

NAIRN

OF KIRKHILL AND DUNSINANE

WILLIAM NAIRN, 1ST OF KIRKHILL, acquired the lands of Kirklands of Kirkhill of Meigle from Henry Smith of Camno for which he had Sasine on 3 June 1664. He *m.* Margaret Arnot, *d.* in August of 1684¹ and was father of,

SIR THOMAS NAIRN OF KIRKHILL AND DUNSINANE, succeeded his father on his death and was served heir to him in the lands of Balmacron in the barony of Meigle, on 30 January 1685.² He was infeft in the lands of Kirkhill, as his father's heir, on 8 October 1686, and was created a Baronet on 31 March, 1704, with remainder to the heirs male of his body. He *m.* on 26 April 1679, Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew Murray, 1st of Pitlochrie,³ (*c/m* 25 April, 1679⁴), *d.* in 1721 and prior to 25th May of that year, and was father of,

1. Sir William Nairn of Dunsinane, (*see below*).
2. Andrew Nairn, served as a Captain in the army and *m.* at Gasconhall on 18 March 1706, Jean, daughter of James Leslie, 3rd Lord Lindores,⁵ (she was widow of John Stewart of Innernytie, whom she had *m.* in 1673, and also of John Bruce, 5th of Blairhall, whom she had *m.* in 1681, and by whom she had issue). She raised an action for divorce against him on 12 June 1712.⁶
3. James Nairn,
4. Alexander Nairn, was admitted an Advocate and was appointed Commissary Clerk for Edinburgh. He *m.* firstly, to a woman who *d.* on Friday 20 September 1754, in her 54th year,⁷ and secondly, at Edinburgh on 2 March 1755, to Mary, daughter of George Cockburn,

¹ Brechin Tests

² Retours. Perth. No. 935.

³ OPR – Kinnoul.

⁴ RS52/10/f.405

⁵ OPR – Kilspindie.

⁶ CC8/6/161

⁷ Caledonian Mercury, 23rd September 1754, edition.

Merchant,¹ and *dsp* at Edinburgh on Wednesday 16 March 1768, in his 71st year.² His great-nephew, Sir William Nairne of Dunsinane, was served his heir on 12 January 1764.

5. George Nairn,
6. David Nairn,
7. Thomas Nairn, a natural son.
8. Barbara Nairn,
9. Margaret Nairn, named in her grandfather's Testament in 1686. She *m.* Peter Farquharson of Inverey, (he survived her and *m.* secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of William Black, by whom he had issue), *d.* in 1721, and had no apparent issue.
10. Susan Nairn, all of which children are named in a Provision by their father recorded on 13 September, 1706.

SIR WILLIAM NAIRN, 2ND BARONET OF DUNSINANE, succeeded his father and was served heir to him on 25 May 1721. He *d.* on Wednesday 26 June 1754,³ having *m.* firstly, on 16 January, 1704, Bethia, daughter of Sir Archibald Hope, 1st of Rankeilour,⁴ (she was widow of Ninian Lewis, younger of Merchiston, whom she had *m.* on 16 March 1702, and by whom she had no issue), by whom he had issue :

1. Sir Thomas Nairn, 3rd Baronet of Dunsinane, (*see below*).
2. Elizabeth Nairn, *m.* on 30 April 1737, to Alexander Nairn, younger of Drumkilbo,⁵ (he *d. vita patris* on Tuesday 12 May 1741, aged 31 years⁶), and had issue.

He *m.* secondly at Dundee on 20 March, 1729, Amelia, daughter of David Graham of Fintry,⁷ (she was widow of David Hunter of Burnside, by whom she had issue ; and *d.* at Bridgetown on 14 December 1767⁸), by whom he was father of,

3. Sir William Nairn, 5th Baronet of Dunsinane, (*see below*).

¹ OPR – Edinburgh.

² Caledonian Mercury, 21st March 1763, edition.

³ Caledonian Mercury, 4th July 1754, edition.

⁴ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁵ OPR – Meigle.

⁶ Caledonian Mercury, 18th May 1741, edition.

⁷ OPR – Dundee.

⁸ Scots Magazine, 1st December 1767, edition.

