

Cameron and MacMillan ancestry

By Don Gordon, April 2024
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Summary

How does our family tree connect with the old clan lines?

We have already explored the MacLEAN¹ and McPHEE² clans, but not yet the MacLEODs. Now, here we look for how any of our specific relatives might link to CAMERON and MacMILLAN clans.

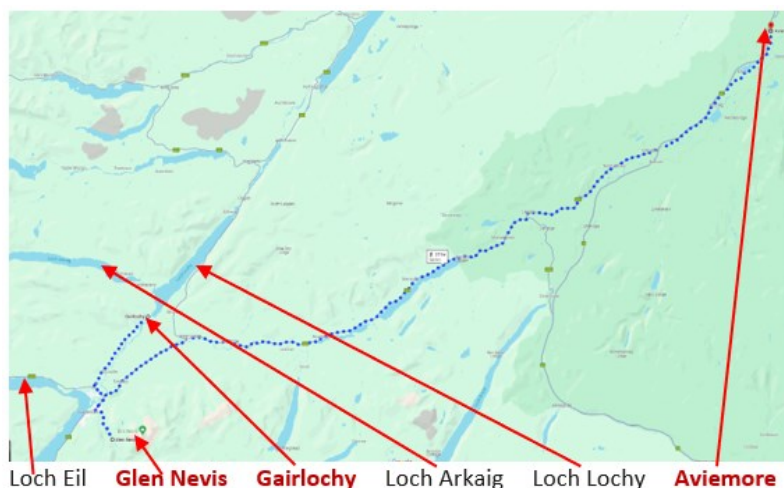
So far, we have chronicled the Cameron Chiefs³ but this not have any of our named kin. And unfortunately, in these current notes, we have not been able to find Cameron clan connections for our families back before the mid 1700s. The good news is that there is more on the MacMillans of Glen Nevis.

Details supporting these notes are Sources A to K commencing on page 5.

Here we explore just one paragraph from John MacLeod's memoirs⁴ – see source A. The paragraph points to the interconnections between groupings of families of Cameron (and MacMillan) in three general areas:-

1. Loch Lochy (Gairlochy, Dochanassie & Auchindaul): John MacLeod's grandfather's mother had connections with Gairlochy and Dochanassie. We have not been able confirm a specific individual by name.
2. Upper Strathspey (Aviemore & Rochemurchus): John's great-grandfather, Donald Cameron, the miller of Achnacarry, was the son of the miller of Aviemore. We do not have the first name of this Cameron miller at Aviemore but John MacLeod stated that he was 'of the Camerons of Upper Strathspey'. These Camerons might were been connected with the Grants of Rochemurchus. We have not been able to make a connection in our family tree.
3. Glen Nevis: John's great-great-grandparents, Ewen MacMillan and Christina Cameron were buried at Tom eas an t-slinnein' at Glen Nevis. This has been confirmed by the inscription on their gravestone. Ewen's ancestry, going back many generations of the MacMillan clan, has been recorded by Somarlard MacMillan.

It was a 19 km walk between Garlochy and Glen Nevis. It was a 100 km walk between Glen Nevis and Aviemore. And it was a 90 km walk from Aviemore to Gairlochy.



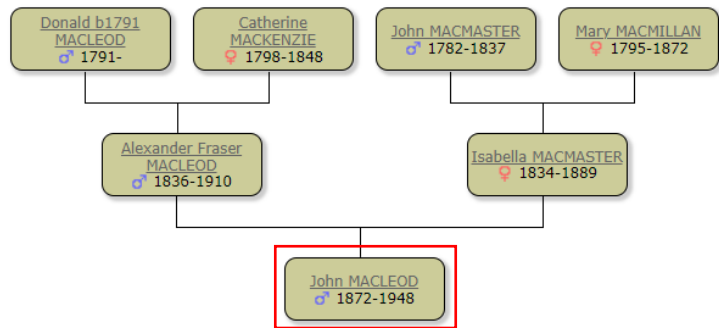
1 MacLean chiefs and lairds: F20 & F25, F30, F35, F40 & F41

2 McPhee: D55

3 Cameron chiefs: L007

4 D56: John MacLeod, 'A boyhood in An Gearasdan [Fort William]: Notes by the Late Principal John Macleod', presented by JFM 'Jeff' Macleod in 'Transactions of Gaelic Society of Inverness', p224 to 272, vol 57, pub 1993

This chart shows John MacLeod's parents and grandparents. Other charts will show more of his father's line and mother's line.



