGillivray has passed along **responsibility for the Quarterly Newsletter** to our Webmaster, John Loughney.

We are working on moving the Society membership **applications and renewals** into the digital age. Soon we will be accepting PayPal for **renewals and new memberships.**

It's an exciting time and there's more to come.

With Warmest Regards,

Rodney E McGillivray



CLACH AN AIRM

Journal of
CLAN MACGILLIVRAY
SOCIETY USA

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Thomas R. Cox

FOUNDING EDITOR
Bruce P. McGillivray FSA Scot

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Allison McGillivray



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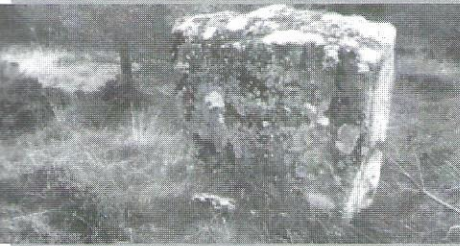
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THE STORY OF THE CLACH AN AIRM



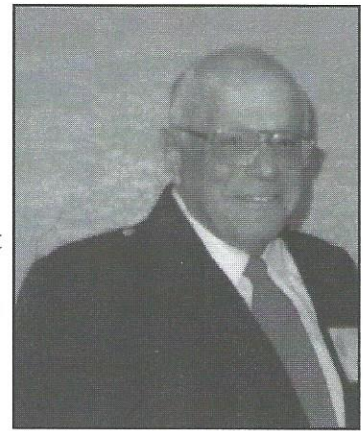
The object known in Clan MacGillivray lore as the Clach an Airm (roughly pronounced: Klak an Airm) is a stone. It stands on a hillside of the Gask farm, a former MacGillivray property about five miles south of Inverness in upper Strathnairn. Today the hill is covered with a forestry plantation, so to find the stone requires someone well acquainted with the local country. But earlier, the hill was treeless and the stone visible from a distance.

The importance of this stone is hinted at by its name, Clach an Airm, in Gaelic meaning "Stone of Arms," that is, weapons. The time was 1746, during the Jacobite Rebellion in favor of returning the Stuart line to the crown of Great Britain. The MacGillivrays of Strathnairn were stout supporters of the Rising and came out in force with their chief. They mustered for the battle looming at nearby Culloden Moor by this stone at Gask. As they did, they sharpened their blade weapons on the stone.

The battle, and the Rising with it, was lost, with great misfortune to our people and forever changing the Highland way of life. But we remember this stone as a rallying point for our Clan in time of peril, when the song of steel against stone rang out in our homelands.

From the Editor

Tom Cox



I am honored to have been asked by President Rod and our Board to take on the editorship of *Clach an Airm*. Having worked on the journal as Bruce MacGillivray's Associate Editor and subsequently as Guest Editor, I take over the job with many a qualm—but I promise that I will do my best to maintain the high standards established by Bruce and to keep the journal abreast of new circumstances as our Clan and Society move ahead under fresh leadership.

Any editor who thinks he can do a quality journal on his own is fooling himself. I will stand not only on the Bruce's shoulders and on the strong foundations he laid, but on those of Society members who have contributed in one way or another over the years. I will also be drawing heavily on the aid—especially the technical skill in layout and editing—of Allison McGillivray, who has agreed to take over as Associate Editor, and on contributions from MacGillivrays everywhere as we move forward. I will repeatedly ask for materials and suggestions, don't let me down.

It is my hope that each issue will have material on MacGillivrays in North America and material on events and people in Scotland. I also want to include both historical and contemporary materials. Toward that end, this issue features an historical account of the McGilvrays of Mull and also chronicles the experiments of Joe McGilvra as he pioneers in the making of maple syrup from the sap of Oregon's Bigleaf Maple. In our following issue, I plan to feature the actions of MacGillivrays/McGilvrays on the Wisconsin frontier. These are all articles that have been called to my attention by others.

Finally, for those who don't know me, let me say a bit about my background. I am a trained historian who once coached high school football, but taught primarily at the university level. I have published widely in professional and non-professional journals and have served on the editorial boards of several. Over the past decade or so, I have also written a number of articles—both historical and non-historical—for *Clach an Airm*. I expect to continue to do so as time allows, but please don't expect me to fill this journal's pages on my own. As I said, I will need help and contributions from all of you.

Onward!

Tom



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Editor's note: The following account is excerpted from Roy McGilvray's The McGilvays of Mull, long out of print. A few minor changes in wording and order have been made for the sake of continuity, but what follows remains true to the original. Readers interested in consulting the full study, which is based on decades of research, may find it at www.ncf.ca/~cv297/mcg-clan.html. Roy asks that readers having additional information—or questions—contact him at roy@ncf.ca.

The McGilvays of Mull

By Roy McGilvray

The McGilvays of Mull are rarely mentioned in pre-1500 records, but all indications are they began on or near that island. Perhaps they sprang from a fresh invasion from Ireland around 503 A.D., but the extensive population movements of the early period make it impossible to be certain where they originated or what their bloodlines were.

Viking influence in the Western Isles began in the late 8th century.

A reference from 848 refers to a Viking King of Scotland, which of course meant only those parts under Norse control. Over time alliances with native Gaelic speakers produced a powerful Norse-Gaelic culture. But Islemen were clearly second-class citizens and in 1098 revolted against their Viking overlords. They lost, and the slaughter was so great that survivors fled to the mainland. That may be the time when the McGilvays wisely moved to Morvern, where they are first mentioned.

Somerled, a Norse-Gael, led a more successful revolt and in 1156 succeeded in breaking Viking control in the Western Isles. McGilvays were an important part of his forces. Legend has it that Somerled gave lands in Mull to the McGilvays in recognition of their support, although he may have simply restored to them land from which they had been driven earlier by Vikings.



After his victory Somerled exerted limited control. Each district became essentially a petty, independent state. The people, beyond the reach of the Scottish crown, turned to chiefs in place of judges. It would have been a tough time for a clan like the McGilvays, who from the beginning had specialized in the law, the church, and administration. But they persevered. A McDonald sennachie later reported the McGilvays “continued to wield influence from their Mull homeland

long after Somerled” and noted that the McDonald Lord of the Isles ruled through a sixteen-member council made up of four great chiefs, four thanes, and eight freeholders, including McGilvay of Mull.

“ Legend has it that Somerled gave lands in Mull to the McGilvays in recognition of their support, although he may have simply restored to them land from which they had been driven earlier by Vikings.”

Another early document mentions “McIlvora or McGilvra of Pennygail in Mull who sprang from an ancient family of small property . . . [and] later followed the McLeans.” No other clan was more warlike than the McLeans, who came to Mull in 1366 (or perhaps earlier). Legends confirm the McGilvays were in Mull well before the McLeans, but their realistic leaders

probably chose to make the best of a bad situation by aligning themselves with the new power. They would follow the Duart McLeans for over 200 years. The fact that the McGilvays remained separate landowners in a sea of McLeans indicates the wisdom of their approach.



Photo credit: Tour Scotland. Ben Mor, Mull's highest peak, viewed across Loch Scridain from Pennyghael.

The Lords of the Isles remained sufficiently independent to sign treaties with the king of England as late as the 1390s. However, Scotland's James IV was hardly the weak ruler many of his predecessors had been and decided to break up this confederation of independent and unruly islanders. In 1493 he annexed the position of Lord of the Isles to himself. Donald of the Islands died while returning from Ireland in 1545 and with him died the last attempt to return the Lordship to McDonald hands. It is likely that during these events the McGilvarys became dependent solely on Duart rather than ultimately on their old protector, the McDonald Lord of the Isles.

The growing power and efficiency of central government during the sixteenth century led to increased documentation. Individual McGilvarys begin to appear in official records. In 1552 Archibald is the first laird of Pennyghael specifically named, but there were clearly others before him. It has not been possible to verify that this Archibald of Pennyghael is the well-documented Rev. Arch Makillewray, but it seems likely. The Rev. Arch was a close associate of Duart, the head of the McLeans on Mull. He often acted as a notary public for Duart and received a ministry position on Islay through him. To qualify for these positions McGilvary would have needed education in Latin, penmanship, and the law. For this he would have had to attend university at Glasgow, Aberdeen, or St. Andrews.

The importance of the role that Arch filled can be appreciated from the fact that only fifteen percent of adult male Scots could even make a signature in 1600. Before 1450 literacy was found only among churchmen, university graduates, royal

administrators (categories that tended to overlap), and a few Scottish kings. Priest/lawyers such as Arch (and his successor lairds of Pennyghael, Donald and Martin) were highly mobile. It must have come with the job.

