Chapter 5 The McGregor Perspective

he story of the junior Campbells would not be complete without a chapter on the McGregors. William McGregor played such an important role in it. There is little doubt William at some stage accepted the responsibility for Duncan junior's upbringing and education. The whole story may never be told, but we can at least present a logical explanation as to how Duncan's fostering might have occurred. The McGregor perspective on the Campbells has the potential of shedding light on other matters, such as how Duncan met and married his wife and how he had the resources to buy land on his arrival in Canada. If our reading of the 1841 Scottish census is correct, then Duncan, twenty, was working as a labourer or farm administrator in Trinity Gask. This was eight years prior to his departure for Canada. How a young man of twenty-eight could have saved £275 from wages at a time when labourers' earnings were hardly sufficient to live on is a reasonable question to ask. The McGregor perspective might also shed light on the role played by geography, how Duncan junior and William McGregor born in Lochtayside ended up in Scone at the opposite end of Perthshire. In 1841 Christian and her father were living in Scone and only five years later she and Duncan would be married there.

Geo	orge III 1760-1	<u>820</u>
Ann McLeish is born in Balnamuire in Logierait	1790	
	1793-1802	War with France
William McGregor is born in Croftgarrow in	1794	
Fortingall		
	1801	Act of Union, creating the United Kingdom of
		Great Britain and Ireland
	1803-1815	War with France
	1807-19	The Great Sutherland Clearances
	1812-14	War with the US
William McGregor and Ann McLeish are married	1819	
in Little Dunkeld		
The McGregors are in Logierait and adopt	1827	
Duncan Campbell junior		
The senior Campbells emigrate to Canada	1833	
Vi	ctoria 1837-19	<u>01</u>
The McGregors move to Scone	ca. 1839	
Ann McLeish dies in Scone	1840	
	1845-6	The Irish Potato Famine
Duncan Campbell and Christina emigrate	1849	
William McGregor dies in Scone	1874	

Figure 1. Timeline for William McGregor and Ann McLeish.

Christian's Parents: William McGregor and Anne McLeish of Dull, Logierait and Scone 1790 - 1874

Aside from church records the most important of the sources for the Scottish part of the story are the censuses of 1841-1871. At no time in that thirty years do we see an inkling of Duncan's parents. William McGregor and Ann McLeish are on the other hand quite visible. On each of the censuses William claims a birthplace of Dull and an age that puts his birthyear around 1795 give or take a year or two. This agrees with the information contained in his death certificate. William died in Scone in 1874 at the age of 86. The certificate gives his father's name, Archibald. Archibald is a rare name in the McGregor family; a search

¹ The name is spelled "McGregor" throughout this period.

of the OPRs of Perthshire for the thirty years 1780-1810 yields only the one baptism of a William McGregor son of Archibald—the one born to Archibald and Ann McGregor in *Croftgarth* and baptized 7 November 1794 in Fortingall Church.² Croftgarth or Croftgarrow is the name given to a collection of farm buildings about two miles north of Fearnan on the Fortingall road.³ Though William claimed a birthplace of Dull not Fortingall, he could still be correct if he were born in one of the bits of Dull parish that lay within the ancient boundaries of Fortingall.



Figure 2a. Croftgarrow in Fortingall. The hills of Glenlyon can be seen in the distance.



Figure 2b. Fortingall Church.

Inscriptions on William McGregor and Ann McLeish's gravestone in the Old Kirk churchyard give leads. The inscription for Ann gives her date of death, 13 October 1840. She and William were married in Little Dunkeld, 3 April 1819. The image of the record gives her father's name John. John McLeish and Ann Duff, then living on *Balnamuire*, a farm in Logierait, were married 19 December 1790. Logierait and Dull lay a few miles east of Kenmore on the Tay River. William described himself at his marriage as a *wright*.

² The issue of proximity is underscored by the fact Duncan's father was married in this same church the year afterwards, in 1795.

³ This name is variously spelled *Croftgarth*, *Croftgaitch* and *Croftgarrow*. There can be little doubt they all refer to the same place whose modern spelling is *Croftgarrow*.