Alexander Cameron might have been some kind of connection with all these three areas even though he is not mentioned in the memoirs. His father was a Cameron of Glen Nevis but Alexander became wadsetter at Auchindaul (Loch Lochy). He married Grace, who was a daughter of Patrick 'Macalpine' Grant. The Grants were in Rothiemurchus but, strangely John MacLeod indicated that they were buried far away at Glen Nevis - we have not been able to confirm this.

[Research: Get more details from 'The Macintosh Genealogies' by S Fraser Macintosh.]

1. Gairloch, Dochanassie & Auchindaul

Quotation:-

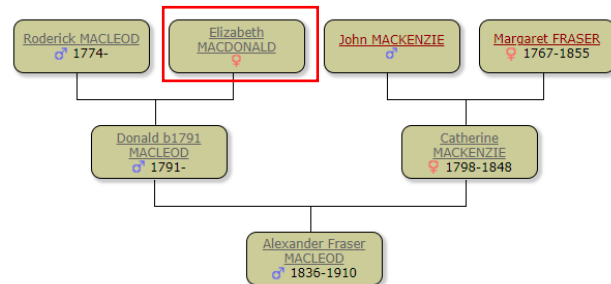
- "Those who buried at Gairloch were the Camerons of Dochanassie. They were spoken of as Na Dochaidh. I think my grandfather's mother was of the Dochaidh" (page 267).

Places:-

- Gairloch is at the southern end of Loch Lochy.
- Dochanassie is a few kilometers from Gairloch – near Spean Bridge.
- Auchindaul is close to Dochanassie. It is a farm which lies halfway between Fort William and Spean Bridge - and just north of the main road.
- Kilmallie is the name of a huge parish with the kirk at Corpach - but there is no specific locality or village called Kilmallie. The only major town within the whole parish is Fort William, previously Maryborough – the rest are mainly farms belonging to a handful of large estates (notably Ardgour and Lochiel in Lochaber).
- Dochaidh is not a location. Rather, it was the name given to some Camerons of that area. A Dochaidh or dochy is a Gaelic word for an oaken stick used as weapon that is associated with Dochanassie (see source B).

People - 'My grandfather's mother'

- John MacLeod did not name his grandfather's mother' so who did he have in mind?
- Of course everyone has two grandfathers – through their father and through their mother:-
- Father's line: Elizabeth MacDonald is John's paternal grandfather's mother:

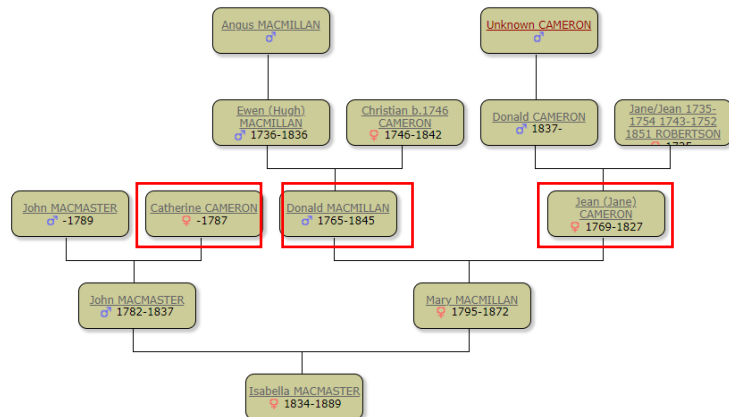


- We have found nothing to specifically link Elizabeth with Gairloch.
- At this stage, we do not know who her parents were, or where they lived, or where Elizabeth was born. All we know is that she married Roderick MacLeod of Balvaird and gave birth in Glen Shiel to her son, Donald MacLeod who is John's paternal grandfather.
- Balvaird is far away as a 170 kilometre walk northwest to Gairloch. Glen Shiel is a 75 kilometre walk southeast to Gairloch.
- A clue might be in McDonald surname as John MacLeod pointed out that "the old Camerons of this Glen [Glen Nevis] were Clann or Sliochd Shomhairle - they have been said to have been not Camerons but MacDonalds. I never, however, came across any of them that looked on themselves as anything else but Camerons."⁵

- It is relevant to note that John’s memoirs have nothing of his father’s kinship – the memoirs focus on his maternal line so it is more likely that he had in mind his maternal grandfather’s mother, Catherine Cameron.
- Conclusion: Thus it appears that Elizabeth was not ‘of the Dochaidh’ = **DISCOUNTED**.
- Mother’s line: Catherine Cameron is John’s maternal grandfather’s mother.
 - At this stage we do not know who her parents were , or where they lived, or where Catherine was born. All we know is that she married John MacMaster at an unknown place and gave birth in Corriebeg to their son, John MacMaster who is John’s maternal grandfather.
 - Corriebeg is on the north shores of Loch Eil, and a 25 kilometre walk northeast to Gairloch.
 - Conclusion: We can conclude that it is possible that Catherine’s forbears might have had some connections with Gairloch, we just don’t know = **MAYBE**
- Others in mother’s line:

Although John mentioned his grandfather’s mother, in fact he might have had in mind his grandmother’s parents - Donald MacMillan and Jean Cameron.

