

# ERSKINE

## OF ALVA

**SIR CHARLES ERSKINE, 1<sup>ST</sup> OF ALVA**, was son of John Erskine, Earl of Mar, by his wife, Mary, daughter of Esme Stewart, Duke of Lennox, and was *bap.* at Alloa on 5 November 1615. He had a grant of the lands of Cambuskenneth from his mother, Maria Stewart, in implementation of his marriage contract with Mary Hope dated 10 January 1639, and acquired the lands and barony of Alva from Alexander Bruce and Edward Bruce, Earl of Kincardine, his brother, by resignation dated 13 March 1649, which was confirmed under the Great Seal to himself in liferent and Charles, his eldest son, in fee, on 20th March following.<sup>1</sup> He *d.* on 8 July 1663, having *m.* firstly, at Edinburgh on 5 February 1639, to Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Hope, 1<sup>st</sup> of Craighall,<sup>2</sup> (*c/m* 10 January 1639<sup>3</sup>), by whom he was father of :

1. Thomas Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 7 May 1641, and *dsp* before March 1649, his brother Sir Charles, being served his heir in the lands of Cambuskenneth, and others, on 3 April 1672.<sup>4</sup>
2. Sir Charles Erskine, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Alva, (*see below*).
3. John Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 5 July 1642, served as a Colonel in the army and was father of :
  - 3a) Helen Erskine, *m.* Sir William Douglas, Baronet of Kelhead, (he *d.* on 26 September 1733<sup>5</sup>), and had numerous issue.
4. James Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 26 March 1645.
5. David Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 8 September 1646.
6. William Erskine, *bap.* at Tillicoultry on 26 June 1653, and was buried in the Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 19 March 1666.<sup>6</sup>
7. Marie Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 21 November 1639.

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<sup>1</sup> RMS 1634-1651. No. 2005.

<sup>2</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>3</sup> RMS 1634-1651. No. 891.

<sup>4</sup> Retours. Clackmannan. No. 39.

<sup>5</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1733, edition. In which he is stated to have married Helen Erskine, daughter of Col. John Erskine, brother to Sir Charles Erskine of Alva.

<sup>6</sup> Greyfriars's Burial Register.

8. Elizabeth Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 8 August 1648.

He *m.* secondly, Helen, daughter of Sir James Skene of Curriehill, (*c/m* 15 May 1655.<sup>1</sup> She was widow of Sir Robert Bruce of Broomhall, and surviving Charles Erskine, she *m.* thirdly, in 1666, to Sir James Dundas of Arniston), by whom he had no apparent issue.

**SIR CHARLES ERSKINE, 2<sup>ND</sup> OF ALVA**, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 4 July 1643, and to whom the fee of the barony of Alva was assigned in charter dated 20 March 1649.<sup>2</sup> He was created a Baronet on 30 April 1666, with remainder to the heirs male of his body<sup>3</sup> and *m.* Christian, daughter of Sir James Dundas, 2<sup>nd</sup> of Arniston, (*c/m* 20 October 1664<sup>4</sup>). He *d.* in 1690, and was father of :

1. Charles Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 7 May 1667, and *d.* young.
2. **SIR JAMES ERSKINE, 3<sup>RD</sup> OF ALVA**, *bap.* at Alva on 25 May 1668, and was *ksp* at the battle of Landen, on 23 July 1693.
3. **SIR JOHN ERSKINE, 4<sup>TH</sup> OF ALVA**, *bap.* at Tillicoultry on 11 June 1675, and succeeded his brother, Sir James, on his death without issue in 1693, and was served heir to him in the lands and barony of Alva with the fishing on the River Devon, on 1 May 1694.<sup>5</sup> He was served heir to his father and brother, James, in the lands of Cambuskenneth on 24 February 1696.<sup>6</sup> He was an active Jacobite during the rising of 1715 following which he spent some time in exile in France. He *m.* on 26 August 1705, Barbara, daughter of Henry, 10<sup>th</sup> Lord Sinclair, was *k.* on 12 March 1739, by a fall from his horse while on the Isle of Man,<sup>7</sup> and was father of :

3a) **SIR CHARLES ERSKINE, 5<sup>TH</sup> OF ALVA**, served as a Major in the Royal Scots and was *ksp* at the battle of Lauffeld on 2 July 1747.<sup>8</sup>

3a) **SIR HENRY ERSKINE, 6<sup>TH</sup> OF ALVA**, succeeded his brother in the lands of Alva which he sold to his uncle Sir Charles Erskine, in 1754. He *m.* at Edinburgh on 19 April 1761,

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<sup>1</sup> NRAS3246/259

<sup>2</sup> RMS 1634-1651. No. 2005.

