

LOWIS

OF MERCHISTON

NINIAN LOWIS, is the first for whom there is evidence. He was a Merchant in Edinburgh and was admitted Burgess by right of his father-in-law David Hope, on 17 January 1571.¹ He *m.* Elspeth, daughter of David Hope,² *d.* by September of 1608 and was father of :

1. Alexander Lowis, (*see below*).
2. Elspeth Lowis, *m.* at Edinburgh on 10 December 1612, to William Little, Merchant in Edinburgh,³ who in right of his father-in-law Ninian Lowis, Merchant, he was admitted Burgess there on 25 August 1613.⁴

ALEXANDER LOWIS, who, on 23 March 1583, had a gift from the King of the chaplaincy of Alnessin the diocese of Ross, and sheriffdom of Inverness, for his “support at the scoleis” for seven years.⁵ He followed his father as a Merchant and was admitted a Burgess of Edinburgh by right of his deceased father on 14 September 1608.⁶ He *m.* first, at Edinburgh on 29 July 1606, Elizabeth, sister of William Littill, portioner of Over Libberton,⁷ by whom he was father of :

1. Thomas Lowis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 24 April 1611, and *d.* young.

He *m.* secondly, at Edinburgh on 27 April 1615, Margaret Smyth,⁸ (she was buried in the Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 10 January 1669¹), and was father of :

¹ SRS Edinburgh Burgess Roll.

² He is probably identical with the Ninian Lowis, Burgess of Edinburgh, who *m.* by 1583, to Elizabeth Thomson and by whom he had two sons, Ninian and Thomas Lowis.

³ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁴ SRS Edinburgh Burgess Roll.

⁵ RPS Vol. VIII. No. 1232.

⁶ SRS Edinburgh Burgess Roll.

⁷ GD122/2/964 & 982

⁸ OPR – Edinburgh.

2. Ninian Lewis of Merchiston, (*see below*).
3. John Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 3 July 1621.
4. Alexander Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 12 May 1626.
5. Thomas Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 7 March 1628.
6. Margaret Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 8 November 1618.

NINIAN LEWIS, 1ST OF MERCHISTON, *c.* at Edinburgh on 3 March 1616, and is styled as eldest son and heir to Alexander Lewis, Merchant Burgess of Edinburgh, in a charter under the Great Seal confirming to he and his father, the lands of Craighouse, in the sheriffdom of Edinburgh, on 26 December 1642.² He obtained the lands of Merchiston from Ludovic Cant, eldest son of the deceased Mr. John Cant of Morton, for which he had a charter under the Great Seal dated 9 August 1661.³ He *m.* on 3 October 1639, Catherine, daughter of David MacColl, Merchant Burgess of Edinburgh,⁴ was buried in the Greyfriars on 9 July 1665,⁵ and was father of,

1. David Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 14 July 1644, and *dsp* prior to October of 1665, when his younger brother James was served heir to their father.
2. James Lewis, 2nd of Merchiston, (*see below*).
3. Ninian Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 4 August 1661. He was apprenticed to Hugh Brown, Cherurgeon in Edinburgh, on 11 July 1677,⁶ and was admitted Burgess of Edinburgh by right of his father on 21 September 1687.⁷ He was buried in the Greyfriars, Edinburgh, on 13 August 1688.⁸
4. Janet Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 12 July 1640.
5. Margaret Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 18 December 1646, and *m.* at Holyroodhouse on 27 April 1666, to Mr. John Wishart of Balgavie.⁹ They had issue.
6. Elizabeth Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 5 November 1654.

¹ Greyfriars Burial Register.

² RMS 1634-1651. No. 1281.

³ RMS 1661-1668. No. 108.

⁴ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁵ Greyfriars Burial Register.

⁶ SRS Register of Edinburgh Apprentices.

⁷ SRS Edinburgh Burgess Roll.

⁸ Greyfriars Burial Register.

⁹ GD243/13/5/1

7. Catherine Lewis, was buried in the Greyfriars on 26 December 1675.

MR. JAMES LOWIS, 2ND OF MERCHISTON, *c.* at Edinburgh on 13 February 1648, succeeded his father and was retoured his heir in the lands and barony of Merchiston on 18 October 1665.¹ He *m.* Christine, daughter of Walter Cheisley of Dalry, *d.* prior to December of 1721 and was father of :

1. Walter Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 24 February 1672, and *d.* young.
2. Ninian Lewis, *fiar* of Merchiston, *c.* at Edinburgh on 20 July 1676, *m.* at Edinburgh on 16 March 1702, to Bethia, daughter of Archibald Hope, 1st of Rankeilour,² (she survived him and *m.* secondly, on 16 January 1704, to Sir William Nairn, 2nd Baronet of Dunsinane), and *dsp vita patris* prior to 16 January 1704, when his widow remarried.
3. John Lewis, 3rd of Merchiston, (*see below*).
4. James Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 14 September 1681.
5. Robert Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 26 June 1685, and trained as a Medical Doctor which he practised in Edinburgh. He *m.* first, at Edinburgh on 7 September 1710, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Cheisley of Bonnington,³ and secondly, at Edinburgh, on 21 February 1721, Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. William Eccles,⁴ and *dsp* prior to 10 January 1766, when his nephew Ninian Lowes was served his heir general.
6. Catherine Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 1 May 1673.
7. Margaret Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 31 October 1674, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 16 March 1702, to Thomas Hope, Advocate, eldest son and heir to Archibald Hope, 1st of Rankeilour.⁵
8. Christian Lewis, *c.* at Edinburgh on 18 January 1687, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 9 April 1706, to Mr. James Cheap of Rossie,⁶ (he *d.* in April of 1746). They had issue.

JOHN LOWES, 3RD OF MERCHISTON, was served heir general to his father on 9 December 1721, but was compelled through debt to sell his estate which was completed at a public roup held on 5 December 1729 and purchased by the Trustees of George Watson's

¹ Retours. Edinburgh. No. 1133.

² OPR – Edinburgh.

³ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁴ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁵ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁶ OPR – Edinburgh.

Hospital.¹ He *m.* at Edinburgh on 24 December 1706, to Agnes, daughter of Sir James Baird of Saughtonhall,² *d.* in April of 1743³ and was father of,

1. Ninian Lewis, *b.* on 1 October 1713, and was served heir to his uncle Robert Lowes, M.D. on 10 January 1766. He *d.* at Carstairs House on 21 July 1790.⁴
2. Robert Lewis, *b.* on 26 September 1718.
3. Thomas Lewis, *b.* on 4 October 1719.
4. James Lewis, *b.* on 8 August 1726.
5. John Lewis, *b.* on 16 October 1727, and was apprenticed to George Home, Baxter in Edinburgh, on 19 August 1741.⁵
6. Margaret Lewis, *b.* on 19 March 1709, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 15 October 1738, to John Trotter, Merchant in Edinburgh.⁶
7. Elizabeth Lewis, *b.* on 10 July 1711.
8. Jean Lewis, *b.* on 29 July 1717.
9. Bethia Lewis, *b.* on 7 August 1721.
10. Catherine Lewis, *b.* on 1 June 1724, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 4 December 1757, to John Hay, Merchant in Edinburgh.⁷
11. Agnes Lewis, *b.* on 15 July 1725.

¹ GD277/20-23

² OPR – Edinburgh.

³ Scots Magazine, April 1743, edition.

⁴ Scots Magazine. 1st August 1790, edition.

⁵ SRS Register of Edinburgh Apprentices.

⁶ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁷ OPR – Edinburgh.