 - Donald MacMillan’s parents, Ewen MacMillan and Christian Cameron, were buried at ‘Tom eas an t-slinnein’ at Glen Nevis⁶ (page 226). Glen Nevis is a 19 kilometre walk north to Gairloch = **MAYBE**
 - Jean Cameron’s father was Donald Cameron of Achnacarry. “My grandmother’s grandfather, Donald Cameron, the miller of Achnacarry was of these Strathspey Camerons, his father being the miller at Aviemore” (page 267). So Jean’s paternal grandfather was the miller Aviemore which is a 90 kilometre walk southwest to Gairloch = **MAYBE**.
- Conclusion:
 - Unfortunately, we are not able to be certain who John had in mind, nor what were their connections with Gairloch and Dochanassie



2. Glen Nevis

Quotation

- “The old Camerons of this Glen [Glen Nevis] were Clann or Sliochd Shomhairle.In Lochaber, this sept of the Camerons were often spoken of as Na Tomaidh from the fact that they buried in Tom eas an t-slinnein” (page 267).
- There was a grave yard above the level fields of Glennevis farm called ‘Tom eas an t-slinnein’. “In this burial ground I came to know that my mother’s great-grandparents⁷ are buried – Ewen (Hugh) MacMillan and his wife Christina Cameron. He was 101 when he died. His wife, whom my mother might remember died in 1842 at the age of 96. She may have been even older – for my great grandfather, her son Donald died in 1845 was over 80 at his death”⁸ (page 226).

Places

- The Glen Nevis farm is on the south side Ben Nevis, near Fort William.
- The Tom eas an t-slinnein burial grounds is on the Glen Nevis farm – see source E below.
- Sliochd Shomhairle is not a location - it is Gaelic for the MacSorlie clan that the Camerons served in Glen Nevis – see source D, below.
- Tomaidh is not a location – it is Gaelic indicating the Cameron clan burials in Glen Nevis.

6 Page 226 ibid

7 In his memoirs, John MacLeod referred to Ewen MacMillan and Christina Cameron as “my grandmother’s great grandparents” but he probably should have described them just as his grandmother’s grandparents (not great) – that is, it was four previous generations rather than five, because John went on to describe Christina’s son, Donald as “my great grandfather”.

8 Page 226 ibid

People

- Ewen MacMillan and Christina Cameron were buried at Tom eas an t-slinnein.
- Donald MacMillan (the husband of Donald Cameron's daughter, Jean Cameron) was buried at the Kilmallie kirk at Corpach. Although he was buried at Corpach, he is linked to Glen Nevis because his parents were buried there.

Conclusions

- McMillan clan: Donald and Ewen MacMillan's ancestry has been described by Somerlad MacMillan's 'Bygone Lochaber' and is inputted in the profiles on our website – see sources F & G.
- Cameron clan: We have not found any specific lineage relating to our Donald Cameron for that Christina Camernon.

3. Upper Strathspey - Aviemore and Roehiemurchus

Quotation:-

- "... these Camerons that the many of that name who found in Upper Strathspey are. They are the children of the Mugaich as they are nicknamed by their new neighbours when they went to Roehiemurchus about three hundred years ago [ie mid 1600s because John MacLeod was writing in 1936] as the tail or bodyguard of the daughter of Glennivis who married Grant of Roehiemurchus. My grandmother's grandfather, Donald Cameron, the miller of Achnacarry was of these Strathspey Camerons, his father being the miller at Aviemore" (p267).