1.		-	, ,	,					· 3
ſ			William	1874	16.8	2 Archibald 119m	or Old age		1074
ı			McGreace	april	1/1	w Shepherd		Landlord	Hon april 22
				Mineteenth	1	(deceased)		Landlord	At Frond
		17	Helined farmer	18h. Om. B.16.			No immedia	¥	1
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Ì		j	married to	New Scone		(decented)	ant	Hur deone	Registrer.
1		١	Helen Cameun	Strist of Scone				Strish of Sence	
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Figure 3. Death Record of William McGregor, 19 April 1874, Scone. It reads: William McGregor (Retired farmer) of New Scone Parish of Scone, 82 years, (married to Helen Cameron⁴ deceased), father Archibald McGregor Shepherd (deceased), Richard Deighton Landlord (present) Registered 22 April 1874 at Scone.

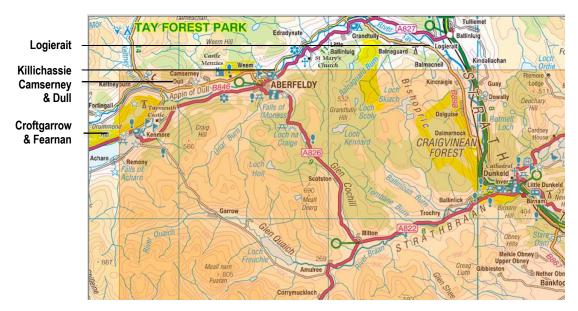


Figure 4. A region of Perthshire between Kenmore and Dunkeld showing the movement of the family down the Tay River⁵

Christian was born to William McGregor and Ann McLeish on *Milton of Derculich*, a farm in Dull parish, and baptized in Dull parish church 24 July 1819. Milton of Derculich lies a little east of Aberfeldy. William and Ann evidently then moved on to another farm in Logierait, *Chapelton of Killechassie*, where three other children were born: John (1822), William (1827) and Elizabeth (1833). There is some evidence, though uncorroborated, of three girls: Margaret (born ca 1826), Ann (ca 1831) and Isabella (ca 1836). If Duncan did go to school with Christian then he likely began at the age of six around 1827 in either Dull or Logierait. The family was still in Killechassie as late as 1834, as is evidenced by the appearance in that year of William McGregor's name in a list of male heads of families.⁶

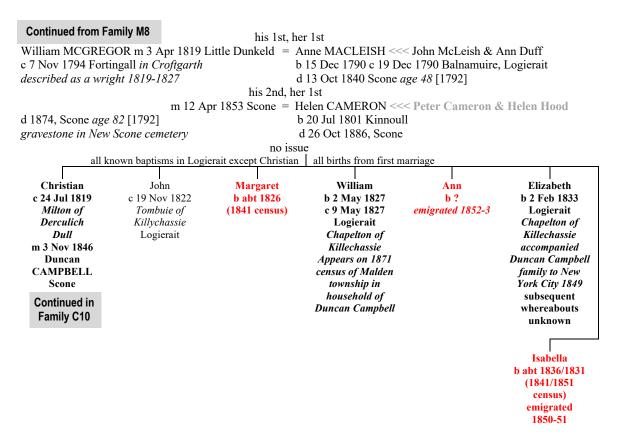
The issues of Duncan's schooling, the how, the when and the where, comport with the adoption theory. Chapelton of Killiechassie, five miles or so from Fearnan, would have been an easy walk for a schoolboy of 1827. Perhaps the adoption evolved from Duncan living with the McGregors while going to school. We

⁴ Helen Cameron was still alive. She would die in 1880.

⁵ A placename in a baptismal record can refer to the parish or the village. The fragmentation of parishes means a person could live in a parish some distance from the village of the same name.

⁶ NRS: Ch2/694/6 pp. 88-95. http://nrscotland.gov.uk. The name Duncan Campbell does not appear on the list.

do not know, in fact, where the senior Campbells put up immediately after vacating Kenmore. Perhaps it was Logierait. On the other hand, perhaps Duncan senior broached the subject of adoption to William McGregor when he was conveniently at hand, say during a visit to his father in Croftgarrow. Duncan would surely not have joined the McGregor family unless he knew them well and for some time. Perhaps the seven year old Christian made the difference.