<sup>3</sup> RPS 1660-1668. No. 908.

<sup>4</sup> RH4/191/51.

<sup>5</sup> Retours. Stirling. No. 316.

<sup>6</sup> Retours. Clackmannan. No. 58. See also: Retours, Stirling. No. 322.

<sup>7</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 15<sup>th</sup> October 1739, edition.

<sup>8</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 5<sup>th</sup> May 1747, edition.

Janet, daughter of Sir Peter Wedderburn, Senator of the College of Justice,<sup>1</sup> (c/m 25 April 1761<sup>2</sup>), *d.* on 9 August 1765, and was father of :

3b) Sir James Erskine Sinclair, Earl of Rosslyn, *b.* on 6 February 1762, and was served heir to his cousin James St. Clair of Sinclair in the barony and castle of Ravenscraig, in Fife, on 11 August 1789. He was served heir to his father in the lands of Over and Nether Tyries on 15 October 1789, and succeeded his uncle Alexander Wedderburn, Earl of Rosslyn, in his estates on his death in 1805. He *m.* Harriet Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Bouverie, brother of 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Radnor, *d.* on 18 January 1837, and was father of :

3c) Henry Alexander St. Clair Erskine, *b.* on 2 June 1792.

3c) Sir James Alexander St Clair Erskine, Earl of Rosslyn, *b.* on 15 April 1802, and succeeded his father in 1837. He *m.* on 20 October 1826, Frances, daughter of Lieutenant-General William Wemyss, *d.* in 1866, and was father of,

3d) James Alexander George St. Clair Erskine, *b.* on 10 May 1830, and *d.* on board the *Mary Elizabeth* during passage from Havanna to New Orleans in 1852, of a “congestion of the brain.”

3d) Francis Robert St. Clair Erskine, Earl of Rosslyn, *b.* on 2 March 1833, and succeeded his father on his death in 1866. He *m.* Blanche Adeliza Fitz Roy, *d.* at Dysart House in September of 1890<sup>3</sup> and had issue, (*see Sinclair of Rosslyn for a more detailed account*).

3d) Harriet Elizabeth St. Clair Erskine, *b.* on 26 June 1831.

3c) Henry Francis St. Clair Erskine, *b.* on 14 February 1804.

3b) John Erskine, *b.* on 3 March 1764.

3b) Henrietta-Maria Erskine,

3a) Barbara Erskine,

4. Sir Charles Erskine of Alva, (*see below*).

5. Robert Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 8 September 1677, and was appointed Physician to the Czaar of Russia.

6. William Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 27 April 1676.

7. Henry Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 20 May 1682.

8. Marie Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 14 March 1656.

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<sup>1</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> GD164/225

<sup>3</sup> Statutory record. See also Dundee Courier. 8<sup>th</sup> September 1890, edition.

9. Mary Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 15 May 1666, and *m.* on 11 January 1685, to Sir William Stirling, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet of Alva,<sup>1</sup> (he survived her and *m.* secondly, on 29 April, 1699, to Janet, daughter of John Murray of Touchadam<sup>2</sup>; and *d.* on 20 February 1702).
10. Helen Erskine, *bap.* Edinburgh on 21 July 1671, and *m.* Sir John Haldane of Gleneagles, (*c/m* 27 February 1691.<sup>3</sup> He was widow of Mary, daughter of David Drummond, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Madderty, whom he had *m.* in 1677, and by whom he had issue).
11. Anna Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 31 March 1673.
12. Marion Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 17 September 1678.
13. Katherine Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 30 October 1679, and *m.* on 15 June 1705, to Patrick Campbell, 6<sup>th</sup> of Monzie,<sup>4</sup> (he *d.* on 1 August 1751). She *d.* on 5 October 1757, having had issue.
14. Christian Erskine, *bap.* at Alva on 17 January 1684.

**SIR CHARLES ERSKINE, LORD TINWALD AND 7<sup>TH</sup> ALVA**, *bap.* at Alva on 25 November 1680. He was appointed Solicitor General for Scotland and served as Lord Justice Clerk from 1748-1763. He purchased the lands of Alva from his nephew Sir Henry Erskine in 1754, and *d.* on 5 April 1763. He *m.* firstly, at Edinburgh on 21 December 1712, Grisel, daughter and heiress of John Grierson of Barjarg,<sup>5</sup> and was father of :

1. Charles Erskine, *b.* on 21 October 1716, and *dsp* at London on 25 June 1749.<sup>6</sup>
2. James Erskine, 8<sup>th</sup> of Alva, (*see below*).
3. Christian Erskine, *b.* on 30 December 1715, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 4 February 1733, Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwellton.<sup>7</sup>
4. Jean Erskine, *b.* on 15 April 1726, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 21 December 1746, to William Kirkpatrick of Shaws.<sup>8</sup>
5. Susanna Erskine, *b.* on 20 September 1727, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 26 March 1749, Robert Campbell, 3<sup>rd</sup> of Fonab,<sup>1</sup> (he *d.* on 7 April 1790). They had issue.