Places:-

- Upper Strathspey: The River Spey starts near Spean Bridge and flows north east to Moray Firth. "The term Strathspey usually refers to the upper part of the strath from the source of the Spey down to the capital Grantown-on-Spey. The Spey River is 172 long. It rises at over 300 metres at Loch Spey in Corrieyairack Forest 16 kilometres south of Fort Augustus. Some miles downstream from its source it is impounded by Spey Dam before continuing a descent through Newtonmore and Kingussie, crossing Loch Insh before reaching Aviemore, giving its name to Strathspey. From there it flows the remaining 97 kilometres north-east to the Moray Firth, reaching the sea 8 kms) west of Buckie" (ref: Wikipedia).
- Aviemore is 25 kms north west of Newtonmore and 104 kms northeast of Glen Nevis.
- Roehiemurchus: This is close to Aviemore.
- Mugaich is the name of a sept rather than a location. It is not known what Mugaich means in this context. It does not help to notice that there is a Loch na Feithe Mugaich or Mugaig in Achnaheen (a 170 kilometre walk southeast to Gairloch).

People – 'My grandfather's grandfather'

- Donald Cameron:
 - John MacLeod named his grandfather's grandfather as Donald Cameron the miller of Achnacarry, whose father was the miller of Aviemore = **CONFIRMED**.
- Grace Cameron, nee Grant
 - See sources J & K (Electric Scotland and Chris Doak⁹, quoting S Fraser MacIntosh¹⁰)
 - Parents: Grace's father was Patrick Grant of Roehiemurchus and her mother was either of Patrick's wives, Mary or Rachel.
 - Grace was wife of Alexander Cameron of Auchindaul
 - Alexander a son of Cameron of Glen Nevis
 - Alexander was the wadsetter of Auchindaul near Dochanassie
 - Grace and Alexander had a son who died in 1815.
 - As their son died in 1815, Grace and Alexander might have been born in first half of the 1700s.
 - Could this Alexander be

Conclusion:

- We have not been able to identify the parents and forebears of the Cameron miller of Aviemore.

⁹ See Source xxxx

¹⁰ 'The MacIntosh Genealogies' by S Fraser MacIntosh

SOURCES

A. Camerons seps - by John MacLeod

"The old Camerons of this Glen [Glen Nevis] were Clann or Sliochd Shomhairle. They have been said to have been not Camerons but MacDonalds. I never, however, came across any of them that looked on themselves as anything else but Camerons. It was of these Camerons that the many of that name who found in Upper Strathspey are. They are the children of the Mugaich as they are nicknamed by their new neighbours when they went to Roehiemurchus about three hundred years ago [ie mid 1600s because John MacLeod was writing in 1936] as the tail or bodyguard of the daughter of Glennivis who married Grant of Rothiemurchus. My grandmother's grandfather, Donald Cameron, the miller of Achnacarry was of these Strathspey Camerons, his father being the miller at Aviemore. In Lochaber, this sept of the Camerons were often spoken of as Na Tomaidh from the fact that they buired in Tom eas an t-slinnein. So those who buried at Gairloch were the Camerons of Dochanassie. They were spoken of as Na Dochaidh. I think my grandfather's mother was of the Dochaidh so that we have a connection with Kilmallie, Gairloch and Glennevis" (page 267).

NOTES

- Interpretation: The sentence *"I think my grandfather's mother was of the Dochaidh so that we have a connection with Kilmallie, Gairloch and Glennevis"* should be separated into two sentences – *"I think my grandfather's mother was of the Dochaidh. So we have a connection with Kilmallie, Gairloch and Glennevis"* This separation is needed to make it clear that John's grandfather's mother links were specifically with the Dochaidh of Gairloch and Dochanassie. The second part of original sentence was the conclusion of the paragraph summarizing the connections of other Camerons with other areas, previously mentioned in the paragraph - notably Glen Nevis, as well as Gairloch. Kilmallie is the name of a huge parish that includes many localities.
- John MacLeod identified three lines and concluded *'We have a connection with Kilmallie, Gairloch and Glennevis -*
- Glen Nevis:
 - Clann or Sliochd Shomhairle Clann or Sliochd Shomhairle
 - Children of the Mugaich
 - Went to Roehiemurchus in the mid 1600 as bodyguard of the daughter of Glennivis who married Grant of Rothiemurchus
 - Cameron Cameron
 - Wadsetter of Auchindaul
 - Son of Cameron of Glennevis
 - Married Grace Grant
 - Grace's was Patrick Grant of Rothiemurchus
 - Grace's mother might have been one of Patrick's two wives, Mary or Rachel.
 - Their son died in 1815
 - Patrick 'Macalpine' Grant: Eldest son of James and Grizzel. He was born in 1660 and succeeded to Rothiemurchus in 1677, and died in 1743. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Grant (1731), daughter of Patrick, Tutor of Grant of Grant. His second wife was Rachel Grant of Tullochgorm.
 - James Grant: Son Patrick Grant & Mary Grant. Died 1768. 6th of Rothermurchus. (source: Geni)
 - Ref: "The Mackintosh Genealogies" by S Fraser Mackintosh