Family M5. William MCGREGOR and Anne MCLEISH, Fortingall, Dull, Logierait and Scone, 1790 - 1874. Printed in bold red are names of children for whom no baptismal records have been found, and who may have been adoptees.

1 Problems With Family M5

Baptismal records have been found for Christian, John, William and Elizabeth McGregor, but not for Margaret, Ann, or Isabella. Ann is absent from the 1841 census, but does appear as a communicant of Scone church. In 1853 her name was dropped from the roll for the reason: "emigration to America". On 2 April 1851 Isabella's name was struck from the roll for the same reason. These records could mean that they, like Duncan Campbell, were foster children.

⁷ Kirk Session Records of Scone NRS: ch2/803/9. http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk.

⁸ Kirk Session Records ibid.

2 The Church and Cemetery at Dull 9

The Mitchells, the compilers of Scottish memorials used in this book, describe the fragmentation of Dull parish thusly:

"The very extensive mountainous parish of Dull comprises five distinct valley districts: Appin, Grandtully in the southeast, Foss in the northwest, Fincastle in the northeast, and Amulree to the south. The parish boundaries have been very confused, with pockets of land in the neighbouring parishes, i.e., Blair Atholl, Logierait, Weem, and with the west part of the town of Aberfeldy."

This fragmentation muddles the task of identifying people by place.¹⁰ A person could live in Dull but work in Weem. In 1842 the Rev. Dewar described Dull church as a long building with a small belfry and a gallery at each end. The Mitchells found McGregor memorials in the cemetery but none are of the McGregors of this book.



Figure 5. Dull church in the village and parish of Dull.

William McGregor described himself on several occasions as a wright. What this means precisely we do not know. He was certainly not a shepherd like his father. The rise in sheepfarming had led to some depopulation of Dull, though as the Rev. Menzies pointed out in 1795, arable farming was still practiced:

The reasons for the decrease appear to be, that some of the proprietors have extended their own farms, and that it was considered more beneficial for the farmers that there should be no farm less than a ploughgate. In this part of the country it was usual to halve, and even to quarter a small farm, so that, perhaps, three or four families lived where only one now lives. In the higher parts of the country sheep farms have also been united—The annual average of births for 10 years back amounts to 80; but as many of the children, in the more remote parts of the parish are baptized by the itinerant ministers, there is reason to suspect that many names are never inserted in the parochial records. The number of marriages is 40; number of burials cannot be ascertained, as there is a burial place in each district; no register of burials is kept.

The principal crops are oats, Chester-bear¹¹, pease and potatoes. Much attention is paid to the raising of the latter: the inhabitants subsist on them about 9 months in the year; and not a little is employed in feeding cows, horses, and swine. To this valuable root and to the raising of flax this country is particularly indebted. In

⁹ The Rev. Mr. Archibald Menzies (*Statistical Accounts* pp. 149-155) http://stat-acc-scot.edina.ac.uk/link/1791-99/Perth/Dull/ and the Rev. Duncan Dewar (*New Statistical Accounts* pp. 752-785) http://stat-acc-scot.edina.ac.uk/link/1834-45/Perth/Dull.

¹⁰ The fragmentation has long ago been eliminated with a changing of boundaries.

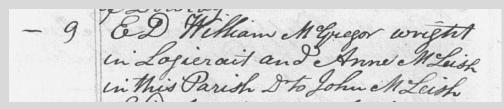
¹¹ A hardy, early-ripening form of barley.

general, all the farmers here raise and spin what flax is sufficient to pay their money rents, besides all their other smaller accounts. Turnips succeed here well and within these few years considerable progress has been made using them.

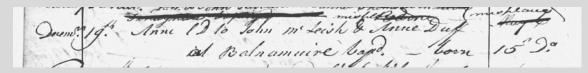
3 Record Images for Family M5



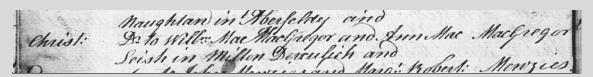
Baptismal record of William McGregor, 7 November 1794, Fortingall church. William Son to Archd McGregor & Ann McGregor in Croftgaith Eo Die'.



