

# CRICHTON

## OF RUTHVEN

**SIR JAMES CRICHTON, 1<sup>ST</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, had a charter under the Great Seal for the lands of Ruthven, in the Lordship of Brechin and Sheriffdom of Forfar, on 29 April, 1452, in which he is styled as brother to Sir George de Crichton of Cairns.<sup>1</sup> He had a charter from David Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, for the lands of Blackhouse, in the Lordship of Crawford-Lindsay, on 11 July, 1480,<sup>2</sup> was elected Provost of Edinburgh and *m.* Agnes, apparently daughter of Sir Adam Hepburn of Hailes. He *d.* by 21 March, 1498, and was father of :

1. Sir Adam Crichton, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. Margaret Crichton, *m.* firstly in around 1481, Sir William Stirling, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Keir, (he was widow of Euphemia, daughter of Robert, Lord Fleming, whom he had *m.* in around 1466 and by whom he had issue), and secondly, John, Lord Sempill.

**SIR ADAM CRICHTON, 2<sup>ND</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, succeeded his father and *m.* firstly by 25 June, 1479, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Stirling, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Keir, when they had a charter from her father for the lands of Kippendavy.<sup>3</sup> He *m.* secondly after 1503, Isabella, daughter of Andrew, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Gray, (she was widow of James Scrimgeour, Constable of Dundee, by whom she had issue ; and *m.* thirdly, following the death of Sir Adam, to Sir John Campbell, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Lundy), with whom he had a charter for the Easterton of Middleton from Gilbert Middleton of that Ilk on 20 August 1510.<sup>4</sup> He *d.* prior to 1516, and was father of :

1. James Crichton, 3<sup>rd</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. Adam Crichton, served heir provisional to the barony of Keir on 10 September, 1503.

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1424-1513 No. 551

<sup>2</sup> RMS 1424-1513. No. 1448

<sup>3</sup> RMS 1424-1513. No. 1512

<sup>4</sup> RMS 1424-1513. No. 1510.

3. Abraham Crichton, served heir provisional to the barony of Keir on 10 September, 1503, and was appointed Provost of the Collegiate Church of Dunclas by 9 November, 1539, when he is named with his brother Mr. Alexander Crichton as one of the curators of James Stirling of Keir.<sup>1</sup>

He was father of,

3a) George Crichton, a natural son who, with his father, had a charter for the lands of Lathamond, in the Regality of Dunfermline, on 15 August, 1565.<sup>2</sup> He was father of,

3b) Margaret Crichton, who, with her sister Cristine, are styled as daughters of Mr. George Crichton, natural son of Mr. Abraham Crichton, Provost of Dunclas, in a charter under the Great for their father's tenements in Edinburgh in favour of David Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, dated 25 November, 1583, by reason of their father having been born illegitimate.<sup>3</sup>

3b) Cristine Crichton,

3b) Elizabeth Crichton, *m.* John Schaw, natural son of Mr. William Schaw, Provost of Abernethy, (*c/m* 20 January 1562<sup>4</sup>).

4. Alexander Crichton, a natural son who was appointed Rector of Abbotroule by 9 November, 1539, when he was named as one of the curators of James Stirling of Keir. He was transferred to Innerwick by 17 April, 1540, and *dsp* prior to 2 July, 1573, when James Reid, was presented as his successor in the vicarage of Coldstone. An escheat of his goods due to his having died illegitimate and without heirs of his body was gifted under the Privy Seal to George Crichton of Camno on 11 August, 1573.<sup>5</sup>

5. Elizabeth Crichton, *m.* first, William Dischington of Ardross, and had issue, and secondly, Mr. Alexander Wood of Grange, second son of Sir Andrew Wood, 1<sup>st</sup> of Largo, (*c/m* 6 August 1562.<sup>6</sup> He *d.* in October of 1592), and had no apparent issue. She *d.* on 20 May 1581.<sup>7</sup>

**JAMES CRICHTON, 3<sup>RD</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, served heir provisional to the barony of Keir on 10 September, 1503, and had a charter for the barony of Craigis from Janet Ogstoun of Craigis on 20 November, 1506. He had a charter for the lands of Formale and Fornocty, in the Sheriffdom of Forfar, from Robert, Lord Crichton of Sanquhar, on 27 October,

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1514-1546. No. 2042

<sup>2</sup> RMS 1546-1580. No. 1659

<sup>3</sup> RPS Vol. VI. No. 2018

<sup>4</sup> RD1/5/f.436

<sup>5</sup> RMS 1424-1513. No. 771

<sup>6</sup> RD1/7/136. She is styled as sister to Mr. Alexander Crichton, Rector of Abbotsruil.