In 1545 Donald McDonald, acting as the Lord of the Isles, appointed two commissioners to treat with Henry VIII of England. One was Archibald McGilvary, the other was John Carswell who had translated the Church of Scotland's Book of Common Order into Gaelic, a process during which he enlisted the aid of other educated Gaelic speakers in the Isles, men such as McGilvary (who himself later translated the book of Nehemiah into Gaelic).

The Rev. Arch may have been a younger son of Pennyghael, for such scions were often provided for by giving them church positions. In any case in 1539 Arch, described in his petition as a "layman," sought a papal dispensation to marry a widowed cousin. The petition enables his family to be traced back a further two generations. These details and information from an earlier clan Sennachie produces the following list of lairds of Pennyghael:

Grey Farquhar	unknown dates
Dark Malcolm	unknown dates
Malcolm	unknown dates
Angus	unknown dates
Archibald	c1510-1565
Donald Gorm	c1570-1620(?)
Neil	unknown dates
Martin	c1600-1687

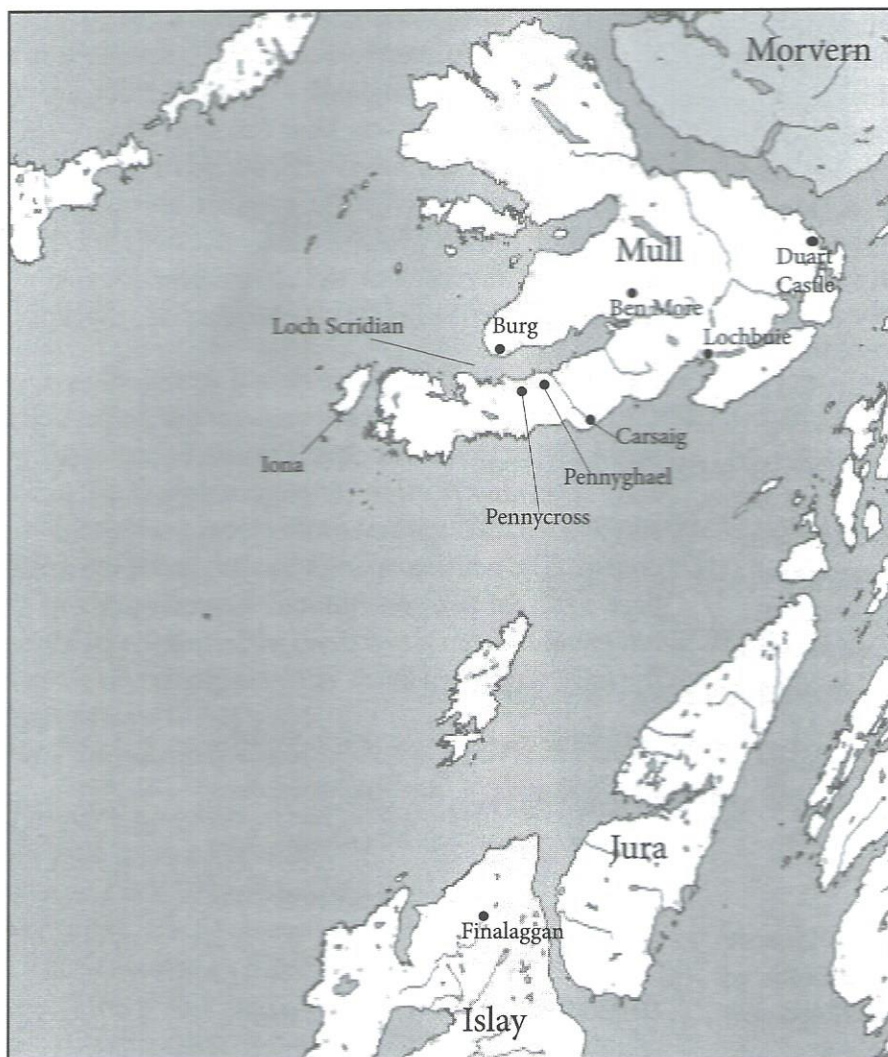
John	c1630-1723
Alexander	1684-1778
Hugh	c1730-1805
Alexander	1783-c1853

The proper place of Neil McGilvary in this listing is unclear. He held Pennyghael by charter from Duart in 1608. He may be the father of Donald Gorm or his eldest son (inheriting nearby Glencannel while Martin got Pennyghael). As with so many things, the records are few and not always consistent.

Although the McLeans

owed their all to the McDonald Lords of the Isles—as one early authority put it, they “never had a rig of land but what they received from” them—in the 1500s they began trying to eclipse their old benefactors. The result was a long-lasting clash. The feud was particularly hard because the two clans were so large and strong—at least in the beginning. In the end they ruined themselves and their vassals, including the McGilvarys, and the ever-watchful Campbells would step in and seize their exhausted lands.

Troubles began over control



Map credit: Allison McGillivray. *Mull and Vicinity*

of the sea-route to Ulster during the last years of Arch McGilvary’s chieftainship. Although peace was soon re-established, the seeds of distrust had been sown, and a further truce between the McDonalds and McLeans had to be arranged by the government in 1579. The two sides were merely biding their time. Predictably, the distrust and hatred of such a feud led to ever greater excesses.

In August 1608 Andrew, Lord Stewart of Ogletree, sailed into Duart Harbor with a large fleet. Hector McLean wisely surrendered his castle without a fight. The chiefs of Mull and other isles were summoned to appear at Aros Castle. Responding were Hector of Duart, his brother Laughlin, and “two gentlemen of Mull, followers of Dowart,” probably Pennyghael and Glencannel. The islanders pledged their allegiance to the crown, but were taken prisoner to prevent them from changing their minds once home. One of these captives was “Neil MacIlduy,” a follower of Duart (probably the one who in 1608 was recorded as holding Pennyghael from him). Out of all this came the Statutes of Iona in which the islanders promised to help the king’s justices and other officers in the Isles and to live peacefully, settling their disputes by law rather than the sword. The Statutes also required island chiefs to send their sons to Lowland schools in order for them to gain a “civil” education.

In 1618 Donald Gorm (i.e. the Blue) McIlwray of Pennyghael is mentioned as one of the captains, chieftains, and principal men of Clan McLean. Documentation on Donald, as

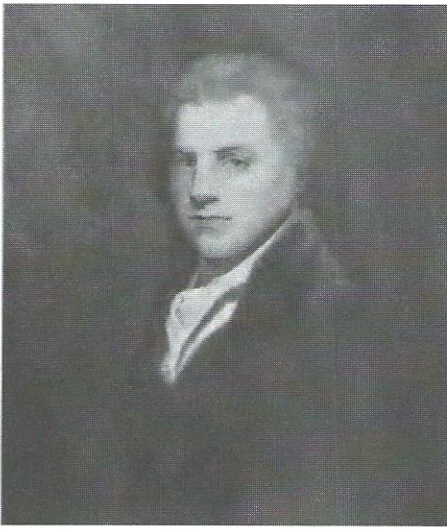


Photo credit: Library and Archives, Canada. *William MacGillivray as a Young Man*

on Neil, is scanty. But one thing is clear: the early 1600s saw a significant extension of the Crown's authority in island affairs. The turbulence of the 1500s was a result of the vacuum left after the forfeiture of the Lordship of the Isles in 1493. Various island clans tried to assume the lost leadership, but when they failed England's James I stepped in and settled land claims, set up the Campbells, and established the Iona Statutes. James's long reign, English troops, and English gold suggested he would eventually get his way, and he did.

Martin McGilvray was the second son of Donald of Pennyghael. The events of his long and eventful life are much more fully recorded than those of his predecessors at Pennyghael, but the situation regarding McGilvray lands during his chieftainship is a source of considerable confusion. During proceedings in 1635 he received irredeemable title to "Peniegail, Fynnachie, Carsaig and Glenliddell" and the bailliary within those lands giving him

power of administering justice therein. During the hearings, Martin "appeared personally and was not represented by an attorney" as he himself was one. The McLean's bailie then did the symbolic handing over of earth and stone for the lands and the wand and baton for the office. This action seems to have merely legalized the status quo, for in the proceedings the transfer was described as being to "Mr Martin M'Ilwra of Peniegail," identified as minister of the Gospel at Kilninan. The use of the term "of Peniegail" shows he was already considered lord thereof. A second document of the same date confirms the transfer, "to Mr Martin Makilwra, as son and heir to the deceased Donald gorm M'Ilwra of Peniegail." The Pennyghael lands were thus clearly owned by Don Gorm and were likely in the family from a much earlier time.