B. Dochaidh – by Learning Gaelic

Dochaidh is not a location. Rather, it was the name given to some Camerons of that area. Dochaidh or dochy is a Gaelic word for an oaken stick used as weapon - it was short, thick, and heavy, with a large hard head on it. *"It came from a place-name in Lochaber – Dabhach an Fhasaidh. That's a locality near the southern end of Loch Lochy. The name means 'the davoch of the dwselling'; a davoch is an old measurement of land that the Picts used. The locality is called Dochanassie in English. And the stick is called a Dochanassie stick in English. When the phrase about the Highlands was created – 'The land of the mountains, the glens and the heroes' – perhaps people were thinking about Dochanassie. There were plenty of heroes living there at one time. Perhaps the locals are still heroic! People had dochies at times of peace. They were for protection, for example, when they went to the animal sales in Spean Bridge and other places. At time of war, it was swords they were taking with them, rather than dochies. People were taking dochies with them to pubs as well. In a fight under a low roof,*

the people were holding the dochy around the middle. With a heavy head on it, it still worked well” (ref: <https://learngaelic.scot/litirbheag/beulaithris.jsp?l=415>)

C. Burials at Glen Nevis – by John MacLeod

Find-A-Grave, burial at Glen Nevis Graveyard Tom-eas-an-t’slinnein, plot Tatler pre-1855 (1980) # 10, memorial ID 192697106, inscription: “Erected by David Smith factor of Gigha Argyllshire to the memory of his spouse Ann McMillan who died the 31st December 1842 aged 57 years also of her father Hugh [Ewen] McMillan who died 23rd December 1835 aged 101 years. Also her mother Christina Cameron who died 26th November 1842 aged 96 years also Allan McMillan who died the 10th January 1843 aged 64 years”

Tom eas an t-slinnein: *“In this burial ground I came to know that my mother’s great-grandparents¹¹ are buried – Ewen (Hugh) MacMillan and his wife Christina Cameron. He was 101 when he died. His wife, whom my mother might remember died in 1842 at the age of 96. She may have been even older – for my great grandfather, her son Donald died in 1845 was over 80 at his death”¹² (page 226).*

NOTES

- David Smith was Ann’s husband, and the son-in-law of Hugh (Ewen) and Christina (Christian). Allan (1779-1843) might have been Ann’s brother (David’s brother-in-law)
- It is not surprising that David Smith was moved to arrange this memorial because his father-in-law died in 1835, then his mother-in-law 9 years later, followed by 5 weeks by his wife and then 10 days to Allan.
- [Research: Get an image of this gravestone.]

D. Sliochd Shomhairle – by Learning Gaelic

In Gaelic, *Uamh Shomhairle* means Sorley or Somerled’s Cave at Glen Nevis. *MacShomhairle*, or MacSorlie in English, is the name of the clan that was living in the glen. The MacSorlies had a big house there. <https://learngaelic.scot/litirbheag/aitichean.jsp?l=174>

E. Tom eas an t-slinnein – references as noted

- The old Cameron/MacSorlie graveyard. Here lies buried the old Camerons of Glen Nevis, who bore the patronymic of MacSorlie, a branch of Clan Cameron now extinct. (source: Canmore). As well, other old families of Lochaber.
- The burial place had not been used for a significant amount of time, except for the very infrequent interment of someone in an ancestral layer. The gravestones dated to 1792 or earlier.
- ‘Tom-eas-an-t’slinnein’ is Gaelic meaning ‘knoll/hillock of the waterfall/cascade at the shoulder’
- Location:-
 - A grave yard above the level fields of Glennevis farm [GB Grid Ref NN120727]
 - Near Glen Nevis House on a mound to the south of the road, lies a little burying ground called “Tom-eas-an-t-slinnein”
 - To get there you need to walk a few hundred yards from the road along the track to “the burial path”, the route used by clans from further away to carry their dead to the old graveyard in Glen Nevis. It is said that the journey was too far for many people who gave up and buried their loved ones along the path! (source: HighlifeHighland.com)
 - Not to be confused with the 1900’s Glen Nevis Cemetery [GB Grid Ref NN122731] <https://graveyardsofscotland.com/2022/10/29/clan-burial-customs/>
- MacSorlie connections:-
 - Camerons of Glen Nevis bore the patronymic of MacSorlie
 - One of the original four branches of Clan Cameron (and therefore not technically a “sept,” but included here for clarification) the MacSorlies were one of the earliest tribes of Lochaber. They are said to have originally descended from the same “stock” as the MacDonalds, as their



¹¹ In his memoirs, John MacLeod referred to Ewen MacMillan and Christina Cameron as “my grandmother’s great grandparents” but he probably should have described them just as his grandmother’s grandparents (not great) – that is, it was four previous generations rather than five, because John went on to describe Christina’s son, Donald as “my great grandfather”.

