

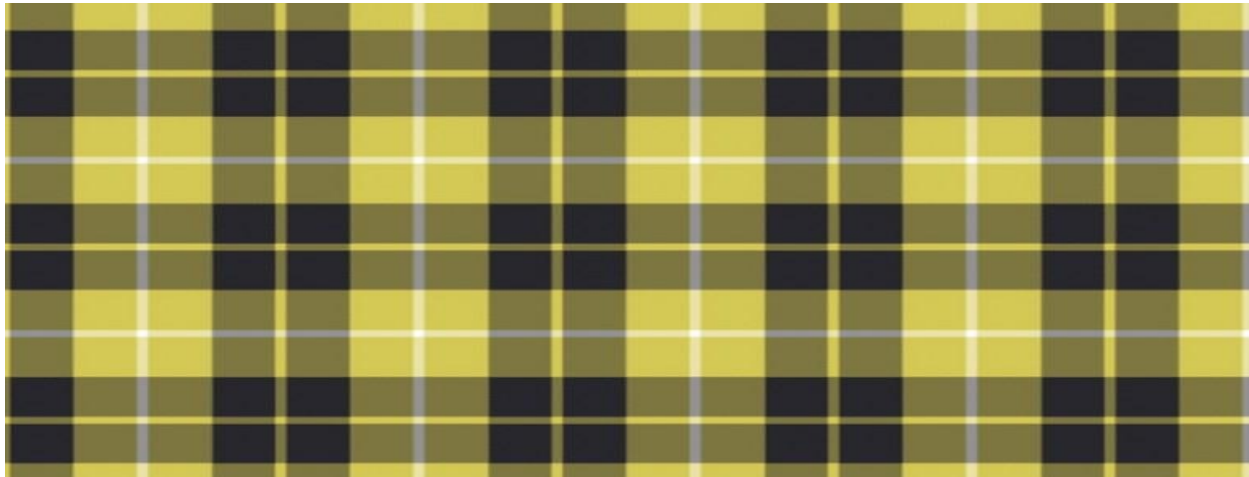


Clan Barclay International Newsletter
Aut Agere Aut Mori

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Barclay Broadside

August 2022



Message from the the Maor

Maor/mu:r/- clan factor (doer/maker), supervisor, officer
By Leah Parker, MAEd

Reminder: Karen Ellington is preparing to sell Towie Barclay Castle after 50 wonderful years of bringing up their family and welcoming Barclays from around the world. It is her hope that someone from Clan Barclay will have interest in the castle and might make it a “Centre for the Barclays.” The Barclay room in the castle displays a collection of Barclay portraits dating from the 18th century, a letter from King James VI, a family tree, and other Barclay treasures. The Garden Cottage has been let in the summertime for 30 years, and there is potential for letting more spaces with some investment. Towie Barclay Castle, the well-tended gardens, and the Garden Cottage and other buildings are located on three acres just outside of Turriff, Scotland. I received the following message from Karen: "I am still considering all Barclay options for 2-3 more weeks before engaging with an Agency to carry out the Marketing @ offers over £1,075,000. The price for Barclays of offers over £900,000 excluding contents still stands. I would be interested to hear from any Barclay enquiring about the Sale of the Castle." Karen has asked that if you have a serious interest, you should please contact me at leah@clanbarclayinternational.org. I will be traveling over the next few weeks, but I will check email and handle any inquiries as quickly as I can. Please be patient if you don't hear back from me within a few hours, but please don't hesitate to email me again if you don't hear back from me within about 24 hours.



Greetings Clan Barclay! We have some dates you may want to put on your calendar:

- From Anne McDonald of the Captain Barclay Allardice Society: “I am pleased to advise that the arrangements are in hand for our 2022 Captain Barclay Allardice Society Lunch, which will be held on Sunday 4th September 2022 at 1 pm at the Tor na Coille Hotel, Banchory, (Royal Deeside) Aberdeenshire. The cost will be £35 per person. Our guest speaker this year is Dr Keith Stewart, the former vice chairman of the Stonehaven Heritage Society, who will give us an illustrated talk on the connection between the Barclay Family and Stonehaven as reflected in the street names of Stonehaven.” Please email Anne at a.mcdonald0775@googlemail.com if you plan to attend so that she can reserve a spot for you. Anne informed me that you can pay the hotel directly by credit card or mail her a cheque a few weeks before the lunch.
- Bill Barclay and the Towie Pipe Band have been at the games this summer, and you still have the opportunity to catch them one last time on 27 August at Lonach. Enjoy!