4. Amelia Nairn, *bap.* on 17 September, 1733, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 8 November, 1761, Henry Smith of Smithfield,¹ (he *dsp* at Ashford, near London, on 3 October 1777²). She *dsp* at London on Monday 4 April 1763.³
5. Peggy Nairn, who *d.* of a fever on Sunday 2 April 1758.⁴

SIR THOMAS NAIRN, 3RD BARONET OF DUNSINANE, *b.* on 13 May, 1708, and was a consenting party with his father to the disposing of their lands of Kirkhill to Sir George MacKenzie on 4 December 1752. He succeeded his father on his death in 1754, and was served heir to him on 20 October 1756. He *m.* Rebecca, daughter of John Balneaves of Carnbaddy, (she *d.* at Perth on Tuesday 17 September 1782, in her 82nd year⁵), *d.* at Dunsinane on 14 December 1760,⁶ and was father of,

1. **SIR WILLIAM NAIRN, 4TH BARONET OF DUNSINANE**, succeeded on his father's death in 1760, and was served heir to his grandfather, Sir William Nairne of Dunsinane, on 7 February 1766. He *m.* at Dunninald on 17 November, 1760, to Alexandrina, fifth daughter of Robert Scott of Dunninald,⁷ and *dsp* at Fala Hill on 12 January 1790.⁸
2. Charles Nairn, entered the service of the East India Company and *dsp* in India on 13 January, 1771.⁹
3. Ann Nairn, *m.* on 1 December, 1761, Walter Barclay of Pittachop,¹⁰ and had issue,
 - 3a) Andrew Barclay of Pittachop, succeeded his father to whom he was served heir on 16 August 1783. He *dsp* and was succeeded by his brother, William.
 - 3a) William Barclay of Pittachop, served as a Captain in the 90th Regiment and succeeded on the death of his brother, Andrew. He was retoured heir to his father on 4 October 1797, and *dsp* at Newhall, near Aberdeen, on 17 March 1802.¹¹

¹ OPR – Dundee.

² Scots Magazine. 1st October 1777, edition.

³ Caledonian Mercury. 9th April 1763, edition.

⁴ Caledonian Mercury, 4th April 1758, edition.

⁵ Caledonian Mercury, 23rd September 1782, edition.

⁶ Scots Magazine. 1st December 1760, edition.

⁷ OPR – Craig by Montrose. See also: Scots Magazine, 1st November 1769, edition.

⁸ Scots Magazine, 1st January 1790, edition.

⁹ Caledonian Mercury, 23rd November 1771, edition.

¹⁰ OPR – Canongate, Edinburgh. See also: Caledonian Mercury, 2nd December 1761, edition.

¹¹ Scots Magazine, 1st March 1802, edition.

- 3a) Elizabeth Barclay, *d.* unmarried at Perth on 18 January 1828.¹
- 3a) Janet Barclay, *m.* at Aberdeen on 24 September, 1789, to James Mellis of Newhall,² and had issue,
- 3b) **JAMES MELLIS NAIRN OF DUNSINANE**, (*see below*).
- 3b) **JOHN MELLIS NAIRN OF DUNSINANE**, (*see below*).
- 3b) Marjory Barclay, *m.* on 19 April 1802, Charles Clark, Writer in Coupar Angus.
4. Bethia Nairn, *m.* George Spalding of Glenkilry, and had issue.
5. Katherine Nairn, *m.* on 30 January 1765, Thomas Ogilvy of Eastmiln. She was tried at the High Court of Justiciary in August of 1765, for suspected incest with her brother-in-law Lieutenant Patrick Ogilvy and for murdering her husband who had died under suspicious circumstances very shortly after their marriage but was acquitted through, it is said, the legal skills of her uncle Sir William Nairn.

SIR WILLIAM NAIRN, 5TH BARONET OF DUNSINANE, *bap.* on 21 May, 1731, and succeeded as heir-male to his nephew, Sir William Nairn, 4th Baronet of Dunsinane, in the Baronetcy and the lands of Dunsinane on his death in January of 1790. He was admitted an Advocate and is said to have been instrumental in the acquittal of his niece Katherine Nairn, for the murder of her husband, Thomas Ogilvy, in 1765. He succeeded Robert Bruce of Kennet as an Ordinary Lord of Session with the title of Lord Dunsinane and took his seat on 9 March, 1786, was created a Lord of Justiciary on 24 December 1792, and resigned his seat there in 1808, and also his seat in the Court of Session in 1809. He *d.* unmarried at Dunsinane House on Saturday 23 March, 1811,³ when Baronetcy became dormant and the Dunsinane estate passed via the heir-female to his great-nephew :

JAMES MELLIS NAIRN OF DUNSINANE, was retoured his heir to his great-uncle, Sir William Nairn, in the lands of Dunsinane on 14 June 1811, and assumed the surname and arms of Nairn of Dunsinane. He *m.* on 4 August 1816, Jane, daughter and heiress of John Drummond of Gairdrum, (she *d.* at Bandirran House on 6 December 1865⁴), *d.* at

¹ Caledonian Mercury, 26th January 1828, edition.

² Scots Magazine, 1st November 1789, edition.