Marriage Record of William McGregor and Anne McLeish, 3 April 1819, Little Dunkeld church. 'E D [same day] William McGregor wright in Logierait and Anne McLeish in this Parish Dr. to John McLeish.'



Baptismal record of Ann McLeish, 19 December 1790, Logierait church. 'Decembr 19th Anne D to John McLeish & Anne Duff at Balnamuire bapd. born 15th Do'.



Baptismal record of Christian McGregor, 24 July 1819, Dull church. 'Christ: Dr to Willm Mac McGregor and Ann Mac MacLeish in Milton Derculich'. Note the spellings "Mac MacGregor" in the two instances.

Myriger John Lawful Son to William Myngor weight in Sombue of hully chapie and Ann Meish was born 14 Nov. 1822 Haftyer 19th so Sohn Lawful Son to Duncan M. Thereher Farmer in Laugh Peterste Mercher and Many Stewart was born 28th Nov. 1828 Haftyer 12th Jo by Misplaced the Acor Mr. Menzico.

Baptismal Record of John McGregor, 19 November 1822, Logierait church. 'McGrigor John Lawful Son to William McGregor wright in Tombuie of Killychassie and Ann McLeish was born 14 Nov 1822 Baptized 19th Do.'

Milliano Lawful ben to William My Stalle hafs in What the Man Stalle hafs in The pullin of Fille hafs in wastren 2 May 1834 8/5 africa the got

Baptismal record of William McGregor, 9 May 1827, Logierait church. 'William Lawful bn to William MGregor Wright and Ann McLeish in Chapelton of Killchassie was born 2d May 1827 & Baptized the 9th'.

Migreyor and anne Milaich in hapettow of Killechane was born leby 20 1833 -

Baptismal record of Elizabeth McGregor, 2 February 1833, Logierait church. 'Elizabeth lawful daughter to William McGregor and Anne McLeish in Chapelton of Killechasse was born Feby 2d 1833'.

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12 Seaw Blair Sus Scone 1/4 Rush fover 1 1
18 Mrs. M Gregor Balgaring dew 58 In flamation of how 3 3

Death Record Scone Octr 18 [1840] of Mrs. McGregor Balgarvie den(?) 58 Inflamation of head.

Hynger William M'Gregor and Helen Camerow both in this Parish were publishly proclaimed in the Church here on the 10th lefe il, and married on the 12th april

Marriage record of William McGregor and Helen Cameron, 12 April 1853, Scone church. 'McGregor William McGregor and Helen Cameron both in this Parish were publickly proclaimed in the Church here on the 10th April, and married on the 12th April.'

New Scone

One can imagine the move to New Scone had the effect on the family like the winning of a lottery. Around 1834 the lease of a farm became vacant in Nether Balgarvie and William was able to buy it. Bags were packed and the family set off. The farm was the property of Andrew Murray of Murrayshall, a gentleman, lawyer-advocate and sheriff of Aberdeenshire. The farm was of only thirteen acres, but it made for an increase in the family's income and standard of living. We do not know the specifics of the lease, but leases were commonly purchased with cash up front equal to the rent of one or two years. The fact he was able to buy the lease only a year after the senior Campbells' departure for Canada leads to the suspicion the cash came from Duncan Campbell senior. Duncan junior, now thirteen, could hardly have done other than follow his foster family to the new venue.

Ann was to live in New Scone only briefly. She soon developed "inflammation of the head" and died

in October 1840 at the age of forty-eight. No doubt the two were looking forward to a middle-class future. William had her buried in the churchyard at New Scone. Seven children were living at home at the time: Christian (21), John (18), Margaret (14), William (13), Ann, Elizabeth (7) and Isabella (4). Christian no doubt took on the role of surrogate mother. Duncan would have kept in touch from his vantage point in Trinity Gask.