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<sup>1</sup> OPR – Alva.

<sup>2</sup> OPR – St. Ninians.

<sup>3</sup> RS52/11/f.89r.

<sup>4</sup> OPR – Alva.

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>6</sup> Scots Magazine, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1749, edition.

<sup>7</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>8</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

He *m.* secondly, at Edinburgh, on Monday 26 August 1753, to Elizabeth, daughter of Harestanes of Craigs,<sup>2</sup> (she was widow of Dr. William Maxwell of Preston, by whom she had issue), and was father of :

6. Charles Catherine Erskine, *m.* at Bath in 1785, to Rev. Aldersley of Aldersley Hall, Cheshire.<sup>3</sup>

**JAMES ERSKINE, 8<sup>TH</sup> OF ALVA AND BARJARG**, *b.* on 20 June 1722, and was served heir to his father in the lands of Alva on 25 August 1763, and to his mother, Grisel Greirson, on 10 March 1773. He was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates on 24 December 1743, and was appointed a Lord of Session as Lord Alva. He *d.* Drumsheugh, near Edinburgh, on 13 May 1796,<sup>4</sup> having *m.* firstly, at Edinburgh on 11 June 1749, Margaret, second daughter of Hugh MacGuire of Drumdon,<sup>5</sup> (she *d.* at Edinburgh on 5 April 1766<sup>6</sup>), by whom he was father of :

1. Charles Erskine, *b.* on 25 June 1751, and *d.* on September 1761.

2. John Erskine, *b.* on 25 December 1758, and was admitted an Advocate. He *m.* on 19 August 1786, Christian, daughter of John Carruthers of Holmains,<sup>7</sup> *d.* Edinburgh 16 January 1792, and was father of :

2a) James Erskine of Aberdona, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 29 August 1787, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 17 March 1810, to Jane, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Tytler,<sup>8</sup> (she *d.* at Melville Street, Portobello, on 10 November 1852<sup>9</sup>). He *d.* at Jersey on 21 February 1849, and was father of :

2b) Isabella Erskine, *m.* at Glasgow on 3 May 1832, to James Erskine Murray, uncle to Lord Elibank,<sup>10</sup> and *d.* at Melville Street, Edinburgh, on 11 March 1875.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>2</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 30<sup>th</sup> August 1753, edition.

<sup>3</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> June 1785, edition.

<sup>4</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> May 1796, edition.

<sup>5</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>6</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> March 1766, edition.

<sup>7</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>8</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>9</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 18<sup>th</sup> November 1852, edition.

<sup>10</sup> Perthshire Courier. 10<sup>th</sup> May 1832, edition.

- 2a) John Erskine, *bap.* at Edinburgh on 14 June 1791.  
2a) Charlotte Erskine, *b.* on 15 May 1789.
3. Jean Erskine, *b.* on 13 July 1756, and *m.* at Drumsheugh on 29 October 1796, to John Carr, merchant in Leeds.<sup>2</sup> She *d.* at St. Ann's, near Leeds, on 20 September 1816.<sup>3</sup>
4. Isabella Erskine, *m.* at Moffat on 15 June 1783, to Captain Patrick Tytler, 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment,<sup>4</sup> *d.* at Carbrook House on 19 September 1826,<sup>5</sup> having had issue.

He *m.* secondly, at Edinburgh on 26 January 1772, Jean, daughter and eventual heiress of John Stirling of Herbertshire, and sister and heir of George Stirling of Herbertshire,<sup>6</sup> (she was widow of Sir James Stirling of Glorat, and *d.* at Drumsheugh on 24 September 1797<sup>7</sup>), by whom he had no issue.

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<sup>1</sup> Statutory record. See also Dundee Courier, 13<sup>th</sup> March 1875, edition.

<sup>2</sup> OPR – Saint Cuthbert's, Edinburgh. See also: Caledonian Mercury, 5<sup>th</sup> November 1796, edition.

<sup>3</sup> Perthshire Courier, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1816, edition.

<sup>4</sup> Scots Magazine, 1<sup>st</sup> July 1783, edition.

<sup>5</sup> Aberdeen Press \* Journal, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1827, edition.

<sup>6</sup> OPR – Edinburgh.

<sup>7</sup> Caledonian Mercury, 28<sup>th</sup> September 1797, edition.