³ Caledonian Mercury, 30th March 1811, edition.

⁴ Statutory record. See also Caledonian Mercury. 9th December 1865, edition.

Bandirran House on 25 February 1848,¹ and was succeeded in the lands of Dunsinane by his brother John Mellis Nairn, as heir-male. He was father of :

1. William Nairne, *b.* on 25 July 1817, and *d.* at Bandirran on 29 June 1824.
2. **JANE DRUMMOND NAIRNE, 11TH OF GAIRDUM**, *m.* firstly, at Bandirran House, on 8 October 1840, to Mortimer Percy Drummond, from whom she was divorced in June of 1857,² and secondly, to Thomas Charles Waddy who assumed the surname of Drummond, (he *d.* on 15 January 1870³). She was served heir to her mother in the lands of Gairdrum on 23 February, 1866, and sold the Bandirran estate to Colonel MacDonald in 1871.
3. Jessie Drummond Nairne, *m.* at Edinburgh on 19 June 1840, George Barrett Lennard of Belhouse,⁴ and had issue.
4. Elizabeth Drummond Nairne, *b.* on 25 July 1822, and, with her sister Ann, were nominated as heirs to their maternal aunts Elizabeth and Ann Drummond of Gairdrum. She *m.* on 14 December 1845, to Henry Thomas Smyth Coward Pigott, second son of John Hugh Smyth-Pigott of Brockley Hall,⁵ (he *d.* in 1858), and had issue.
5. Jemima Drummond Nairne, *b.* on 3 November 1825, and *m.* at Edinburgh on 1 March 1849, Lieutenant Fitzroy Molyneux Somerset,⁶ (he was *b.* on 29 December 1823, and *m.* secondly on 5 September 1882, Emily, daughter of Revd. George Biederman. He *d.* on 22 February 1901). She *d.* on 19 June 1874, and had issue.
6. Ann Drummond Nairne, *b.* on 19 January 1828, and apparently *dsp.*

JOHN NAIRN MELLIS OF DUNSINANE, succeeded his brother, James Mellis Drummond Nairne, in the lands of Dunsinane on his death without male issue in 1848. He *m.* at Portobello on 8 August 1848, to Janet Isabella, second daughter of Jonathan Fetherstone of Newbus Grange,⁷ (she *d.* at Rutland Square, Edinburgh, on 23 October 1895⁸), *d.* at Edinburgh on 2 October 1866⁹ and was father of,

¹ John O' Groat Journal. 24th March 1848, edition.

² Glasgow Herald, 30th July 1868, edition.

³ Statutory record.

⁴ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁵ OPR – Kettins.

⁶ OPR – Edinburgh.

⁷ Aberdeen Journal. 16th August 1848, edition.

⁸ Statutory record. See also Dundee Evening Telegraph. 25th March 1895, edition.

⁹ Statutory record. See also Greenock Advertiser. 4th October 1866, edition.

1. **WILLIAM NAIRN OF DUNSINANE**, *b.* on 14 June 1852, and succeeded his father. He gave half of his estate to his brother Thomas Graham Nairn, and sold the remainder, and was living abroad in 1912 when he was removed as a Deputy Lieutenant for the Shire of Perth “owing to permanent absence from the country.” He *dsp* at Hampton, Virginia, USA, on 2 November 1930.¹
2. Thomas Graham Nairn, *b.* on 23 December 1853, and to whom his elder brother William Nairn gave half of the estate of Dunsinane. He afterwards settled at Woodmount, Hythe, near Southampton. He *m.* at Edinburgh in October of 1879, to Emma Maud Dalrymple, daughter of William Gordon, Funchal, Maderia,² *d.* at Woodmount Hythe on 5 December 1919,³ and was father of :
 - 2a) John Munro Nairn, *b.* 1880.
 - 2a) Robert Graham Nairn,
 - 2a) William Graham Nairn, *b.* in 1886, and served as Second Lieutenant in the Lancashire Fusiliers. He was *ksp* during WWI. on 11 July 1915.
 - 2a) Ethel Nairn,
3. Jeanette Margaret Nairn, *b.* on 17 June 1849, and *m.* Colonel John MacGregor Kerr.
4. Ida Mellis Nairn, *b.* on 15 June 1857, and *m.* at St. George’s, Hanover Square, on 12 September 1883, to Charles Malet Barrow, second son of Charles Barrow of Southwell.⁴
5. Florence Barclay Nairn, *b.* on 26 January 1859.

¹ The Scotsman, 22nd November 1930, edition.

² Statutory record. See also Dundee Courier. 31st October 1879, edition.

³ Dundee Evening Telegraph. 10th December 1919, edition.

⁴ Derbyshire Times. 22nd September 1883.