It is curious this transfer was so belated, for Donald Gorm had died at least a decade prior. Was there some doubt to Martin's claim or were the McLeans tardy? Was Martin trying to distance himself from the failing Duart? Could Campbell have been trying to get his hands on these properties by raising doubts as to Martin's title? Certainly Argyll was seeking to increase his power by inducing or forcing small land holders to give up their positions as freemen holding from the Crown to become ordinary vassals holding lands in feu from a superior like himself. A note from the Campbell records in Inveraray (c. 1650) is revealing; it states that Pennyghael, Glen Liddle, and Carsaig were not considered part of Duart's lands. The name McGilvray of Pennyghael and the

gentleman's house situated there suggest this was the center of the clan's original holdings.

It was fortunate that a man of Martin's qualities was laird during these turbulent times when church lands were being fought over and Duart was crumbling. His extraordinary abilities must have been obvious even as a youth for he was given the privilege of attending the University of Glasgow where he was described as "the first & maist leirnit student." After graduating, he joined the newly established Church of Scotland which had wrested control from Rome and England just a decade before he was born. With his strength and resoluteness Martin was ideally suited for what would prove to be a particularly difficult era.

Martin was posted to Mull for the first five years after he graduated. He would have experienced adversity almost immediately, for there was a famine in the Hebrides in 1623. After further service in Coll and Tiree, Martin transferred back to Mull in 1630, a move not accepted by everyone. He complained that Murdoch MacLaine of Lochbuie not only refused to attend the kirk but also prevented his tenants from attending or paying their yearly dues. Martin soon called on Lochbuie for his due portion. Noting Martin was armed, Lochbuie's son Alan sneeringly asked if the minister was prepared to enforce his demands. Martin affirmed that, if necessary, he was, but added he would relinquish his claim if Alan could back him to

Continued on Page 15



Photo credit: Tour-Scotland-Photographs. *Pennyghael House in better days*

Pennyghael House Over the Years

Pennyghael House, long the seat of the McGilvray lairds on Mull, has fallen on hard times, and in view of the high costs that would be involved—an estimated £2 million—it seems unlikely it will ever be restored. But one should keep his or her mourning within limits. No McGilvray ever lived in the house we now see standing beside Mull's A849 road to Bunesson.

A study by Scotland's Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments reveals that Pennyghael House has gone through three major phases (see inside front cover). The last of these, the structure we see today, was the product of additions and changes made in the 1926, long after McGilvray ownership had ceased.

The original dwelling, what the commission labels Phase One, was constructed in the 1700s. It was a

modest two-story, three-bay stone house. Modest, that is, by today's standards; it was far more impressive and, no doubt comfortable, than the dwellings of most residents of Mull, the bulk of whom still lived in wretched traditional black houses.

In 1819 William MacGillivray, who had made a fortune in Canada with the North West Fur Company, planned to retire and return to Scotland. Unable to find property appropriate to his needs in the Strathnairn-Stratherrick area from which his family had come, he purchased Pennyghael from the creditor's of the financially distressed laird—and promptly began making changes. He had a two-story, seven-bay block added and tied the original three-bay structure together under a single pediment. But MacGillivray never took up residence. He died before he could return from Canada, and ownership passed to his son-in-law.

New, non-MacGillivray owners made further changes in 1926. They

added large, matching pavilions at either end of the structure, creating a large drawing room with a bedroom suite above on the west end and further service accommodations on the east. It is this structure that we see today.

The subsequent history of the building is a sad one. It passed through the hands of various owners, and from 1957 to 1971 was largely unoccupied. In 1986 the *Oban Times* reported it again empty "with livestock often gaining access." For a time it was owned by the rock group Genesis, which did little with it. In early 1997 it was being used for hay storage. The Dutch firm Epsilon bought it that year, but hard economic times forced it to put plans for restoration on hold, and the building has continued to deteriorate. Historic Environment Scotland lists it as a "Building at Risk." Recent photos more than justify the label.

TRC



Editor's note: This article was originally published in Touch Not, the journal of the Clan Chattan Association. It is reprinted here with permission from the journal editor and the author.

“

The doctors say it was a miracle I came out of it the way I did, neither dead nor paralyzed. Good MacGillivray genes, I say, and I'm currently on the mend.

My First Year As Commander

By Iain MacGillivray

Clan Commander

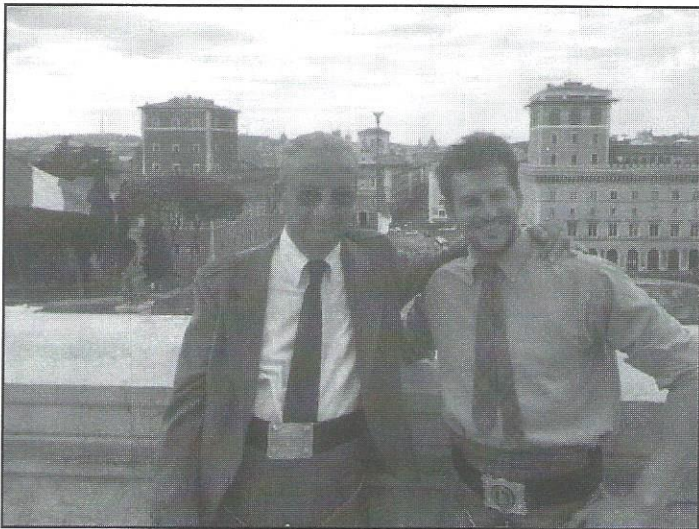


Photo credit: Iain MacGillivray. With Gianni in Rome.

Well, 2017 was a turbulent and exciting year for the Clan MacGillivray all around. After 2016 finished with the 40th anniversary of the Clan MacGillivray Society in Australia, the following year was filled with anniversaries and special occasions in all corners of the globe.

Starting in Australia last year and continuing throughout 2017, the BBC-Alba team, under Solus Productions, followed me around with my Clan endeavors, filming at all of these events as well as day to day functions up at Calrossie Farm and catching the competitions at various Highland Games.

In May I went to visit our Italian Commissioner and longtime seminal Clan member Gianni Lombardi MacGillivray in Rome, Italy. I was over there initially on a piping mission to the Scots College. Having performed for them back in January at one of the most illustrious and decorous Burns' Nights I'd ever played for, I received another special piping invitation to play for the ordination of a seminarian and longtime friend, now to become a priest. It was fascinating to experience the oldest Scottish institution outside of Scotland and to learn about the timeline of the old faith in Scotland as well as its strong Jacobite roots.

Then I was on to meet Gianni and his wonderful wife Patricia, who took me to the Vatican where we had the opportunity of seeing the Stuart Monarchy and Clementina Sobieska monuments located inside the Basilica itself. Interestingly enough, the rightful royal family whom we sought to restore are the only royal family of any kind, past or present, to have a monument dedicated in their honor in the Vatican. Gianni, Patricia, and I laid a beautiful wreath at its base.

Afterwards we experienced some lovely hospitality within their own family walls, where Gianni proudly showed us

an astonishing array of curtains, carpets, tables, chairs, and jackets all decked out in MacGillivray tartan; it was a truly wonderful site. Gianni epitomizes the true Clan stalwart. Distance and time have not dimmed the brightness of his "fiery cross"!

In mid-July, I went over for the first time as Commander to attend the Clan MacGillivray Society USA Gathering in Portland, Oregon. This was truly a blast and a very brilliant occasion. The three-day event was marked with a series of social gatherings, dinner events, gift presentations, a ceilidh, and the appointment of three Clan MacG Commissioners for the USA: Dan McGilvry Hyde of St. Louis, Missouri; Jack MacGillivray of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Ron McGilvry of Boston, Massachusetts.

Ironically, I had met Ron earlier that year when I was in New York for Tartan Day. I saw this man walking in the parade with a MacGillivray banner, and there I was meeting Ron for the first time! I told him he should have been Commander that day, for he was dressed in full Highland garb and I looked like I'd just come from watching a football game! The trip was a surprise 30th birthday present from a friend, and I didn't know where I was going until the night before and only realized while en route to New York that Tartan Day was happening unbeknownst to

both of us; so I wasn't prepared at all! But meeting Ron then really made it special!

My mother Jane-Marie, being an American, made her way over to Portland from Michigan and presented Clan MacG USA with the historical gift of an old World War II American flag with only 48

stars. It was the sort of thing that is hard to find outside of museums today!