¹² Page 226 *ibid*

patronymic implies – “Sliochd Shomhairle Ruaidh,” “The Race of Somerled the Red.” Closely allied to their neighbors the MacMartins, the MacSorlies resided in Glen Nevis.

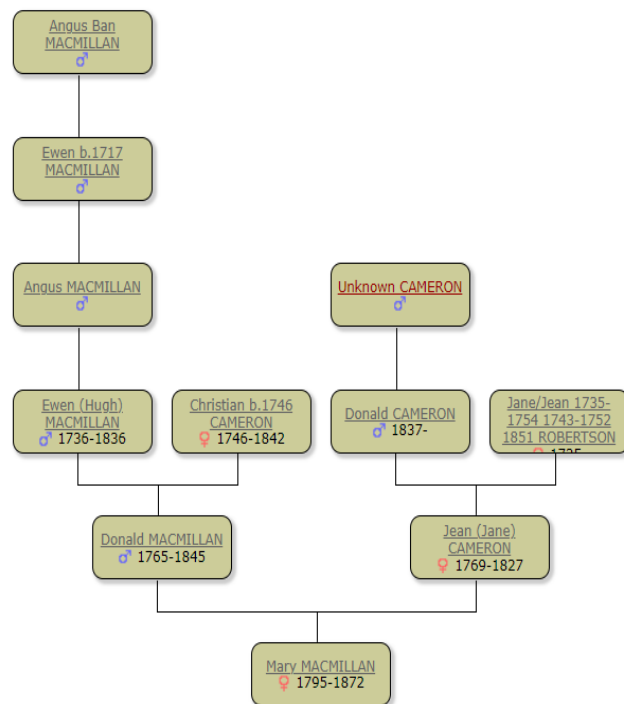
- By the end of the fifteenth century the MacSorlies came under the leadership of Clan Cameron, although they seemingly didn't adopt the name of Cameron until the early seventeenth century.
- The MacSorlies/Camerons of Glen Nevis were not the most faithful adherents to the Cameron Chiefs; they were known to be at feud with them on numerous occasions.
- In the 1745 Jacobite Uprising the MacSorlies/Camerons of Glen Nevis were not “out” under their leader, Alexander Cameron of Glen Nevis, but many of them were with Lochiel's regiment nevertheless; Alexander's brother Angus “brought out” the Rannoch Camerons to join the regiment.” (source: clan-cameron.org)

F. McMillan's of old Glenpean – by Somerled MacMillan

"The old Glenpean branch: The progenitor of the old Glenpean branch was John, second son of William MacMillan, 4th of Murlaggan. He had, at least, one son - Angus, who succeeded him as possessor of Glenpean, and was tenant there sometime before 1642. The latter had a son Angus who succeeded his father as tenant in Glenpean by 1642, and in the rental for that date he is given as 'Angus vic Ian vic William vic Conchie Van (Angus, of a son of John, son of William, son of Duncan Ban) for the 3 penny lands of Glenpean'. Maolmuire (Myles), another brother, became progenitor of the Callich branch. Angus was succeeded by his son Angus Ban, who, in 1663, gave up Glenpean and became ground officer to Lochiel in the Strontian area. The latter had a son Ewen, who is mentioned along with two sons of Ewen Og, 7th of Murlaggan, in the rental of Murlaggan farm for 1717, and he is given as 'Ewen Mac Angus Van'. We have good reason to believe that he went to live in Glen Nevis where his son Angus became personal servant to Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron, 12th Glen Nevis." (Page 72 of Bygone Lockaber' by Somerled MacMillan) –

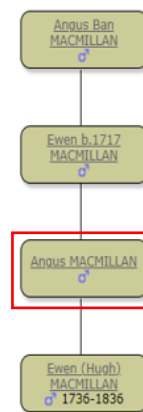
NOTES - To put this another way, the ancestral line of 8 generations was:-