<sup>7</sup> Edinburgh Tests

1509.<sup>1</sup> He *m.* in 1506, Janet, daughter and coheir of Walter Ogstoun of that Ilk, (she *m.* secondly, George Haliburton of Pitcur), *d.* by 1 June 1514, when his son John, was entered in the lands of Ruthven, probably at the battle of Flodden in September of 1513, and was father of :

1. John Crichton, 4<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).

2. Andrew Crichton, 1<sup>st</sup> of Kirklandbank, obtained the lands of Kirklandbank on 1 August, 1541, and was father of :

2a) Andrew Crichton, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Kirklandbank, a natural son to whom his father conveyed the lands of Kirklandbank on 28 February, 1561, to be held by himself and his heirs, failing whom, by his natural brother James Crichton, and his heirs, failing whom by John Crichton of Ruthven.<sup>2</sup> He *dsp* prior to 11 December, 1564, when his brother James was infeft as his heir in the lands of Kirklandbank.

2a) James Crichton, 3<sup>rd</sup> of Kirklandbank and Easter Craig, a natural son who was named as a substitute heir to his brother Andrew in the lands of Kirklandbank on 28 February, 1561. He succeeded to these lands and in which he was infeft on 11 December, 1564,<sup>3</sup> although his ownership and right of succession was called into question and at length they were obtained by Ramsay of Bamff. He obtained the lands of Easter Craig. He *m.* Elizabeth Brown, *d.* prior to November of 1580 and was father of :

2b) David Crichton of Easter Craig, succeeded his father and served with the rank of Captain in the army. He *m.* Helen Whitelaw, *d.* prior to 30 November, 1606, and was father of :

2c) James Crichton, *m.* Cristine Robertson with whom he had a charter for an annualrent of 200 merks from the lands of Fardill from James Scrimgeour of Fardill on 30 November, 1606.

2b) Andrew Crichton,

2b) Thomas Crichton of Polcalk, was appointed Clerk of the Commissariat of Dunkeld on 25 November, 1583, and is then styled as son of the deceased James Crichton of Craig. He acquired the lands of Polcalk from Robert Rollock of Polcalk on 19 December 1599, and purchased a tenement in Dunkeld from John Stewart, brother

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1424-1513. No. 3380.

<sup>2</sup> GD16/12/165

<sup>3</sup> GD16/12/167

of James Stewart, Commissary of Dunkeld, in which he was infeft on 30 October 1600.<sup>1</sup> He was father of :

2c} Robert Crichton, a charter witness on 21 June 1608.

2c} James Crichton,

3. Margaret Crichton, *m.* Peter Hay of Megginch, (he *d.* in 1565), and had issue.
4. Elizabeth Crichton, *m.* firstly, Alexander Ramsay of Bamff, and had issue ; and secondly, David Campbell of Denhead.

**JOHN CRICHTON, 4<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, succeeded his father and had Sasine for the lands of Ruthven, Ruthvendavy and others on 1 June 1514.<sup>2</sup> He *m.* in around 2 October, 1527, Janet, daughter of Thomas Fraser, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Lovat, (she survived him and had her liferent of the lands of Ruthven reserved to her on 23 October 1548.<sup>3</sup> She afterwards *m.* secondly, Thomas Ogilvy, second son of James, 4<sup>th</sup> Lord Ogilvy of Airlie), when he granted to her a charter for the lands of Brigton of Ruthven. He was *k.* at the battle of Pinkie in September of 1547<sup>4</sup> and was father of :

1. John Crichton, 5<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. Mariote Crichton, *m.* James Scrimgeour of Glasswell, by 29 December, 1556, when they had a charter for joint-infefment for the lands of Ardormy following upon a resignation into the King's hands by James and in which she is styled as daughter of the deceased John Crichton of Ruthven. They had issue.
3. Elizabeth Crichton, *m.* firstly, Patrick Blair of Balmyle, from whom she had a charter in her virginity for he lands of Potento, in the Barony of Meigle, on 9 February, 1545,<sup>5</sup> (he was *k.* at the battle of Pinkie in September of 1547), and secondly, Patrick Blair, brother of Alexander Blair of Balthayock.