The three-day event climaxed with the Portland Highland Games which attracted a crowd of 25,000 to 30,000 people. We had a beautifully displayed Clan tent set up and were the honoured Clan for the event; we led the March of the Clans in the parade around the stadium and received a magnificent reception. It was such an honour! To top it all off, there was a Kilted Mile race in which I decided to participate for a bit of sport. Given that Eugene, Oregon, known as "Track Town USA," is just down the road in one direction and the Nike headquarters in the other, I was thinking I would

be lucky to win with all the talent present. I tell you, I

shocked myself and everyone there when I won the race on the final lap and came across the line under the belting Oregon sunshine. I was presented with a giant Braveheart sword for winning the Kilted Mile. I told folk, "Boy, I've won many things at Highland Games, from medals to money to trophies . . . but never a two-handed Claymore before!" Some of the Clan members were crying with tears of happiness they were so overjoyed. It was a really blessed occasion and the icing on the cake for sure! I had been training for



Photo credit: Iain MacGillivray. At the New York Tartan Day.

the Highland Games season at home and it paid off!

A week after that, I was hospital bound. Having come back to Scotland on such a high from the USA, I came close to losing my life on a routine fencing job back on the farm. Without knowing, the colleague with whom I was working didn't have the pins in the front loader of the tractor which kept it secure to the vehicle. The loader, weighing around a ton, crashed right on top of me, crushing the L1 lumbar vertebrae in my spine and putting me in the hospital for a week. Being alone at the time, I had to call the ambulance myself. The doctors say it was a miracle I came out of it the way I did, neither dead nor paralyzed. Good MacGillivray genes, I say, and I'm currently on the mend.

I wasn't going to let the accident deter me, and only a day after being released from Raigmore Hospital I managed to gather my strength to attend the Clan Chattan Annual Dinner, where it was a real honour to be inducted into the Clan Chattan Confederation as

a lifetime member—something I am indeed proud to be.

Later in October I traveled to Nootdorp, Holland, along with my sister Annia (my caregiver for then) for their annual Clan MacGillivray Association Nederlands Gathering. My mother and father, Duncan and Jane-Marie, joined us there for the day, and we had a most wonderful weekend. Commissioner James MacGillivray and Vice-Commissioner Sean MacGillivray put on the biggest display with a wonderfully depicted Highland Games outside the Scout huts venue for the event. It was a brilliant day with over 300 people in attendance, and the young folk had such a blast with all the games they put on. The effort and enthusiasm they put into this gathering was just brilliant. They made it so enjoyable for everyone! This was a special event, for it inaugurated the Dutch MacGillivrays as an official association even though they had been meeting as a close-tied large family for decades, all descended from a certain William MacGillivray

who was a Scottish soldier in the British Army during the Napoleonic Wars who settled in the Netherlands with the woman who nursed him after injury. It was a great privilege to see this unique family become an official association of Clan MacGillivray. With their strong Indonesian connection, it makes for a very diverse MacGillivray entity. Congratulations to James, Sean, and their team for marking the occasion so memorable. Yet more Clan stalwarts!

Finally, to cap the year we traveled to Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, where we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the MacGillivray Pipe Band which was present in full strength. Again, this was a three-day event. It began with a dinner at the Canadian Naval Base where the band practices every Sunday. We had a great time socializing and getting to know members of the band, having a few drinks with some lovely food, and listening to some piping virtuosos. I fortunately had my father Duncan along, not only as a caretaker but



Photo Credit: Iain MacGillivray; *The Dutch MacGillivrays (is the dog in the second row a MacGillivray too?)*

also as an esteemed piper; knowing of his reputation, many were keen to hear and play with him.

The next day, we met our Western Canadian Commissioner Murray McGillivray and his lovely wife Georgina. We learned that Murray had survived both a stroke and heart attack around the time of my accident; it made his attendance all the more admirable. Another Clan stalwart and also a walking miracle!

Although it is officially closed on weekends, I managed to arrange a special tour of Fort William, the fur trading post named after the prominent Canadian historical figure William McGillivray. Born in Dunmaglass, Scotland, he and his brothers Duncan and Simon pioneered the North West Company at the height of the fur trade on the shores of Lake Superior. He established himself successfully among the local Native indigenous population and was held in high regard by them. It was a fabulous tour; we lit off canons, fired muskets, threw tomahawks, and had a pow-wow ceremony inside a teepee with Two-Feathers, a genuine Native medicine lady. We also viewed pelts from such diverse animals as beavers, coyotes, otters, mink, foxes, bear,



Photo credit: Iain MacGillivray. *With Two Feathers at Fort William*

moose, caribou, and wolves—the fashions of that by-gone day. It was a stunning tour!

The highlight of the weekend came on Sunday when the gathering formally celebrated the Centenary of the MacGillivray Pipe Band. The event attracted a crowd of 700-plus people including the local mayor and provincial governor along with members of two collegiate pipe bands from the vicinity. We learned more about the band, whose name bears reference to its founders T.D. Macgillivray (father of our late Commander George B. Macgillivray, who hailed from Thunder Bay) and to the legacy of William MacGillivray,

the famous fur trader. The band was founded in 1917 to provide a send-off for young troops enlisting in the Canadian military during World War I. For the Centenary the band performed some great selections, especially a peerless rendition of “The Black Bear.” It was an incredible occasion, one to remember and cherish for a lifetime.

On a personal note, my sister Mary came up from Minnesota where she works for the Mayo Clinic. She was accompanied by the Celtic folk group “Eira” with which she plays and whom

I had hired to perform for the occasion. I used to play with them during my academic years in Duluth, Minnesota, when they were called “McGinnis’ Kitchen,” so this was a very special reunion on all levels. What a way to conclude an amazing and turbulent year, one filled with an abundance of significant and historical occasions!



“

As he put it with tongue in cheek: “I think I’ve tapped into a sweet market.”

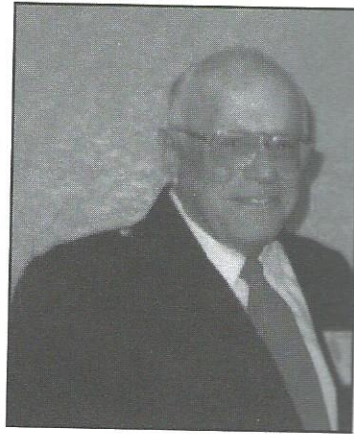
Joe McGilvra: The Syrup Man

By Tom Cox

A *cer macrophyllum* is a West Coast tree.

Appropriately called the bigleaf maple, it has the largest leaves of any member of its genus, six to eleven inches across. And, like the sugar maple of eastern North America, its sap can be made into maple syrup. A growing market for this previously rare commodity has emerged on the internet and in specialty shops, and there are even competitions among bigleaf maple syrup producers at county fairs. A study by the United States Forest Service in 1972 expressed doubt that commercial production of bigleaf maple syrup would prove practical. Developments since then say otherwise, and our own Joe McGilvra can serve as Exhibit A.

To be labelled “syrup” the product must be at least two-thirds sugar. As with the eastern maple syrups, grading rules favor lighter colors, but darker ones (“cooking grade”) have more flavor. To take advantage of this difference, one bigleaf syrup producer proudly



announces on the internet that his product is the less prestigious, but more flavorful darker syrup.

A ccording to McGilvra, bigleaf maple syrup definitely has a distinct flavor of its own. Authors of the Forest Service study detected in some of their sample



Photo credit: Native Plants PNW. From *Whence the Name*

production “a trace of an unfamiliar ‘varnish’ taste, but this was not too objectionable.” But, they added, this occurred only with late-season sap collections which, because of their lower sugar content, might not warrant collection anyway. McGilvra denies any varnish-like overtones in his syrup, maintaining his product simply has a bolder maple flavor. He adds, however, that a varnish taint can result if the sap is drawn too late, after it has begun descending from the leaves and branches. He hopes to bring some for the raffle at our Society’s gathering in 2019 so lucky members can judge for themselves.

The year 2017 was an experiment in feasibility for McGilvra. His oldest boy Nathanael asked if he ever thought of tapping the maples that grew near their home near the Columbia River in St. Helens, Oregon. Joe replied that he had been told they were not the right kind of trees, and he did not know if it was possible. His doubts were



Photo Credit: Joe McGilvra. *The Proud Producer Displays His Wares.*

understandable. Not only was the species different, but so were the growing conditions. Their area lacked the hard winters that froze the soil in Vermont and other sugar maple producing areas and whose thawing triggered spring sap flows. In contrast, sap flows in the West are triggered by changes in air pressure, rainfall, sunshine, and wind. "It really is like comparing apples and oranges," he says, and resulted in his "biggest challenge" as he tried to draw upon Eastern experience for guidance.

To try his luck, McGilvra selected a nearby tree and used a drill to make a hole on its south side. To his surprise, sap began to flow from the hole almost at once. Unsure of how to proceed, he put a piece of PVC pipe in the hole and attached some

plastic tubing. Overnight the flow filled a one gallon pail and was running over, so McGilvra was not sure how much the tree gave that first night. Collecting proceeded apace. Fast forward to March 30, when he boiled the last of the sap that his family had collected. He had boiled 285 gallons of sap, collected from a total of sixty taps, and made close to 4 gallons of syrup. One of the most challenging tasks was filtering the syrup once it was cooked. He started with a colander, a towel, and a big measuring cup. Later he acquired a stainless steel milk filter and stainless steel pail. Those were the most expensive items purchased that first year.