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Clan Barclay,

I am traveling until the end of September—some for work, some for pleasure. With this busy travel schedule, I do not have the opportunity to write a fresh article this month. However, I hope you will stay tuned to Clan Barclay social media toward the end of August and into September. I will be visiting people and places important to Clan Barclay throughout England and Scotland and will share photos and information. I will write more about my travels in upcoming issues of the Barclay Broadside. For this edition, please enjoy the article by Tim Barclay, our clan *filidh*, regarding the Barclay-Berkeley Connection. Humphrey Barclay and I have a visit planned for Berkeley Castle in late August, and Tim shares some insight about our shared history.

Until later...

Yours aye!

Leah

Filidh's Feature

Filidh /fɪlɪ/- clan genealogist, historian, storyteller, poet
By Tim Barclay

The Barclay-Berkeley Connection

The following has been produced in relation to enquiry by Humphrey Barclay, Chief of the House of Barclay of Mathers and Urie. He and Clan Maer Leah Parker are looking forward to an upcoming visit to Berkeley Castle in Gloucestershire, held by the fitz Harding Berkeleys since the mid-twelfth century. I trust it will also be of interest to the members of Clan Barclay International.

The connection of the Barclays of Scotland to the fitz Harding Berkeleys is rather more complicated than what is given in the traditional account(s) that have existed since in one form or another since the 1700s and involves corrections to many details in both the fitz Harding and Barclay families.

Firstly, it must be appreciated that much of the traditional family histories have been built upon what are now known to be outright forgeries and wild misinterpretations of related matters. It is, however, certain that Robert fitz Harding was granted much of the royal demesne of Berkeley by King Henry II in the late 1150s and Robert's son and heir, Maurice fitz Harding, later married Alice de Berkeley, daughter of Roger III de Berkely, at some point around 1160 (probably in the early 1160s). The documents that apparently record this union are, though, fabrications produced in the mid-13th century in order to support the claims then being made by the lords of Berkeley to superiority over all of Berkeley. This is entirely at odds with the more robust records of the Exchequer and other administrative branches of government that clearly show the descendants of Roger III de Berkeley still held substantial lands in Berkeley directly from the king for well-over one hundred years after the supposed grant of "all of Berkeley" to Robert fitz Harding in the late 1150s. Indeed, it is the fact the existing charters record a grant to Robert fitz Harding of all of Berkeley, rather than just a portion of the manor (albeit a substantial portion), that belies the fraudulent nature of these documents.

We may next turn our attention to the story of the supposed arrival of John de Berkeley in Scotland with Queen Margaret in c.1069. The origins of this story almost certainly date to the 1700s when the Hanoverian royal family occupied the British throne, and many noble aristocratic families were searching for - and inventing - Saxon German origins for themselves. In a way this is understandable - the royal family was German, no one yet appreciated the lasting impact of the Norman conquest (or even understood

what Norman mottes were) and there was a wide-spread desire in the aristocracy to be amongst the most ancient of British families. For many northern families this was a case of seeking an origin whereby they could claim to be "more Scottish than the Scots." The Barclays were no more immune to this trend than was anyone else and it was believed - or at least widely held - that we too were Saxon and our origins at Berkeley in Gloucestershire pre-dated the Norman conquest. What could be natural then but for such an ancient Anglo-Saxon lineage to have provided a son to accompany the remnants of the English royal family as they fled the Normans?

By the mid-1800s academics were scoffing at such tales, and rightly so. For even by this time, it was quite apparent most of the families claiming such origins were themselves Norman and not Saxon at all. In the case of the supposed arrival of the Barclays of Scotland (who are clearly Norman) there is simply no reason - no possibility - any Norman would be found in the company of Anglo-Saxon refugees fleeing England for safer shores. The surname "Berkeley" was most probably not even used until around 1080 and the "John de Berkeley" who supposedly accompanied Queen Margaret north in c.1069 is simply a fairy tale, a fabrication or a myth. In short, John could not, and did not, exist.