- Duncan Ban (Conchie Van)
- William: 4th of Murlaggan
- John (Ian): He was the second son of William, was the possessor of Glenpean and the progenitor of the old Glenpean branch.
- Angus: He succeeded his father as possessor of Glenpean, and was tenant there sometime before 1642.
- Angus: He succeeded his father as tenant in Glenpean by 1642, and in the rental for that date he is given as 'Angus vic Ian vic William vic Conchie Van (Angus, of a son of John, son of William, son of Duncan Ban) for the 3 penny lands of Glenpean'
- Angus Ban: He succeeded his father as tenant of Glenpean but in 1663, he gave up Glenpean and became ground officer to Lochiel in the Strontian area.
- Ewen: He is mentioned along with two sons of Ewen Og, 7th of Murlaggan, in the rental of Murlaggan farm for 1717, and he is given as 'Ewen Mac Angus Van'. Somerled had 'good reason' to believe that Ewen went to live in Glen Nevis.
- Angus: He became the personal servant to Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron, 12th Glen Nevis (see Source G).
- Ewen was the son of Angus and the father of Donald (born 1765).



G. MacMillans of Glen Nevis – by Somerled MacMillan

"The progenitor of the main family of MacMillans in Glen Nevis was Angus, son of Ewen, son of Angus Ban MacMillan of the old Glenpean branch. He was employed as a personal servant to Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron, 12th of Glen Nevis, and because of his strength, courage, and daring, he was admirably suited to protect his master. John Cameron of Fassiefern, a sworn enemy of the Laird of Glen Nevis, has this to say about the doughty MacMillan warrior in his Memorial: "When we were at Lithgow here in presence of Captain Duprisinie and other officers and Charles Steuart talking of a woman in Glasgow, Glen (Nevis) said that the servant he had with him at present offered to take off that woman's head for five guineas and coming up to the Castle in Coach where Ensign Gordon, Glen, Charles and I was observing his servant walking by the side of the Coach pointed him to us and said there is the man offered to take off the woman's head. His name is MacMillan he is a clever fellow, which kind of man Glen is and what rascally servants he keeps" (ref: 'Highland Papers', vol III, p51). Angus had a son called Ewen, who was born at Strone-Nevis in 1736" (p92, Somerled MacMillan, 'Bygone Lochaber').



Notes

- Could Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron be the same Alexander Cameron who is mentioned by Chris Doig? - no
- John Cameron of Fassiefern was the brother of the 19th Cameron chief, Ewen, 'The Gentle Lochiel'.
- Charles Steuart was Bonnie Prince Charlie.
- Glen was Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron, 12th of Glen Nevis.
- Captain Duprisinie & Ensign Gordon are unknown.
- Ewen was the son of Angus and the father of Donald

H. Ewen MacMillan – by Somerled MacMillan

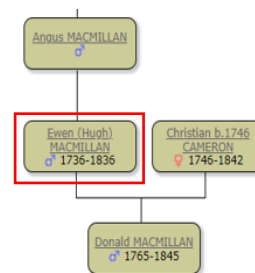
He fought in Battle of Quebec in 1759. He was in the 78th Fraser Highlanders which was a regiment raised during the Seven Year's War.

After his military service, his regiment was disbanded, and some men were given land in Canada. Others, among them, Ewen, returned to Scotland to the family farm in Glen Nevis and he drew a pension from the British government for a record number of years.

"Angus [of Glen Nevis] had a son called Ewen, who was born at Strone-Nevis in 1736.

Young Ewen witnessed the Jacobites besieging the Fort at the entrance to the Craigs.

In early manhood he lost his sight in the battle of Quebec, and for fifty years he was a Chelsea pensioner, probably the oldest recipient to enjoy such a long honour. He died at Strone-Nevis on the 11th November, 1836, after reaching the ripe old age of one hundred years" (p92 in 'Bygone Lochaber' by Somerled MacMillan).



NOTES

- Ewen was the son of Angus and the father of Donald.

J. Grants of Rothiemurchus -by Electric Scotland

"Patrick Grant of Muckrach, afterwards of Rothiemurchus, was the second son of John Grant of Freuchie, and Lady Margaret Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Atholl. He is designed of Rothiemurchus in a summons of date 1570. In 1575 he received a charter from his father of the lands of Rothiemurchus, and in 1579 he received a Crown Charter of Resignation of the same lands, in which he is designed of Rothiemurchus. By his wife, Jean Gordon, he had two sons, Duncan and John. The latter succeeded to the property. He married Margaret Dunbar, daughter of the Dean of Moray. His son James succeeded him about 1651, and married Grizzel Mackintosh of Kyllachie, commonly called Grizzel Mhor. They had three sons. Patrick, the eldest, succeeded his father, and William, the second son, became Laird of Ballindalloch. It seems to have been the custom with the Grants of Rothiemurchus, as with other families, to give distinguishing titles or by names to the heads of the House. One was called "The Spreckled Laird," probably from being pock-pitted. Another was termed The White Laird," probably from his fair complexion, and another, the one with whose history we have to do, bore the name of "Macalpine." Some say this title was given him by the famous Rob Roy, but the Grants, as well as the Macgregors, claimed to be of the royal line of Alpin. At any rate, there was something significant and honourable in this laird being thus specially distinguished. It seemed to indicate that in him the characteristics of the ancient race had found a true representative. There had been friendly intercourse between the Macgregors and the Grants of Rothiemurchus for generations. In 1592 Patrick Grant joined with John Grant of Freuchie in a mutual bond of man-rent with John Dow Macgregor. He died in 1617. In 1623 his son John was fined 2000 merks for resetting, supplying, and inter—communing" with the Clan Gregor. In Macalpine's time Rob Roy visited the Doune, and a