Joe reports that he had more encouragement than help, but his brother did come on in late February and was paid for the sap he provided. In

turn his brother sold syrup. "I could not cook it fast enough," McGilvra reports. "We sold everything I had . . . [but] held back two half pints for the fair." He charged 10 dollars per bottle. After the outlay for propane and bottles and labels, it cost Joe three dollars to make one bottle and left seven dollars for him. So production seemed financially feasible—although Joe did not include his labor in figuring costs. As he put it with tongue in cheek: "I think I've tapped into a sweet market."

To top things off, McGilvra's maple syrup was awarded the Reserve Grand Champion Ribbon at the Columbia County Fair on Tuesday, July 18, just days after our society's successful Gathering and AGM in nearby Portland. A very nice award for the first year!

After the year was over, Joe ordered an evaporator arch from Maine to speed up the production process the following season. An arch can evaporate 9 to 11 gallons an hour, a 10-gallon improvement over the per-hour yield during his first season. But one can operate more simply. If you have the trees, he reports, a person can make his own syrup using a Coleman stove, a gallon size stock pot, and a candy thermometer. But do not expect to get much from a gallon of sap; if you can, it is better to process about 10 to 12 gallons at a time. The early sap usually has the best sugar

content. Using a refractometer, Joe found that some of his trees yielded sap testing at 2.5 percent sugar, “really good for western bigleaf maple.”

This would yield around three ounces per gallon boiled. One should test trees and use only the best producers. Don’t boil inside the house, he adds, there is too much steam and the steam is sticky.

By January 25, 2018, McGilvra’s second bigleaf maple season had already come and gone while the East was still frozen hard: our season “was only about a month long this year, he reported. “That is shorter than last year, but the quality was fantastic.” One sampler said it was the best flavor she had ever tasted in maple syrup. Joe collected 550 gallons of sap before the flows started to scale back; after that the weather began to warm and Joe was able to collect only 100 more gallons as the trees began to shut down.

“**I** have been blessed,” he concludes; his experience “confirms that with hard work and dedication we can do almost anything.” We agree, Joe, but be sure to bring some of that second season’s product to the next gathering too.



The MacGilvays of Mull

Continued from page 7

the wall. Both drew their swords and in short order Alan was on the ground. As he paid the money owed, Alan observed that he liked to see a man who could maintain his living by his sword.

The mid-1640s were a turbulent time for Martin McGilvra. Any war is vicious, but the English Civil War was especially so. Lord Montrose raised the Highlanders to fight for Charles I and in the Battle of Tippermuir completely overwhelmed an army twice the size of his. Argyll with an army three times as large hesitated to engage Montrose until October 28 when he at last attacked. Repulsed, he refused further battle and allowed Montrose (who was out of powder!) to withdraw. For six weeks three separate groups of Montrose’s army traversed Argyll’s territory burning, wasting, and destroying everything. Afterward McGilvays and McLeans returned home with immense booty. Highland feuds were becoming wars and warfare was evolving into economic attrition. It is said the Campbell lands never recovered from Montrose’s devastations.

But the tide of war eventually changed, and it was Argyll’s turn to plunder and kill. Mull was invaded and terrible vengeance wrought on the defenseless people. McLean saved his lands by surrendering, but an observer says he did so

with the loss of his reputation. In the aftermath Argyll bought up McLean notes for loans taken out for extravagant living as well as the costs of war. He thus established a claim on McLean lands that he had never been able to take by force.

During the Civil War the church held a synod at Inveraray, but Martin did not attend. He explained he had gone with McLean and his men to join Montrose. He admitted spending three nights with the rebel army, but claimed he had been forced to go there by Sir Lachlan McLean. When asked to explain why the rebels had burned and destroyed the property of other ministers, but left his alone, he replied “it was God’s good providence and the

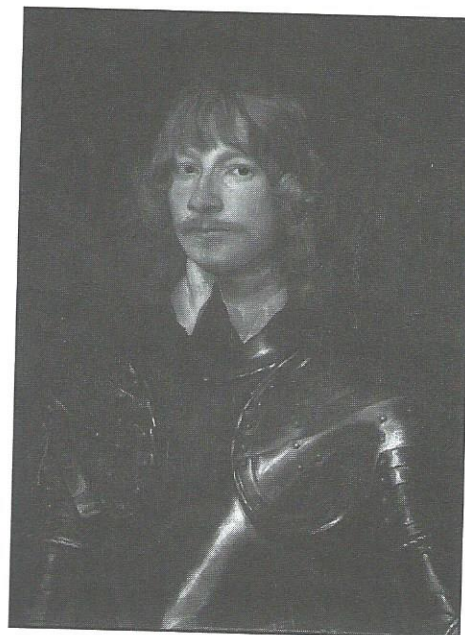


Photo credit: Scottish National Portrait Gallery. James Graham, 1st Marquess of Montrose

love they had to have the gospel continued within their bounds.” It was for naught. Martin was dismissed from the ministry “for complying with the rebels”, but a year later he admitted he could not subsist outside the church and begged forgiveness. He had not been exaggerating his situation for in 1649 Martin borrowed 10,000 merks, the first known loan taken out on McGilvary lands. Other troubles also stalked him, but Martin’s obvious abilities continued to keep him in the church.

After Cromwell’s death and the restoration of the monarchy Martin reconverted to Episcopacy, where his true convictions lay. He petitioned the Privy Council for relief, explaining that because of “his loyaltie to his majesty, & adhering unto his interest, he had been deposed from the ministerie, robbed & spoiled of all his goodes to the hazard of his utter ruin.” This sad, and very likely true, tale was heard kindly. An act was passed in 1662 allowing him £100 Sterling out of the stipends available from vacant parishes. The reimbursement was insufficient, for in 1668 McGilvray had to take out another loan—and he continued to work well into his eighties.

The period presented other problems to Mull. Famine and pestilence stalked the land; whole areas were nearly depopulated. Most refugees who could move to escape the famine are said to have gone to Ulster; no doubt others went to Glasgow. In addition, damage

done by warfare eroded income from the rental of Mull estates. Many farms were described as “waste.” Pennycross yielded only £20 a year, and Pennyghael, Carsaig, and Glenleidle together only £53½. Under such circumstances, even a man with the depth and complexity of character of Martin would have found it difficult to overcome the problems of land ownership on Mull. Adding to his difficulties, this period would also see the demise of the McLeans of Duart. Our small clan would simply have to adapt.

Martin’s son Donald must have pre-deceased him because his nephew, 70-year old John McIlvra, was declared heir in 1701. Even before Martin’s death, Hector McLean had obtained a decree against John by arguing that although he was not formally heir to Martin, he was acting as such. John had delayed and refused payment on the loan

in question, claiming he did not believe he was legally heir. This ploy kept creditors at bay until 1701; even then he delayed repayment. In the meantime, he seems to have tried to pay off his debts through a bit of cattle rustling.

War erupted again after George of Hanover was chosen to succeed Queen Anne. The MacGilvrays of Pennyghael joined the McLeans and other Highlanders in supporting efforts to place James Edward Stuart (the Pretender) on the throne—the Campbells joined the Hanoverian forces. When the two sides met in the Battle of Sheriffmuir, near Stirling, the Laird of Pennyghael happened to stumble during the charge. A gentleman standing nearby, believing him shot, exclaimed, “God preserve you, McIlray!” “God preserve yourself,” came the startling reply, “I have at present no need



Photo credit: Tour Scotland. Carsaig, Southernmost of McGilvary’s Holdings

of his aid.” This surely cannot have been John, believed to then be 85; it was more likely the next laird, Alex, who was 30 at the time. This would make sense. To protect a family from total ruin it was common for one son to fight for rebels while another son or the father stayed loyal at home to look after the estate. This rebellion of 1715 was the last time the McGilvrays were at war.

Not only did Alexander not fall at Sheriffmuir, he lived until 1778, apparently dying at age 94. The long life spans of Alex, John, and Martin meant that Pennyghael was held for over 150 years by but three generations. Records show that from the time he took control of Pennyghael Alex faced the same financial problems as his predecessor, John. At one point

one of Argyll’s factors reported to the Duke “This man is now in arrears to your Grace to the sum of £1100 Scots” for rental of a farm in Tiree. This farm,” the factor noted, “does yearly suffer great by sand-blowing.” Alex, it would seem, suffered poor business sense for not getting out of the unprofitable lease and cutting his losses.