It is difficult to credit a thirteen-acre farm with the wherewithal to provide a living, but it seems to have done so. It is a pity we do not know precisely what William grew and whether his income came solely from farming or work as a "wright".

The estate of Andrew Murray was a small one in comparison to Mansfield Park, the residence of the Earl of Mansfield. Excepting Mansfield the land in Scone was intensively cultivated, much of it in market vegetables. The parish is bounded on the west and southwest by the Tay River, on the north by St. Martins parish, on the east and southeast by St. Martins, Kilspindie and Kinnoull. The land near the river is a fine rich clay, becoming lighter and drier further away from the water. The ground is relatively flat with softly rolling hills to the north and west. Scone parish had the advantages of the kind of terrain and fertile soils of Aberdalgie and Trinity Gask, but with the bonus of easier access to the markets at Perth.

We see, then, that William evolves into a tenant-farmer much like Duncan senior, though of a smaller property. His landlord was a gentleman not an aristocrat. The history of Scone Parish in the 19th century underscores many of the differences in lifestyle between the classes. New Scone evolved from Old Scone, which originally lay further west near Scone Park. The Earl of Mansfield decided in 1803 that the view from his windows was not to his liking and ordered the village moved out of sight. The new venue became known as New Scone. This included the kirk that was taken to pieces stone by stone and reassembled, an action that even the sychophantic Rev. Craik regarded as autocratic: ¹³

Formerly the population was more scattered over the parish; but as the land has been divided into larger farms, the village has increased. Several valuable farms are now in grass, forming the extensive parks around and beyond the palace. The population has increased progressively. The village of New Scone has been almost entirely built within the century. Much of it is occupied by feuars. The late Earl of Mansfield, partly by purchase and partly by giving an equivalent in land, obtained possession of the feus at Old Scone. The village of New Scone has been greatly extended, containing between 1200 and 1300 inhabitants. Many of the feuars have sub-feued their properties; and other proprietors have increased the village by encouraging feuing on their ground. A large part of the village stands on the property belonging to Andrew Murray, Esq. of Murrayshall, and some on that of the proprietor of Kincarrochie.

Once Christian, Duncan and Elizabeth left for America, William lived on alone, at least for awhile. The 1851 census shows him tending his farm in Nether Balgarvie. William Junior is not at home, but Isabella, now twenty, is. ¹⁴ She too will soon leave for Glasgow and an emigrant ship.

The records of the Old Kirk illuminate William's piety pretty well. In the ten-year period 1848 to 1858, he is down in the book as attending every communion. Did this quality lead Duncan senior to trust him with his son? There is no doubt Duncan junior liked and respected the man.

¹² These ages agree more-or-less with the 1841 census.

¹³ The Rev. ?? (Statistical Accounts, pp. ??) http://stat-acc-scot.edina.ac.uk/link/1791-99/Perth/Scone/ and the Rev. James Craik (New Statistical Accounts, pp. 1043-1075) http://stat-acc-scot.edina.ac.uk/link/1834-45/Perth/Scone/

¹⁴ The communion roll of Scone church has an Isabella McGregor 'of Balgarvie' beginning communion in December 1849 and continuing through April 1851, at which point she is removed from the roll for the reason:

America

¹⁵ There is every reason to suppose he was a regular churchgoer from before this time. It just so happens communion records survive only for the period 1848-1858. Kirk Session Records of Scone NRS: ch2/803/9 http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk.

The names Duncan Campbell and Christina McGregor do not appear in this time period.

4 The Old Kirk at New Scone 16

The old kirk at New Scone was the McGregor's home church for over thirty years. William had Ann buried here in 1840, was married here in 1860, and buried here in 1874.

Figure 6a. The Old Kirk, New Scone. Built in the 18th century near Scone Palace it was moved stone by stone to its present location in 1805 to become the first building of the village of New Scone. The section on the right was built later to accommodate the Mansfield family.





Figure 6b. Interior of the Old Kirk, New Scone, showing at the back the special box of the Mansfield family.



Figure 6c. The gravestone of William McGregor and Anne McLeish. It is easily spotted to one's right on approaching the door of the church. The stone is the one left of center leaning slightly to the left.