By the middle of the 20th century the mythological nature of the Saxon origin for many families was well-understood, and in light of this other suggestions appeared. Perhaps, some suggested, it was not in the train of Queen Margaret but of Queen Maud (wife of David I) that the Barclays first came to Scotland. Certainly, the brothers Robert and Walter de Berkeley were active in the reigns of Kings Malcolm and William, so their arrival had to predate 1164. By the 1970s the late Professor G.W.S. Barrow suggested the Barclays were not descended from the Berkeleys of Gloucestershire at all, but instead hailed from Berkley in Somerset and had arrived as part of many families of west-Sussex origin who migrated north during the English Civil War (a suggestion that still appears in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography). However, while Professor Barrow's timing is correct, Berkley was far too insignificant a holding to produce such esteemed figures as Robert and Walter. Moreover, the family who held Berkley in 1086 continued to do so for many years and have been long-identified as the de Gatemore family, a fact that seems to have simply escaped the attention of Professor Barrow. We do know, however, that Robert and Walter were predated by Richard de Berkeley of Ardrossan and were soon followed in the records by Humphrey son of Theobald, otherwise Humphrey de Berkeley, and his wife Agatha. Again, it is to Professor Barrow we owe a debt of gratitude, for when re-examining the source material for his *Regesta Regnum Scottorum* of King

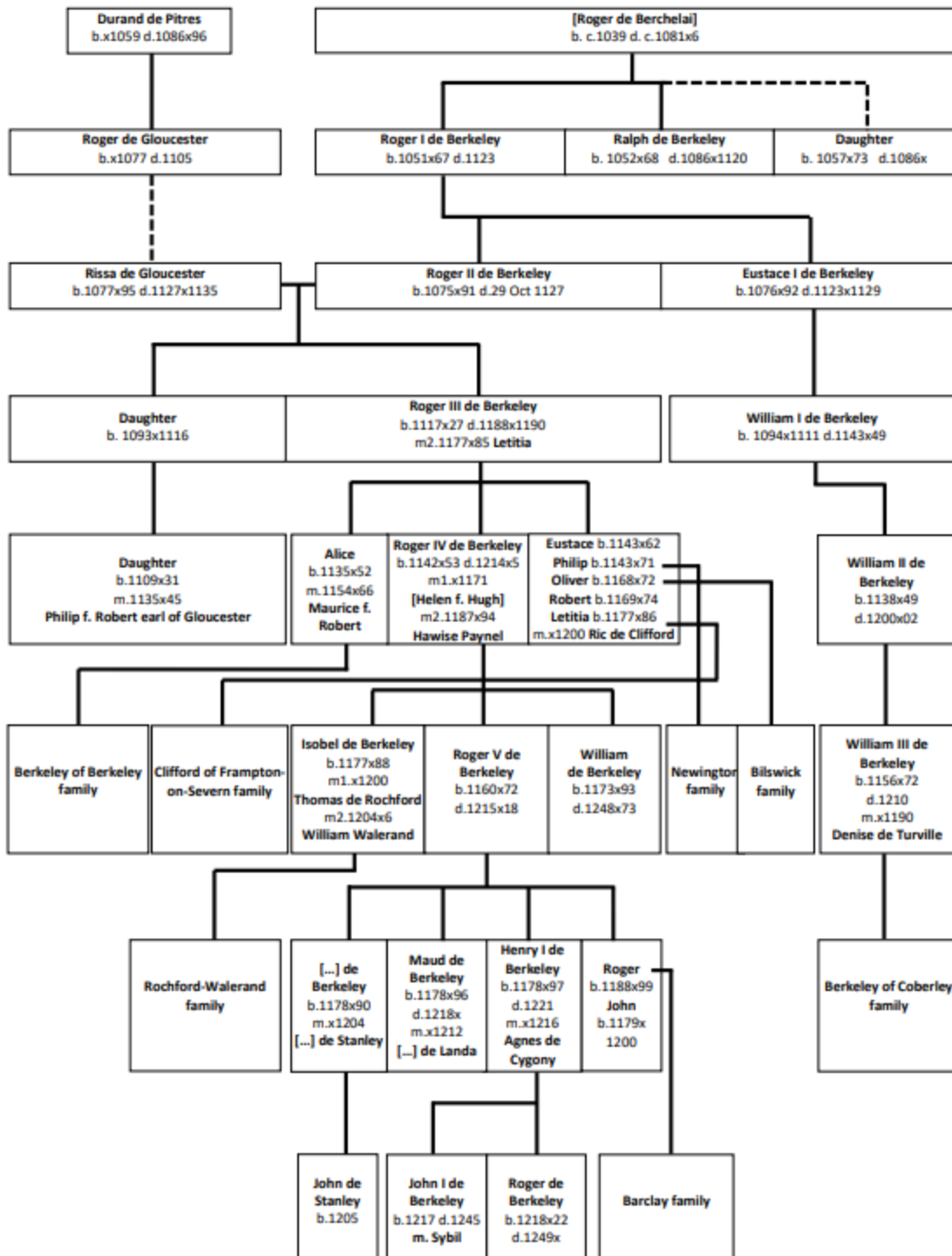
William I, Barrow found it was Agatha herself that was surnamed "de Berkeley" and her husband was instead "Humphrey son of Theobald de Addeville." The de Addeville family originated in the Cotentin in Normandy and Humphrey adopted his wife's surname in Scotland. Although Professor Barrow mistook Agatha for the daughter of Walter de Berkeley, she was the heiress of Aboyne in Aberdeenshire, and it is now quite clear she was the half-sister of Robert and Walter de Berkeley and daughter of Richard de Berkeley of Ardrossan by his second marriage. In addition, while it was long held that Humphrey and Agatha were first succeeded by their daughter Richenda de Berkeley and her husband Robert fitz Warnebald, who had no surviving issue, and then by Humphrey's brother, John de Addeville and his son, Robert "de Berkeley", John's lineage became extinct soon after 1220. Instead, when Richenda and Robert's gifts to Arbroath Abbey were required to be confirmed by their nearest of kin in the late 1280s, it was a certain Hugh "Eme" - probably the grand-nephew of Richenda ("Eme" meaning "uncle") - who did so, and for his confirmation received from the abbey lands in Letham Grange in Angus.