Obviously the preceding century’s troubles had weakened our family. Without the proceeds of war and rapine the family had to earn their support from their largely infertile lands. It is equally obvious that the lairds of Pennyghael could not live within their shortened means and were prepared to jeopardize the long-held family lands for sake of expediency. Moreover, they may have lacked the drive to succeed

which had been so evident with earlier lairds and had preserved the family through previous tough times. But perhaps this criticism is overly harsh. After facing war, eviction, famine, and high rent and taxes, the McGilvrays may have been doing the best they possibly could with the resources at their disposal.

Unlike the MacGillivrays in the Inverness area, those on Mull did not take part in the rising of 1745, but they were affected by the aftermath nonetheless. The whole clan structure was altered when the heritable jurisdictions of the chiefs were abolished, depriving them of all legal authority over their clansmen. This was compensated with financial power as they were given sole ownership over heretofore common clan lands. Many chiefs



Photo credit: Diann Tongco.

The inner courtyard of Duart Castle. Sir Fitzroy Mclean (who renovated the castle starting in 1911) lived to the venerable old age of 101 and celebrated his 100th birthday by planting a rowan tree, shown here, in the castle courtyard to protect the site against evil spirits. Rowan trees have long held a special place in Scottish folklore, and in planting the tree in the castle courtyard on his birthday, Sir Fitzroy was continuing the tradition of planting a rowan close to a door or gate. After his death in 1936, Sir Fitzroy was buried in the little graveyard not far from the castle. His memorial faces the castle he spent so much time, money, and energy restoring. He is the only one in the graveyard to face the castle rather than the water.

simply leased them out to the highest bidder and moved away to become absentee landlords. Clan chiefs were being transformed from rigorous leaders of men into docile landowners with a taste for luxurious living. With only meagre rents from lands of low productivity, they soon ran into debt.

All this caused appalling conditions on Mull. One result was that people began to consider new solutions to old problems. In 1772-1775 the first of many great migrations to America from Mull and Skye began. Meanwhile many young men, with little education and few skills, found summer work on Lowland farms, took menial jobs in centers like Glasgow, or joined the army or navy.

In the midst of all this, in 1771 (seven years before he died) Alexander of Pennyghael legally transferred his lands to his only lawful son, Hugh. There were conditions. Alexander reserved to himself a liferent and bound Hugh to pay his two spinster sisters each £100 sterling. Already in debt to Argyll, he was very generous with money he did not have nor would ever obtain. Hugh would appear to come by the financial foolishness he later displayed quite naturally.

In 1778 Hugh signed a wedding contract with Catherine MacLaine, daughter of John of Lochbuie. In the contract Hugh promised Catherine a yearly liferent of £40 sterling to be secured against his lands and estates. For her part, Catherine pledged her expected £400 inheritance to Hugh. Unfortunately, Catherine's father died, and the new laird ignored the debt. Without this inheritance Hugh's debts could never be paid off by the limited income from Pennyghael rents. Hugh's expenses also seem to increase significantly after his marriage. Catherine was accustomed to a higher life-style and apparently was joined by her mother in Hugh's household after the death of young Lochbuie. Increased expenses and the never-to-be-received inheritance thus contributed to McGilvra's undoing—the loss of lands his family had held for centuries. Whether the McGilvra misfortunes could have been avoided, by foreknowledge or strict thrift, will never be known. Alex was certainly not blameless for he contributed to the downfall by burdening Hugh with excessive endowments, by renting unprofitable lands, and

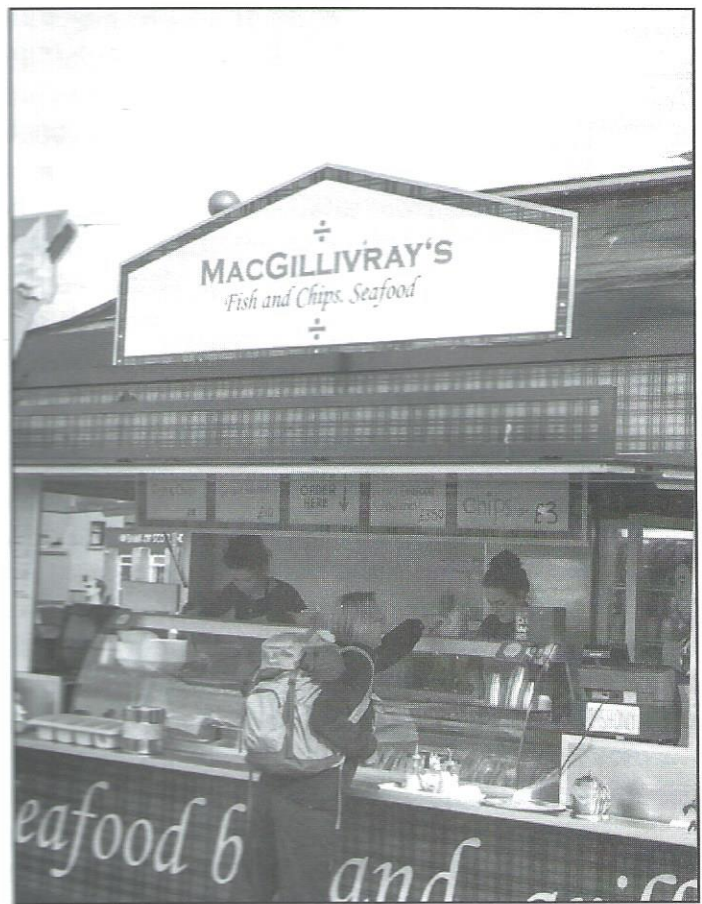


Photo Credit: Diann Tongco. In Oban en Route to Mull.

by indulging in Glasgow luxuries. It would have been bad enough if Hugh's dispute with Lochbuie had been his only financial problem, but for a man up to his ears in debt he appears to have been too easy-going with his limited cash and credit. He made doubtful loans and then had to waste good money on lawyers to get it back.

Problems continued. In May 1791 he wrote that he had no food left in storage: "I find that the [famine] days of King William are likely to come upon us again." Around 1794 he wrote of taking cows to market—likely his main source of income after the rents from his tenants. But the rapidly increasing numbers of emigrants resulted in large numbers of cattle being thrown on the market, depressing prices. Others were turning to kelp production, but there was little kelp on McGilvra's shores, and herring schools had moved from the west coast of Scotland to the east.

I have always wanted to picture Hugh as "a brave man struggling with the storms of fate," but I am afraid he was also a bit stupid. He never made

a will despite the fact he was about 70 years old, in poor health, and had “considerable” property when he died. He was used to dealing with lawyers and knew dying intestate always resulted in hassles and extra legal costs. On the other hand, in spite of indifferent health he put the family’s financial affairs in order by selling the land, settling debts, and arranging for a capable, honest guardian for his family, his nephew Pennycross. Still, his age and infirmity and his lack of a strong son or servants must have been taking their toll.

Hugh McGilvary sold Pennyghael on July 25, 1801, to John McDougall of Lunga for £4000 sterling plus a liferent for himself of £30 per year. Hugh’s lawyer claimed “the sale price . . . is more than sufficient to discharge the claims of the whole creditors.” It must have been a hard decision to sell, but he knew that if he did not sell his lands the courts would. So, with a wife and son incapable of managing the estate, and being in poor health himself, who can dispute Hugh’s decision to sell and live at ease?

Through all this there is absolutely no evidence of any sense of duty on Hugh’s part to other members of Clan McGilvary. Such obligations seem to have easily faded throughout the Highlands and Isles after the ’45 rebellion. Did Hugh have any concept that he was selling “their” land, rather than “his”? Did he ever consider transferring the title of chief to a competent cousin or of adopting a foster child? There is no way of

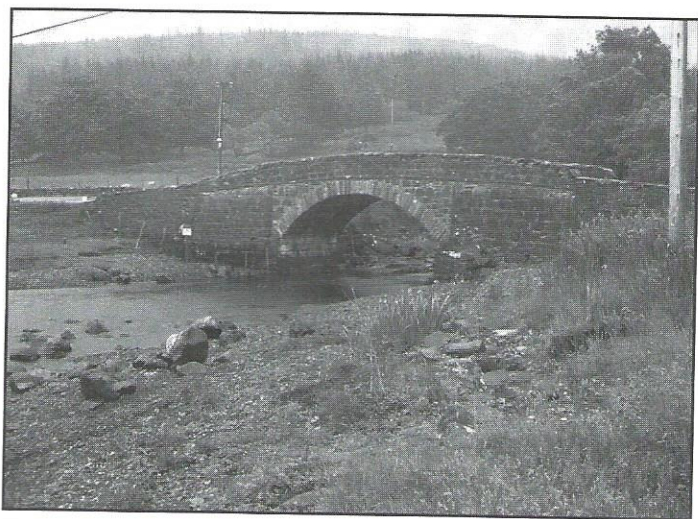


Photo Credit: Alan Stewart. *Leidle River, the Link between Pennyghael and Carsaig*

knowing. When he died in Edinburgh in 1805 the *Advertiser* simply described him as “Mr Hugh McGilvra, late of Pennygaill.”