letter written by him to Ballindalloch in 1726, quoted elsewhere, shews the kindly relationship between the families. Macalpine was born in 1660, succeeded in 1677, and died in 1743. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Grant (1731), daughter of Patrick, Tutor of Grant of Grant. His second wife was Rachel Grant of Tullochgorm. He was a man of much ability, shrewd in the management of affairs, remarkable for wit and repartee, and holding a high place as a Highland Laird, whose House was a centre of light and hospitality” electricScotland.com/history/cairngorm/47.htm – ‘A Highland Laird of the Olden Time - In the Shadow of the Cairngorm’ [

NOTES

- The Cairngorms are near Aviemore.
- Based on this quote from Electric Scotland & Geni, this sequence could be:-
- John Grant of Freuchie: His wife was Lady Margaret Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Atholl.
- Patrick Grant: Second son of John & Margaret. He was designated as Grant of Muckrach, afterwards of Rothiemurchus in a summons of date 1570. In 1575 he received a charter from his father of the lands of Rothiemurchus, and in 1579 he received a Crown Charter of Resignation of the same lands, in which he is designed of Rothiemurchus. In 1592 Patrick Grant joined with John Grant of Freuchie (his father?) in a mutual bond of man-rent with John Dow Macgregor. He died in 1617. Patrick’s wife was Jean Gordon.
- John Grant: Second son Patrick & Jean. He succeeded to Rothiemurchus and he married Margaret Dunbar (daughter of Dean of Moray). This would be early 1600s. In 1623 John was fined 2000 merks for resetting, supplying, and inter—communing with the Clan Gregor.
- James Grant: Son of John and Margaret succeeded to Rothiemurchus about 1651. He married Grizzel Mackintosh of Kyllachie, commonly called Grizzel Mhor.
- Patrick ‘Macalpine’ Grant: Eldest son of James and Grizzel. He was born in 1660 and succeeded to Rothiemurchus in 1677 and died in 1743. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Grant (1731), daughter of Patrick, Tutor of Grant of Grant. His second wife was Rachel Grant of Tullochgorm.
- James Grant: Son Patrick Grant & Mary Grant. Died 1768. 6th of Rothermurchus. (source: Geni)
- William Grant: Son of James Grant & Jean Grant. Born 1723, died 1786. (source: Geni)
- John Peter Grant: Son of Dr William Grant & Elizabeth Raper. Born 1774, died 1848. 11th of Rothermurchus. (source: Geni)
- CONCLUSION: Unfortunately, we have not been able to find a specific connection between Alexander Cameron and/or Grace Grant with any of our family tree.
- [Research: Get Macintosh book]

K. Grace Cameron, nee Grant - by Chris Doak (email on 10th April 2022)

“John MacLeod in the article speculated that your Camerons had gone to Strathspey as the retainers of a daughter of Glennevis who married a Grant in Rothiemurchus. You were unable to find a specific marriage c.300 years ago, but I have a record of this couple (recorded in "The Mackintosh Genealogies" by S Fraser Mackintosh): ‘ALEXANDER CAMERON, Wadsetter of AUCHINDAUL, and a son of Cameron of Glennevis, married GRACE, daughter of PATRICK GRANT of ROTHIEMURCHUS’. I don’t have a date for this, but as their son died in 1815, this would have likely been in the 1720/30s. AUCHINDAUL is a Farm which lies halfway between Fort William and Spean Bridge - and just north of the main road and lies within the Kilmanivaig Parish of Inverness. The Farm was part of the Duke of Gordon's Lochaber Estate.”

NOTES

- The mother of Grace Grant might have been one of Patrick’s two wives, Mary or Rachel.
- We have not been able to connect Alexander or Grace to our family tree.

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