We may finally turn now to the arrival of the Barclays of Scotland from whom the chief lineages in Scotland descend. Roger V de Berkeley, grandson of Roger III and nephew of the Alice de Berkeley who married Maurice fitz Harding around 1160, died between 1215 and 1218 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry de Berkeley. Henry was the first eldest son in the family not to bear the name Roger since well-before the time of the Domesday Book but is known to have also had several brothers and sisters, including Maud de Landa (nee Berkeley). Around the time of her father's death Maud granted the monks of Kingswood Abbey a lease over her lands at Dursley and Newington for a rent of two marks a year but later granted the land to them in alms in return for a payment of 20 marks. By this time the fitz Harding de Berkeleys had acquired, through a series of tenancies and sub-infestments, control (though not outright possession) of many of the lands retained by Roger III and were even attempting to obtain recognition by the monks of Kingswood - founded by Roger II, William and Roger III de Berkeley - as founders of that abbey. Thomas fitz Harding de Berkeley and his son Maurice provided the monks with the finance needed to purchase Maud's lands, were infest in these by the monks, and they then arranged for their own tenants to occupy the same. This is just one example of many demonstrating how the fitz Hardings were gradually acquiring control of all of Berkeley. However, there was a problem, for while Maud was within her rights to have made this grant for the term of her life, for the same to continue in perpetuum, confirmation was required from her heirs. Maud had no children of her own and it is apparent her heir was not her eldest brother Henry (now long-dead) or his own son, John de Berkeley (from whom the Dursley Berkeleys, continuing

well into the 1300s, descended), but the Roger de Berkeley who first appears in Scotland around 1220 and married Margaret de Crawford of Crawfordjohn in Lanarkshire. As such, in the 1250s Maurice fitz Harding de Berkeley, having now succeeded his father, Thomas, granted Roger and his heirs two marks rent from Maurice's lands in Cam in Berkeley, thereby acquiring Roger's confirmation. Quite obviously, this Roger (Roger VI, if you will) was the brother of Maud and Henry de Berkeley.

Roger de Berkeley of Cam and Margaret de Crawford had at least three sons, Hugh de Berkeley, later Justiciar of Lothian, Donald, and Walter de Berkeley. Donald certainly, and Walter very probably, died in their father's lifetime, leaving Hugh to succeed to all his parents' lands, and the rent at Cam was later acquired by Hugh's second son, David, probably before Hugh's death in 1296. David would eventually succeed to the bulk of his grandfather Roger VI's lands, but his grandmother's more substantial estate went to his elder brother, Patrick de Berkeley, who died during the English invasion of Scotland in 1296, and these then passed to Patrick's heirs. The third brother, Walter de Berkeley, had to be content with a portion of Hugh's own acquisitions in at Tillymaud and Moneycabbock in Aberdeenshire, but in the late 1310s a dispute over this arose between Walter and Patrick's son, John de Berkeley, by which the lands were resigned to Robert the Bruce and new infestments were found to compensate each party. The rent at Cam meanwhile passed from David I de Berkeley to his daughter and son-in-law, John II de Soules, but was forfeited to the English king following the Battle of Bannockburn and later regranted, at the petition of Lord fitz Harding de Berkeley, to one of his vassals.

Figure 1: The Earlier House of Berkeley - Descendants Chart





Clan Barclay International

Be in touch: leah@clanbarclayinternational.org

Visit our website: www.clanbarclayinternational.org

Explore the Barclay Surname Project at FTDNA:

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