¹⁶ Photos by the author October 2017.

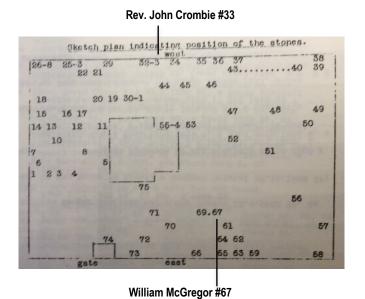


Figure 7. Map of the cemetery at New Scone. The graves of William McGregor and the Rev. John Crombie are indicated.

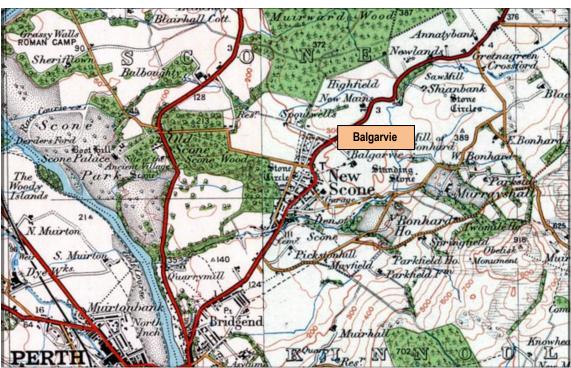


Figure 8. The area of Scone, Perthshire, showing Balgarvie.

Isabella left home in 1851, and with that William lost his last housekeeper. It wasn't long before he married again. He had been friendly for awhile with Helen Cameron, a spinster from Kinnoull who had some experience in farm management. The two were married in the Old Kirk 12 April 1853.¹⁷ They would live in comfort but have no children. The 1861 and 1871 censuses show them living with the assistance of

¹⁷ Their intention was proclaimed on the 10th and they were married on the 12th.

two young servants.

The subject of emigration was surely discussed at length in the McGregor household prior to the Campbells' departure. And surely the Campbells and McGregors kept up a steady correspondence, though no letters survive. Sometime before 1871 William junior would travel to Canada and work briefly on Duncan's farm. ¹⁸ After that he drops from our sight.

At William's death in 1874 Helen tended to his wishes and had him buried above Ann in the churchyard. The gravestone can be seen at position #67 in the cemetery. A death certificate was issued. The document was registered by Richard Deighton, his landlord of the time. He did not leave a will.

Table 1. *Memorial inscriptions from the cemetery at New Scone*. ¹⁹

#	Description
27	John CAMPBELL 15.3.1862 80. w Eliz McLUCHLAN 27.1.1842 61, da Jane 2.7.1876 61, da Ann 22.2.1895
33	revd John CROMBIE DD min Scone for 28y d 4.12.1872 84, w Frances 30.3.1850 46, Ida Frances d London 29.8.1833 d
	Perth 11.3.1900, da Louisa 1844 1920 (Ed: see <i>Fasti Ecclesiase iv</i> 232)
67	1841. Wm McGREGOR in Nether Balgarvie 19.4.1874 82, w Ann McLEISH 13.10.1840 48

Let us now turn to the McGregor forebears.

Families M6, M7, M8: Duncan, Malcom and Archibald McGregor, ca. 1669-1797

It is safe to say that the McGregor ancestors, like the Campbells, inhabited the Kenmore area for centuries before William McGregor was born (*Families M6, M7, M8*). We shall follow the family as best we can,

William McGregor's great-grandparents were likely the Duncan McGregor and Christian McGregor who were married in Kenmore church 27 May 1694. Duncan was therefore born around 1669. There are records of two children born in Fearnan: Margaret (1701) and Malcolm (1709). It bears remembering that Archibald Campbell was in 1709 a tenant-farmer in Lawers just a mile or so west of Fearnan (Chapter 2). So already from the late 17th century the McGregors and Campbells lived in close proximity, attended the same church and knew each other well. The male line of descent is through Duncan McGregor's son Malcolm (Family M7).