**JOHN CRICHTON, 5<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, had Sasine for the lands of Mains of Meigle as heir to his deceased father on 23 October 1548, and a charter from his father for the lands of Pittendreich in the barony of Lundy, and Sheriffdom of Forfar, on 23 July, 1557. He *m.*

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<sup>1</sup> Blair Atholl Archives Parcel IV. Box 15 No. 5

<sup>2</sup> Ex. Rolls. Vol. XIV. P. 558.

<sup>3</sup> Ex. Rolls. Vol. XVIII. P. 446.

<sup>4</sup> Ex. Rolls. Vol. XVIII. P. 447. He is said to have been killed "in campo de Inveresk."

<sup>5</sup> RMS 1514-1546. No. 3202

firstly, Isobella, daughter of Alexander Lindsay, Master of Crawford, and secondly, Christian, daughter of William Keith, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl Marischal, (she was widow of Walter Ogilvy of Boyne), and was father of :

1. Adam Crichton, 6<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. Elizabeth Crichton, *m.* James Ogilvy of Clova, (*c/m* at Dundee on 27 March, 1564), and had issue.

**ADAM CRICHTON, 6<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, to whom was granted a charter for the lands of Newton of Aberlot, in the sheriffdom of Forfar, on 8 July, 1563, and in which he is styled as eldest son and apparent heir of his father. As a person, he was unruly and this resulted in his being apprehended and confined in the tolbooth in Edinburgh especially for the murders of David Tyrie of Drumkilbo in December 1581 and James Crichton at Mill of Ruthven in February 1588. He was brought before the King on 18 June 1588, but, although the punishment should be execution, John, Earl of Mar, interceded on his behalf and had the judgement reduced to that of banishment for life with the stipulation that “he being att any tyme heirefter apprehendit without realme, be ony ofoure judgeis or utheris oure subjectis, that ye panis of death salbe execute upone him, without ony mercy.” He *m.* Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Erskine, 1<sup>st</sup> of Gogar, (*c/m* 20 October 1573<sup>1</sup>), and was father of :

1. Sir James Crichton, 7<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. John Crichton, admitted a burgess of Dundee at the request of James Scrimgeour of Dudhope on 13 January, 1590.

**SIR JAMES CRICHTON, 7<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, had a charter from his father for the lands of Craigis and Ruthven on 13 September, 1578, and granted to his mother Margaret Erskine, a charter for the liferent of the lands of Brigton of Ruthven on 28 February, 1600. He *m.* by 1599, to Margaret Maxwell and was father of :

1. James Crichton, 8<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1546-1580. No. 2166

2. Alexander Crichton, styled as brother to James Crichton of Ruthven when witness to a charter by this brother for the lands and Barony of Readie to Sir John Blair of Balgillo on 28 August, 1624.<sup>1</sup>
3. Margaret Crichton,
4. Elizabeth Crichton,
5. Marjory Crichton, who, with her sisters Margaret and Elizabeth, had a Bond for 5000 merks from their brother James Crichton of Ruthven, on 2 August, 1621, which was afterwards assigned to Alexander Campbell of Crunan.

**JAMES CRICHTON, 8<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, succeeded his father and *m.* at Alyth on 17 May, 1629, Isabella, daughter of John Nevay of that Ilk,<sup>2</sup> (*c/m* at Halyards on 13 May, 1629<sup>3</sup>). He *d.* in April on 1666<sup>4</sup> and was father of,

1. James Crichton, 9<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
2. Margaret Crichton, *m.* at Longforgan on 21 October, 1650, Sir George, 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Kinnaird of Inchtute,<sup>5</sup> (he *d.* on 29 December, 1689,) and had issue.
3. Katherine Crichton, *m.* John Fotheringham of Denoon, (*c/m* 22 March, 1654<sup>6</sup>).
4. Magdalen Crichton, *m.* at Inchtute on 2 July, 1666, George Oliphant, 1<sup>st</sup> of Clashbennie,<sup>7</sup> (he was widow of Rebecca, daughter of Francis Hay, 1<sup>st</sup> of Balhousie, whom he had *m.* on 4 January, 1655), and had issue.
5. Helen Crichton, *m.* firstly, David Clayhills of Invergowrie, and had issue ; and secondly, at Dundee on 19 April 1670, to William Rait of Halgreen,<sup>8</sup> and had issue.

