

# BRUCE

## OF POWFOULIS

**ANDREW BRUCE, 1<sup>ST</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, was second son to Robert Bruce, 1<sup>st</sup> of Auchenbowie, and obtained parts of the lands of Powfoulis which had previously been wadset to his father from Cunningham of Polmaise in 1498 and had a Charter under the Great Seal for a further share on 23 October 1529.<sup>1</sup> He granted an obligation for 35 merks to be uplifted from his lands of Powfoulis and pad to Robert Bruce of Airth on 17 August 1531,<sup>2</sup> was a member of the inquest at the retour of John Haldane as heir to his father, James Haldane of Gleneagles, in various lands on 29 March 1547.<sup>3</sup> He *m.* by 31 January 1537, to Janet, daughter of Alexander Napier of Merchiston,<sup>4</sup> *d.* in 1582 and had issue :

1. Archibald Bruce, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
2. John Bruce, styled as brother to Archibald Bruce of Powfoulis when witness to the marriage contract of Alexander Bruce, younger of Culmalundy, and Jean, daughter of Laurence, Lord Oliphant, in 1586.
3. Ninian Bruce, had a gift of a pension for life from various lands in Berwickshire on 8 February 1582/3, and is then styled as son of the deceased Andrew Bruce of Powfoulis.<sup>5</sup> He had a grant of 38 acres of the lands of Dryburgh on 24 February 1580,<sup>6</sup> and had an annualrent of 40 merks from the lands of Carnock from Patrick Drummond, fiar of Carnock, on 7 October, 1575, which he afterwards renounced in favour of Alexander Drummond of Carnock on 25 July, 1602.<sup>7</sup> He *m.* Barbara Cairncross, *d.* by December of 1616 when his widow granted a Discharge the rental accounts from the Abbey of Dryburgh to John Erskine, Earl of Mar, due to have been delivered by Ninian and was father of :

---

<sup>1</sup> RMS 1514-1546. No. 855

<sup>2</sup> GD37/24

<sup>3</sup> GD198/127

<sup>4</sup> GD430/197/ She is styled as sister to Alexander Napier of Merchiston and spouse to Andrew Bruce of Powfoulis in a Decree of the Lords of Session dated 31 January 1537.

<sup>5</sup> RPS Vol. VIII. No. 1140.

<sup>6</sup> RMS 1580-1593. No. 173.

<sup>7</sup> GD17/180 & GD17/286

- 3a) Jean Bruce, *m.* Alexander Kirkton, Provost of Jedburgh, and with her sisters resigned their rights to five gardens and vaults at the manor house of Dryburgh to John Erskine, Earl of Mar, on 8 June 1618.<sup>1</sup>
- 3a) Mary Bruce, *m.* Thomas Allanson, Burgess of Edinburgh
- 3a) Agnes Bruce, *m.* Andrew Home, portioner of Redpath
- 3a) Margaret Bruce, *m.* Alexander Ker of Newhall and had issue.

**ARCHIBALD BRUCE, 2<sup>ND</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, succeeded his father and had Sasine for the lands of Powfoulis on 26 November 1582, which had lapsed the previous Martinmass.<sup>2</sup> On 24 October 1583, he and his brother Ninian had a remission for their part in the Raid of Ruthven.<sup>3</sup> He *d.* in 1603 having *m.* firstly, to Jean Gibb with whom he is named in an instrument relating to the redemption of the half lands of Mains of Clackmannan dated 10 November 1566,<sup>4</sup> and by whom he was father of :

- 1. Sir James Bruce, 3<sup>rd</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
- 2. Robert Bruce, was a provisional heir to Robert Bruce, son of the late Alexander Bruce, in an annualrent of 40 merks from the lands of Halls of Airth on 21 July 1577, and *m.* Christine Arnot, (*c/m* 1 December 1599<sup>5</sup>). He was father of :
  - 2a) Archibald Bruce, infeft in an annualrent of 240 merks from the lands of Breiche, in the Sheriffdom of Linlithgow, as heir to his late father on 9 July 1629, and *m.* Katherine Anderson, (*c/m* 15 November 1626<sup>6</sup>). He was father of :
    - 2b) Archibald Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 17 March 1637.
    - 2b) Margaret Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 5 October 1628.
    - 2b) Janet Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 14 March 1630, and *d.* in infancy.
    - 2b) Janet Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 25 August 1633.
    - 2b) Barbara Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 20 September 1638.
    - 2b) Christine Bruce, *bap.* at Leith on 2 May 1641.
- 3. Sara Bruce, *m.* William Cunningham of Wester Polmaise, (*c/m* 8 July 1592<sup>7</sup>), and had issue.

---

<sup>1</sup> GD124/1/1015

<sup>2</sup> Ex. Rolls. Vol. XXI. P. 477.

<sup>3</sup> RPS Vol. VIII. No. 1537.