Hugh’s son Alexander remains largely an enigma. After the death of his father he would have become the landless Laird of Pennyghael, but no official records suggest he did. After Hugh’s death Alexander and his mother moved in with their relatives at Pennycross, and in 1817 Alex signed the following statement: “Alex McGilvray, resident of Pennycross, Mull, son of the late Hugh McGilvray, Esq: considering that I am of a facile & pliable disposition & liable to be legally mislead and can’t rely on my own skill in managing my affairs” hereby agree to rely on Alex McLean, Esq. younger of Pennycross. Alex’s mother Catherine had signed a similar document in 1805. Hugh could hardly have allowed Pennyghael to fall into their hands.

In 1819 Alex and his mother were staying with relatives in Glasgow. Alex, unemployed, asked Mull lairds for letters of introduction in order to “procure a situation.” Considering his “facile” nature, success in this quest was very unlikely. Later that year and in 1841 and 1851 he appears in the records as residing once more at Pennycross. No record of his death has been found.

Without doubt there are McGilvarys who might justify claim to the title of Pennyghael (if not to its lands), but none has ever come forward to be recognized as head of this once important clan. As memories fade and as such honors become less important, it is unlikely this position will ever be filled again.

Editor’s note: Unlike in the Strathnairn-Stratherick area, there are still a few McGilvarys on Mull. Chrissie of Burg, the best known of recent McGilvarys in the area, died in 1991, but the local telephone directory recently listed four—although one is apparently a recent arrival, what locals call an “incomer.”



Mary MacGillivray Cox and Jack MacGillivray were selected as our voting delegates at the family convention that selected Iain MacGillivray as our new commander. The United States, Australia, Canada, and the Netherlands were each allotted two voting delegates. Mary who resides in McCammon, Idaho, was the founding vice-president of our Society and the donor of plaques at Petty Church honoring Chief Alexander of Culloden fame and at Dunlichity Church honoring our last chief. Jack is from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is now Regional Commissioner for the Western United States. President **Dan McGilvary Hyde** and **Celena Hyde** also attended the derbhfine.

Shirley Ann MacGillivray and Darry (Dee) Carbonel have been elected to our Board of Directors. Others elected to the Board following the Portland Gathering are well-known from their previous service on the Board or in other capacities, but a bit of information on these two newcomers seems in order. **Dee** has been member since our Society's first gathering, in Las Vegas and has been a regular attendee ever since. She is well known for her embroidery work making all sorts of MacGillivray items. A resident of Goodyear, Arizona, she is clan convenor for the Arizona and New Mexico area. **Shirley** was married to James F. MacGillivray for 65 years, and both her mother and father were Scottish. She is Worship Chairman of the Grace United Methodist Church, Surviving Spouse Liaison for the Military Officers Association of America, and Vice-President of the Widows Group of Medinah Nobles. She first attended a Society gathering when we met near St. Louis and is looking forward to the gathering in Scotland in 2020.

Commander Iain reports that plans are falling into place for an international gathering of MacGillivrays to be held near Tain, Scotland, in July or August 2020. Will be a family-friendly,

festive occasion. Plan ahead so we can have a good contingent of American MacGillivrays present.

President Rod MacGillivray reports that the Board has settled on a venue near Dayton, Ohio, for our Society's 2019 Gathering. There are a wealth of things to see and do in the area. **Indeed**, the next issue of our journal will feature an article on the nearby McGilvray Bridges and Ferry in Wisconsin. With such a central location this should be one of our biggest gatherings yet. See you there!!

Secretary Roger Johnston reports that membership has dropped to 84 active members or family units. This drop off is no doubt tied in part to the absence of a journal for some two years and our failure to remind people that their memberships were up for renewal. Let this journal be a reminder: **renew now**—and while you are at it, **urge your MacGillivray friends and relatives to join** if they haven't already done so.

Regional Commissioners Dan Hyde and Ron McGilvray have been busy erecting clan tents at Highland Games in New England and the Midwest, welcoming visitors, and distributing information about our society. Various regional convenors have been doing the same.

Three new convenors have joined the ranks of those who represent us at Highland Games and other events—or four, depending on how you count! **Owen MacGillivray** will be taking over the Atlantic Central region, and **Joe McGilvra** will take over the Pacific Northwest. **In addition, Tim and Traci Howell** of Clover, South Carolina, will take on the long-vacant Southeast Region. A number of other convenor positions remain open. Anyone interested in filling one of these spots or in helping someone already acting as a convenor is urged to contact their regional commissioner.

Dunlichity Church, where our chiefly enclosure is located, has been declared inactive

by the Church of Scotland and the property surplus. For some time, Dunlichity has been yoked and shared a minister with the nearby Daviot Church, which continues to serve the area. Surplus church properties are often sold off to become B&B's, country retreats, artisanal centers, museums, and the like. The future of Dunlichity remains unclear, but as an historic structure it will surely not be demolished. However, since the church is surrounded by a still-active graveyard, the potential purposes to which the building might be put are limited.

This past April BBC-Alba twice showed an hour-long program "The Young Commander." Described as "a landmark documentary highlighting a year in the life of the young clan commander Iain MacGillivray . . . as he travels throughout the world galvanizing" his MacGillivray clan. Part of the program was

filmed while Iain was at the Portland Gathering of our Society. Steps are being made to make copies available here in the States. Keep tuned.

Duncan MacGillivray, our clan piper, was featured recently in Conde Nast Traveler playing his bagpipe outside Aldourie Castle. Located in rustic settings some five miles from Inverness, the castle is available for rent as a wedding venue (or other special occasions). Anyone getting ready to tie the knot?

John Loughney of California has taken over editorship of the society newsletter from ex-president **Jim McGilvray**. You should be hearing from him ere long. In the meanwhile, many thanks, Jim, for your years of service on this great project that was your brainchild from the beginning.



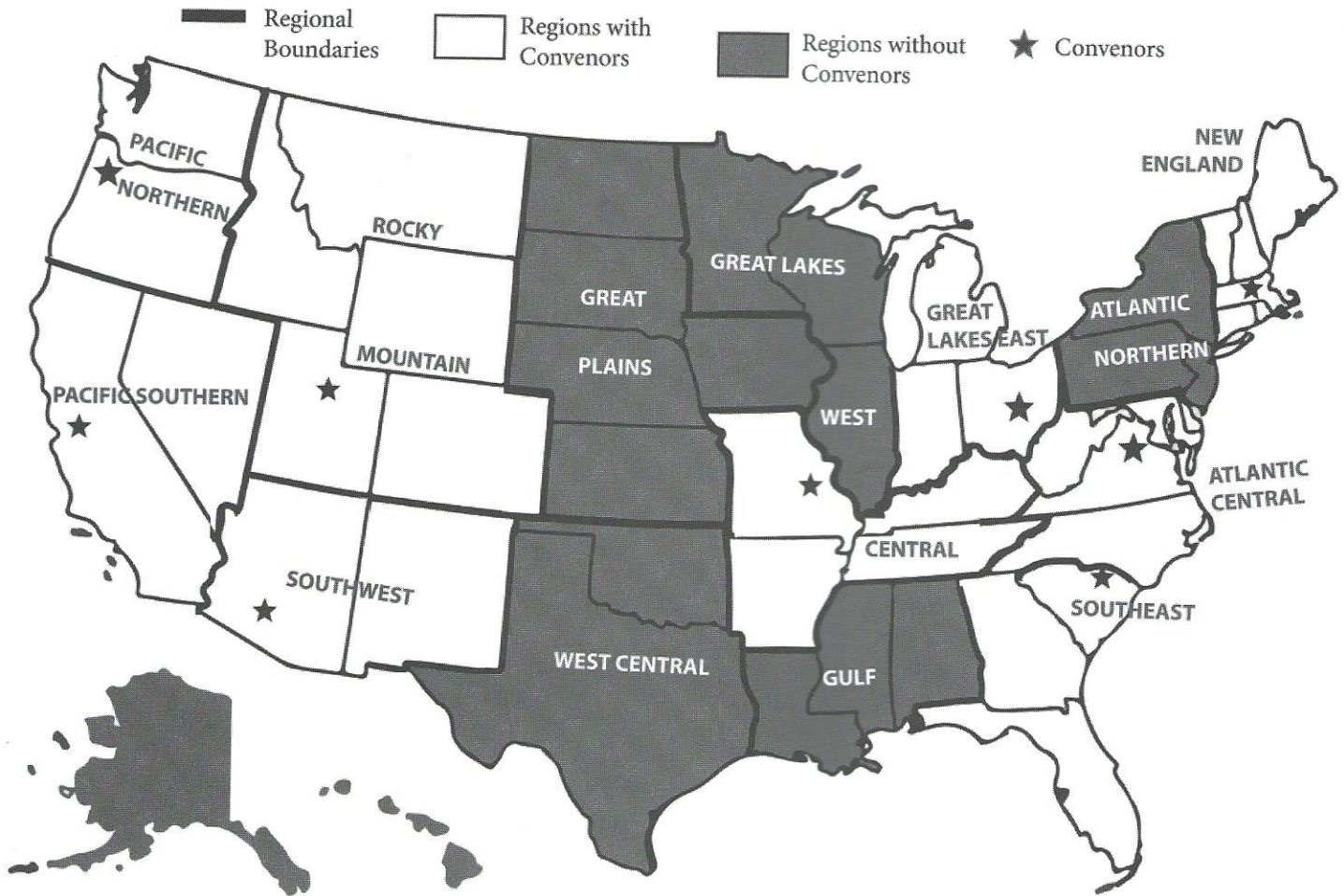
The Clan McGillivray Society USA, Inc.
Financial Statements FYE June 30, 2018