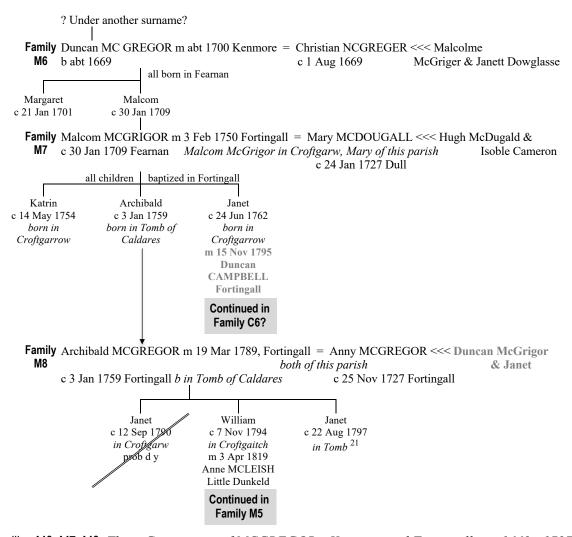
Malcolm married Mary McDougall in Fortingall church 3 February 1750. He described himself as a resident of "Croftgarw" (Croftgarrow). He and Mary had three children: Katrin (1754), Archibald (1759) and Janet (1762). He may have been the same Malcolm McGregor who in 1790 was the miller of Stron-Fearnan, though by then he would have been an old man.²⁰ The line of descent is through Malcolm's son Archibald, born in *Tomb of Caldares*.

As we have seen, William McGregor's father's name was Archibald. Archibald was a common enough name in the Campbell family but not in the McGregor. We can therefore be confident the Archibald of Croftgarrow ("shepherd" according to William's death certificate) was the man married to Ann ("Anny") McGregor in Fortingall church 29 March 1789. Their first child, Janet, was born in September 1790, a second daughter, Janet, in 1797. This ends our sketch of the McGregors.

¹⁸ According to the 1871 and 1881 censuses.

¹⁹ The map and memorial transcripts are the work of Mitchell and Mitchell. MI Vol. 1.

²⁰ His name appears in a list of rentals of StronFearnan, March 1790. GD112/16/7/2 http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk.



Families M6, M7, M8: Three Generations of MCGREGORs, Kenmore and Fortingall, ca. 1669 - 1797.

5 Problems With Families M6, M7, M8

Family M6 No birth record has been found for a Duncan McGregor around 1669. He may have been baptized under a different surname.

Family M7 Name- and date-matching makes it likely Janet McGregor, Malcolm McGregor's third child was the first wife of Duncan Campbell senior, married in Fortingall Church 15 November 1795. I have left this record in grey because I am not entirely certain.

Family M8 William McGregor's death certificate states his father's name was Archibald. There is only one baptismal record in the whole of Perthshire of a William McGregor son of Archibald, namely the child born in *Croftgarrow*, so we can be pretty certain of this. However, there are several possibilities for Anny's parents.

²¹ Tomb was a part of Lawers which lay mostly in Kenmore (Christie, 41, 42). There must have been a part of it that lay in Fortingall.

Charles II1660-1685

Duncan McGregor is born probably in Fearnan ca. 1669

James II 1685-1689

William III and Mary II 1689-1702

Presbyterianism is established as the state religion

of Scotland

Robert Campbell of Glenlyon leads the expedition

to Glencoe

Duncan McGregor and Christian McGregor are

married in Kenmore church

Anne 1702-1714

1694

Union of England and Scotland

Malcolm McGregor is born in Fearnan 1709

George I 1714-1727

George II 1727-1760

1750

1746 Battle of Culloden

Malcolm McGregor and Mary McDougall in

Croftgarrow are married in Fortingall

Archibald McGregor is born in *Tomb of Caldares* 1759

orge III 1760-1820

1790

1774 Release of the McGregor proscription

Archibald McGregor and Ann McGregor are 1789

married in Fortingall

Ann McLeish is born in Dull

William McGregor is born in *Croftgarrow* 1794

1793-1802 War with France

Figure 9. Timeline for Families M6, M7, M8.