<sup>4</sup> B66/25/263

<sup>5</sup> GD86/335

<sup>6</sup> GD86/501

<sup>7</sup> RD1/

He *m.* secondly, by 10 May 1570, to Marjory, daughter of Sir Alexander Napier of Merchiston, when and in right of which he gave an Obligation to her brother Sir Archibald Napier of Edinbellie that he will appear, when required, before the minister of the parish church and there solemnize the marriage with Marjory, sister of Sir Archibald, given that he has already received 1500 merks in the name of Tocher,<sup>1</sup> and by her he was father of :

4. Alexander Bruce of Polknavie, to whom the lands of Polknavie were conveyed in consideration of his parent's contract of marriage. He was father of :

4a) William Bruce acquired the 4 ½ poxgates of the lands of Halls of Airth by disposition dated 22 February 1655, and confirmed under the Great Seal on 9 February 1663, in which he is styled as lawful son of Alexander Bruce of Polknavie.<sup>2</sup>

**SIR JAMES BRUCE, 3<sup>RD</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, was retoured heir to his father, Archibald Bruce, in the lands of Bothkennar and Powfoulis and to his grandfather, Andrew Bruce, in those of Newton of Bothkennar on 19 November 1603,<sup>3</sup> and was nominated one of the tutors to the children of Robert Bruce, fiar of Wester Kennet, on 27 September 1606. He had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Powfoulis, various parts of Bothkennar and Airth, which the King united into the barony of Powfoulis, to be held by he and his heirs male and assignees whatsoever, dated 19 November 1612.<sup>4</sup> He *m.* firstly, *m.* at Clackmannan on 27 April 1595, to Marjory, daughter of Sir James Schaw of Sauchie,<sup>5</sup> and secondly, to Marion, daughter of Sir Robert Rollo, 8<sup>th</sup> of Duncrub, (*c/m* 31 July 1608. She survived him and *m.* secondly in 1644, to Robert Bruce of Kinnaird, by whom she had no issue ; and *d.* on 24 December, 1642), and *d.* in 1639. He was father of :

---

<sup>1</sup> GD430/162

<sup>2</sup> RMS 1660-1668. No. 373.

<sup>3</sup> Retours. Stirling. No. 40 & 41.

<sup>4</sup> RMS 1608-1620. No. 779.

<sup>5</sup> OPR Clackmannan.

**ARCHIBALD BRUCE, 4<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, retoured heir to his father in the lands of Powfoulis and parts of Bothkennar on 13 March 1641,<sup>1</sup> and for which he had a charter under the Great Seal dated 26 February 1644. He *m.* Helen Hamilton and was father of :

1. James Bruce, 5<sup>th</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
2. Michael Bruce, was appointed Tutor to his niece Helen, daughter of his brother James Bruce of Powfoullis, on 7 February 1651, and to whom his great-nephew, James Bruce of Powfoulis, was retoured heir general on 18 June 1691.<sup>2</sup>
3. Isabel Bruce, *m.* James Stewart of Graemesay, (*c/m* July of 1654<sup>3</sup>).

**JAMES BRUCE, 5<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, to whom his father made a resignation of the lands and barony of Powfoulis and which was confirmed under the Great Seal on 26 February 1644.<sup>4</sup> He *m.* Anna, daughter of Sir John Bruce of Kincavil, was *k.* at the battle of Dunbar in 1650 and had issue :

1. James Bruce, 6<sup>th</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
2. Helen Bruce, who was under age at her father's death and to whom her uncle Michael Bruce was appointed tutor on 7 February 1651. She *m.* Alexander Cochrane of Barbachlan.

**JAMES BRUCE, 6<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, succeeded his father on his death and was retoured his heir in the lands and barony of Powfoulis and parts of Bothkennar on 23 September 1653.<sup>5</sup> He *m.* in 1671, Janet, daughter of Sir Henry Bruce, 11<sup>th</sup> of Clackmannan, *d.* in April of 1688 and was father of :

1. James Bruce, 7<sup>th</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
2. John Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 2 March, 1677, and *d.* in infancy.
3. John Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 7 March, 1678.
4. Harry Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 9 May, 1679.
5. Michael Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 9 April, 1683.
6. Alexander Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 23 October, 1684.

---

<sup>1</sup> Retours. Stirling. No. 174.

<sup>2</sup> Retours. Gen. No. 7151.

<sup>3</sup> RD4/

<sup>4</sup> RMS 1634-1651. No. 1527.

<sup>5</sup> Retours. Stirling. No. 204.

7. David Bruce, apprenticed to John Reynolds, Chirurgeon in Edinburgh on 3 December, 1690, and on whose behalf his mother Janet Bruce, Lady Powfoulis, approached John, Earl of Mar, for a recommendation for his entering the army on 22 October, 1707,<sup>1</sup> and concerning the obtaining of which he himself approached the Earl of Mar on 24 February, 1708. He became a Surgeon Apothecary in Edinburgh and *m.* there on 14 January, 1700, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Logan of Burncastle.
8. Anna Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 6 August, 1674.
- 9 Isabel Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 19 August, 1680.