**JAMES CRICHTON, 9<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, returned heir to his grandfather in the lands of Fernwall and Fornochtie on 29 July 1656,<sup>9</sup> and to his father in the lands of Ruthven on 16

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1620-1633 No. 954

<sup>2</sup> OPR – Alyth.

<sup>3</sup> RMS 1634-1651. No. 169

<sup>4</sup> Lamont's Diary.

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Longforgan.

<sup>6</sup> RS51/2/f.44

<sup>7</sup> OPR – Inchtute.

<sup>8</sup> OPR – Dundee.

<sup>9</sup> Retours. Forfar. No. 356.

May 1667.<sup>1</sup> He *m.* Helen, daughter of Sir Thomas Stewart, 12<sup>th</sup> of Grantully, (*c/m* 20 May 1669<sup>2</sup>), and was father of :

1. **THOMAS CRICHTON, 10<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, succeeded his father and *m.* Ann, daughter of David Fotheringham of Powrie. He *dsp* prior to 14 July, 1731.
2. Patrick Crichton, 11<sup>th</sup> of Ruthven, (*see below*).
3. William Crichton, included in the entail of the lands of Grantully in 1717.

**PATRICK CRICHTON, 11<sup>TH</sup> OF RUTHVEN**, became an Apothecary and Burgess in Dundee and was included in the entail of the lands of Grantully in 1717. He was retoured heir to his brother Thomas Crichton in the lands of Ruthven on 14 July, 1731, and was infeft in the Barony of Ruthven on 24 October, 1733. He *m.* first, Grisel, daughter of Thomas Galloway, Lord Dunkeld, and had issue ; and secondly, Rachel, daughter of David Campbell of Keithock, (she was widow of John Patullo of Balhouffie, who had *d.* in 1722 and by whom she had issue), and *d.* in the last months of 1746 following which the estate of Ruthven was sold at a public roup. He was father of:

1. Thomas Crichton, younger of Ruthven and Milnhill, included with his brothers William and John in the Grantully entail in 1717 and served as a Lieutenant in Ogilvy's Regiment during the Jacobite uprising of 1745/46. He *m.* at Edinburgh on 30 August, 1741, Isabell, daughter of James Forrester of Milnhill,<sup>3</sup> with whom he acquired these lands, and *d.* without surviving issue.
2. William Crichton, apprenticed to Dougal Ged, Goldsmith in Edinburgh, on 2 May, 1750,<sup>4</sup> became a Jeweller in London and afterwards emigrated to Jamaica. He was retoured heir to his brother Thomas Crichton in the lands of Milnhill on 14 December, 1786, following which he returned home to Scotland and settled in Dundee. He *dsp* prior to 28 October, 1788.
3. John Crichton, served with his brother Thomas Crichton as a Lieutenant in Ogilvy's Regiment during the Jacobite uprising of 1745. He *d.* at London on 7 November 1768.<sup>5</sup>
4. Patrick Crichton, *bap.* at Dundee on 20 November 1725, and *d.* "off the island of Sumatra, in the East Indies" in October of 1764.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Retours. Forfar. No. 429.

<sup>2</sup> Grantully writs.

<sup>3</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>4</sup> SRS Register of Edinburgh Apprentices.

<sup>5</sup> Scots Magazine, 7<sup>th</sup> November 1768, edition.

5. Alexander Crichton, *bap.* at Dundee on 8 October 1726.
6. Elizabeth Crichton, was a twin with Alexander and was *bap.* with him at Dundee on 8 October 1726.
7. Rachel Crichton, *d.* unmarried at Edinburgh on 8 September 1763,<sup>2</sup> and to whom her brother William Crichton was served heir on 7 January 1766.

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<sup>1</sup> Scots Magazine, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1765, edition.

<sup>2</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> August 1763, edition.