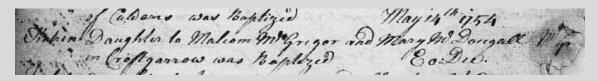
Baptismal Record of Margaret McGregor 21 Jan 1701, Kenmore. 'Baptized to Duncan McGregor & Christian McGregor in Fearnan a lawl child Margaret'.



Baptismal Record of Malcom McGregor, 30 Jan 1709, Kenmore. 'Baptized to Duncan McGregor Elder & Christian McGregor in Fearnan a child Malcom. Coll: 7s 6d & emboxed.'

Webbelson in Trenatey in one Varion of war and Mary M Dougater to 20 Both in the Parish were Booked

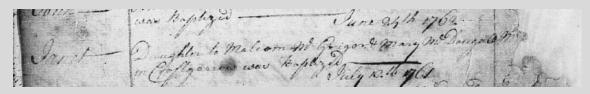
Marriage Record of Malcolm McGregor and Mary McDougall, 3 Feb 1750, Fortingall church. 'Feby 3d Malcom McGrigor in Croftgarw and Mary McGougall Do Both in this Parish were Booked.'



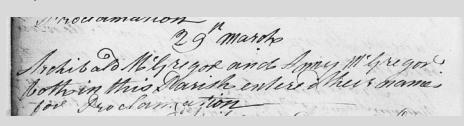
Baptismal Record of Katrin McGregor, 14 May 1754, Fortingall church. 'Katrin Daughter to Malcom McGregor and Mary McDougall in Croftgarrow was Baptized Eo Dei'.



Baptismal Record of Archibald McGregor, 3 January 1759, Fortingall church. 'Archibald son to Malcolm McGrigor & Mary McDougall in Tomb of Caldares as baptized.'



Baptismal Record of Janet McGregor, 24 June 1762, Fortingall church. 'Janet Daughter to Malcom McGrigor & Mary McDougall in Croftgarrow was Baptized.'



Marriage Record of Archibald McGregor and Ann McGregor, 29 March 1789, Fortingall church. 'Archibald McGregor and Anny McGregor Both in this Parish entered their names for Proclamation'.

Tanet Down to An cha mil negors Ann milpegor My segor in frost garus

Baptismal Record of Janet McGregor, 12 September 1790, Fortingall church 'Janet Dawr to Archd McGregor & Ann McGregor in Croftgarw' [Croftgarrow].

Vanet Bour to Arch Mel negor and Mynegor Arm Mel regor Jomb 22

Baptismal Record of Janet McGregor, 22 August 1797, Fortingall church 'Janet Daur to Archd McGregor and Ann McGregor Tomb 22 [August]'

Recapitulation

This sketch of the Campbell's McGregor kin adds a few details to their story. It broadens our understanding of Duncan senior's decision to place his son in adoption, though it leaves our conclusions unproven in the strict genealogical sense. Our theory has Duncan senior, while preparing to leave the country, concerned for the health of his ailing wife and the future of his youngest and namesake son. We imagine Duncan senior muses about his son, in the wilds of Canada, remaining unschooled and ignorant of religion. The lad was of school age and needed a stable environment.

A solution of sorts was at hand. The McGregors of Croftgarrow, who lived within walking distance of Croftnalin, were a family with long standing connections to the Campbells. Archibald, the old shepherd, had only the one son, William, but the man was of integrity, pious, not long married and with children of Duncan junior's age. Duncan junior, whose brothers and sisters were at least a decade older than he, had likely already formed an attachment to Christian, William's daughter, and was not averse to the arrangement.

The most important document in our theory is William McGregor's death certificate. Without this paper we would never have learned the name of his father and been able to trace him to his home in Croftgarrow. Without wills or bonds of obligation we shall never know when exactly he and Ann took in the young Duncan Campbell, but it must have been 1827 give or take a year or two. William and Ann did not emigrate to Canada, but they might have planned to do so, and might even have carried out the idea had the opportunity in Scone not presented itself. Emigration was certainly a subject of discussion in the family. When Ann died, however, William, had he entertained the idea at all, changed his mind. Had things gone differently the McGregors would surely have made their mark in Canada. They were of the kind of stock to do so.