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u> @6 mos
Income							
Dues Received	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 1,775.00	\$ 2,975.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 4,299.50	\$ 1,375.00
Interest Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AGM Proceeds	\$ -	\$ 4,790.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,080.00	\$ -
Memorials/Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 712.50	\$ -
Donations-Commander Visit					\$ 15.00	\$ 410.00	\$ -
Total Receipts	\$ 850.00	\$ 6,840.00	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 2,975.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 14,502.00	\$ 1,375.00
Expenses							
Highlander ads	\$225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ -
Commander	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$410.00	\$ -
Membership Expense	\$204.12	\$ 400.00	\$ 138.94	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Journal/Newletter-Print & mail	\$ 1,447.08	\$ 1,354.38	\$ 1,722.97	\$ 1,794.35	\$ -	\$73.01	\$ 1,624.59
Memorial Gift	\$100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AGM Expenses	\$ -	\$ 3,083.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$500.00	\$ 8,510.50	\$ -
Postage, Supplies, Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$13.53	\$ 33.00	\$12.00
Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$81.82	\$ -	\$ -
Games Reimb	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 244.56	\$305.00	\$ 393.00	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 1,976.20	\$ 5,063.37	\$ 2,086.91	\$ 2,263.91	\$ 1,125.35	\$ 9,644.51	\$ 1,636.59
Net Receipts (Expenses)	\$ (1,126.20)	\$ 1,776.63	\$ (301.91)	\$ 711.09	\$ (1,060.35)	\$ 4,857.49	\$ (261.59)
YTD balances							
General Fund						\$ 2,567.23	\$ 1,750.70
AGM						\$ 624.19	\$ 624.19
Memorials/Scholarship						\$ 1,587.50	\$ 1,587.50
Commander						\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
YTD Balances						\$ 4,793.92	\$ 3,977.39
						\$ 7,069.50	\$ 7,624.44
Balance Sheets 6/2018							
Checking Account-BOA	\$ 5,880.47	\$ 7,657.10	\$ 7,355.19	\$ 8,066.28	\$ 7,005.93	\$ 11,863.42	\$ 11,601.83
Reconciliation							
Proir Balance	\$ 7,006.67	\$ 5,880.47	\$ 7,657.10	\$ 7,355.19	\$ 8,066.28	\$ 7,005.93	\$ 11,863.42
Net Receipts (Expenses)	\$ (1,126.20)	\$ 1,776.63	\$ (301.91)	\$ 711.09	\$ (1,060.35)	\$ 4,857.49	\$ (261.59)
Balance 6/30/18	\$ 5,880.47	\$ 7,657.10	\$ 7,355.19	\$ 8,066.28	\$ 7,005.93	\$ 11,863.42	\$ 11,601.83

Treasurers Report for six month mark - June 2018.

As we pass the half way point of 2018, we are a little bit behind, revenue vs. expenses, but I'm hoping with the Games season in full swing, we will see new memberships and more renewals. So far this year, we have received 17 annual renewals, but we had one returned, so a total of 16, 6 memberships for 5-years, and one lifetime membership. The bank account balance is \$11,601.83 and the only expense we have had this year, other than bank fees, is the cost of the previous journal \$1,624.59. Also in 2018 the Clan has opened a Paypal account.

Respectfully submitted, Janice MacGillivray.



Regional Convenors

7/2018

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Pacific Southern

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Vacancies

Atlantic Northern
 Gulf
 Great Lakes West
 Great Plains
 West Central
 Alaska
 Hawaii

CLAN MACGILLIVRAY SOCIETY USA

Membership Renewal

If your **membership is up** for renewal, please take this opportunity to renew now for the coming year, if you have **not already done** so. Annual members may wish to consider **Term** or **Life** membership.

Please **complete your information** on the blanks below. If any of it has **changed** recently, check the box below and write an asterisk * next to the **new** information.

New information included * Your membership number _____

Full name _____ Birth year _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

This is a Family Membership

Please list the other family members at your address who are included in this membership giving full name and relation.

Full name _____	Relation _____
Full name _____	Relation _____
Full name _____	Relation _____
Full name _____	Relation _____
Full name _____	Relation _____

Annual \$25 *Term (5 years)* \$100 *Life* \$500

Gift Memberships

Name

Address

City State Zip

Annual Term Life

Relative? Relation _____

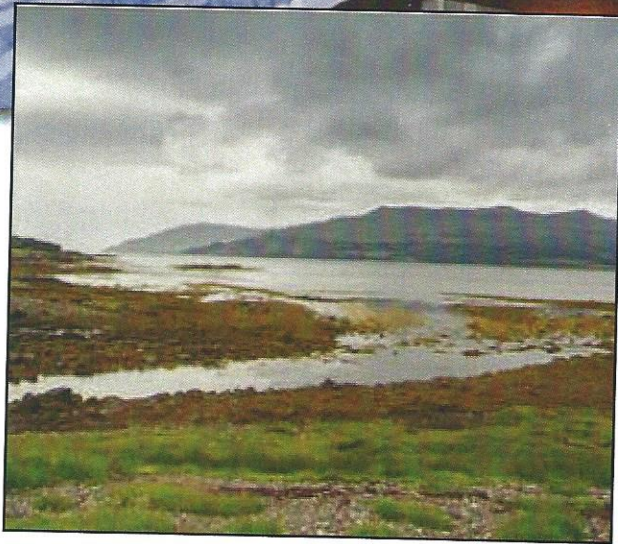
Name

Address

City State Zip

Annual Term Life

Relative? Relation _____



Chrissie

Chrissie MacGillivray spent her long life at Burg on the tip of the Ardmeanach Peninsula north of Loch Scridain (viewed in the distance from Pennyghael in the photo to the left). Chrissie, who died in 1989, played host to hundreds of visitors hiking to nearby sites on the peninsula. She was the last of her family to live at Burg--and at her death among the handful of McGilvrays then remaining on Mull. Today the number is even smaller. Native Gaelic speakers, members of Chrissie's family phoneticized their family name in a variety of ways--her first recorded ancestor was Malcolm McGilvra, others rendered the family name McGilvray or McGillivray. A recent review of the Mull telephone directory showed only four MacGillivray (of whatever spelling) on Mull, and informants consider at least one of these an "incomer."

Credits: Above, Christine Leach; left, Baden-Powell Council

Finlaggan

The Macdonald Lords of the Isles dominated on Scotland's West Coast and in the Hebrides from 1329 to 1493. Descended from Somerled, who helped free the west of Viking control, they were so powerful that they acted as if they were totally independent from the Scottish crown. Indeed, they even allied themselves at times with the English against the Scottish monarchy and in 1423 entered into a treaty with England's Richard II to help stave off control by the Scottish king.

Among the Lord of the Isles, supporters were the McGilvrays of Mull. Indeed, McGilvray of Pennyghael sat on the Lord of the Isles' council which met at Finlaggan on Islay. McGilvray was listed as a freeholder, not as a chief, but his presence on the council spoke loudly of the respect in which he was held. On major areas under his control the Lord of the Isles was represented by a judge. On Mull, this was likely McGilvray of Pennyghael whose family was long active in the law and church affairs.

The council met on a pair of small islands in Loch Finlaggan. Today there are only crumbling remains, a visitors' center, and memories at the site.