**JAMES BRUCE, 7<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, *bap.* at Airth on 13 September, 1673, was retoured heir to his father in the lands of Powfoulis on 8 August 1712, and sold five “rooms” to Thomas Dundas of Letham by Disposition dated 4 December 1729, to be named “Fingask.”<sup>2</sup> He *d.* in January of 1745 having *m.* firstly on 16 April, 1697, Anna, daughter of Archibald Crawford of Auchenames, by whom he was father of :

1. James Bruce, younger of Powfoulis, *bap.* at Airth on 24 March 1698, and *dsp vita patris*.
2. Patrick Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 15 July 1707, and *d.* young.
3. Archibald Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 22 May 1709, and *dsp*.
4. Janet Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 26 May 1699.
5. Annabel Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 14 July 1700, *m.* John Forbes of Newhall, and was served heir to her sister Margaret Bruce, on 2 August 1750.
6. Margaret Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 27 June 1701, and *dsp* prior to 2 August 1750.
7. Jean Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 17 August 1702, and was served heir portioner to her sister Margaret Bruce on 2 August 1750. She *m.* Rev. John Bruce, son of James Bruce of Kennet, and had issue.
8. Elizabeth Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 2 August 1703, and *d.* in infancy.
9. Elizabeth Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 24 September 1704.
10. Anna Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 22 February 1706, and *d.* in infancy.
11. Anna Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 3 December 1710.

---

<sup>1</sup> GD124/15/698

<sup>2</sup> GD65/180

He *m.* secondly at Alloa on 5 November 1713, Jean, daughter of Alexander Baird of Achmedden, (she was *bap.* at Edinburgh on 27 April 1686, and *d.* on 8 May 1774), and by her he was father of :

12. **ALEXANDER BRUCE, 8<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, *bap.* at Airth on 15 August, 1714, and was retoured heir to his father in the lands of Powfoulis on 29 May 1747. He *m.* on 22 February 1768, Rachel, daughter of Patrick Edmonstone of Newton, (she *d.* at Edinburgh on 12 July 1814<sup>1</sup>), and *dsp* being succeeded by his nephew James Bruce.
13. Patrick Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 16 October, 1720, to whom his siblings John and sister Janet were served heir on 1 March 1748.
14. John Bruce, was served heir to his brother Patrick on 1 March 1748, and was father of,  
14a) **JAMES BRUCE, 9<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, (*see below*) .
15. Mary Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 13 January, 1717, and was served heir to her sister Jacobina on 1 March 1748.
16. Helen Bruce, *bap.* at Airth on 9 October, 1718.
17. Jacobina Bruce, who *dsp.*

**JAMES BRUCE, 9<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, *b.* in 1777 and succeeded his uncle Alexander in the lands of Powfoulis. He *m.* on 27 November 1813, to Ann, daughter of William Bell, Wine Merchant in Leith, (she *d.* at Edinburgh on 10 November 1860<sup>2</sup>), *d.* at York Place, Edinburgh, on 14 March 1854,<sup>3</sup> and was father of :

1. John Bruce, 10<sup>th</sup> of Powfoulis, (*see below*).
2. Alexander Bruce, *b.* in 1831, and served as a Colonel in the Bengal army. He *d.* at London on 1 June 1896.<sup>4</sup>
3. Francis A. Bruce, *b.* in 1833.
4. William Bruce, *b.* in 1834.
5. Helen Bruce, *b.* in 1819, and *d.* unmarried at Bournemouth on 28 October 1891.<sup>5</sup>
6. Margaret Bruce, *b.* in 1823, and *d.* unmarried at Edinburgh on 6 February 1913.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Scots Magazine. 1<sup>st</sup> September 1814, edition.

<sup>2</sup> Statutory record. See also Caledonian Mercury. 13<sup>th</sup> November 1860, edition.

<sup>3</sup> Stirling Observer. 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1854, edition.

<sup>4</sup> Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

<sup>5</sup> Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

<sup>6</sup> Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

7. Ann Bruce, *b.* in 1825, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 4 December 1855, to Archibald Scott, Solicitor.

8. Mary Bruce, *b.* in 1828, and *d.* unmarried at Ventnor, Isle of Wight, on 29 March 1878.<sup>1</sup>

**JOHN BRUCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> OF POWFOULIS**, *b.* on 19 November 1815, was apprenticed to Walter Dickson and James Steuart, Writers to the Signet, and was admitted a Writer to the Signet on 29 June 1843. He was served heir to his father on 19 March 1855, and sold the lands of Powfoulis to William Dawson later that same year. He *m.* on 4 June 1857, Jessie, third daughter of Robert Taylor of Broomland, *d.* at St. Andrews on 8 January 1899,<sup>2</sup> and was father of :

1. Ann Anderson Bruce, *b.* on 22 October 1865.

2. Catherine Bruce, *b.* on 6 November 1869.

---

<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

<sup>2</sup> Statutory record. See also St. Andrews Citizen. 14<sup>th</sup> January 1899, edition.