

HOW TO FIND YOUR SCOTTISH ANCESTORS IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES

By Jeannette Holland Austin

The purpose of this information is to assist the genealogist in finding more information about the ancestors.

The sources are varied, from written books, to information in my personal files.

The Ulster Scots

The single most important fact to learn while tracing Scottish families, is the difference between the Scotch and the Scotch-Irish.

1. One's ancestors were Scottish if they migrated to America from Ulster or from the Highlands.

2. One's ancestors were Scotch-Irish if they were Presbyterians and left Scotland and removed to Northern Ireland before sailing to America.

Scottish emigration to America came in two streams—one direct from the motherland and the other through the province of Ulster in the north of Ireland. Those who came by this second route are usually known as "Ulster Scots," or more commonly as "Scotch-Irish," and they have been claimed as Irishmen by Irish writers in the United States.

Throughout their residence in Ireland, Scottish settlers preserved their distinctive Scottish characteristics, and generally described themselves as "the Scottish nation in northern Ireland." Upon immigration to America, they remained as distinct from the native population as if they had never crossed the channel. Particularly, the Scotch-Irish is noted in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina.

One cannot assume that the migrants to America were uneducated. Young men were sent to the University of Glasgow, and, as residents of America, signed the matriculation register as "A Scot of Ireland."

Another interesting effect is that the Scottish population did not intermarry with the native Irish, though they did intermarry to some extent with the English Puritans and French Huguenots.*

* (The Huguenots were colonies driven out of France by the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and induced to settle in the north of Ireland by William III. Ireland is indebted to the Huguenots for its lace industry.)

Many Irish-American writers on the Scottish Plantation of Ulster have assumed that its settlers were entirely or almost of Gaelic origin. Yet, upon settling in America, the early Scots retained an unmixed national Scotch character. Nothing offended them more than to be called "Irish."

Down to present times, the descendants of the Ulster Scots settlers living in the United States insist that they are of Scottish and not of Irish origin.

The late Hon. Leonard Allison Morrison, of New Hampshire, wrote: "I am one of Scotch-Irish blood and my ancestor came with Rev. McGregor of Londonderry, and neither they nor any of their descendants were willing to be called 'merely Irish. I have twice visited the parish of Aghadowney, Co. Londonderry, from which they came, in Ireland, and all that locality is filled, not with 'Irish' but with Scotch-Irish, and this is pure Scotch blood, after more than 200 years."

The mountaineers of Tennessee and Kentucky are largely the descendants of these same Ulster Scots. (1) Scotland's Mark on America by George Fraser Black.

The Term Ulster-Scotch

A preferable reference to the early immigrants from Ulster to America would be "Ulster Scot" instead of Scotch-Irish because that term better clarifies the lineage.

Port Cities: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Charleston, South Carolina

Because most of the Scottish and Irish population arrived at the Philadelphia port during the 18th century, the genealogist must reckon with the names of families in the Pennsylvania Counties. Needless to say, however, the emigrants to Pennsylvania did not remain there, rather moved southward and westward. However, it is worth a search for surnames using the information in the following link: <http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/pahist.htm>

Generally speaking, the Irish from Northern Ireland landed in Charleston. Thus, Charleston County, South Carolina, leaves an easy choice of where to search for the Irish as well as for Scotch Irish families. In South Carolina, as in other States, the Irish adopted the county names of their temporary Pennsylvania home. Thus, we Irish settlements in Chester and Lancaster Counties, South Carolina.

Presbyterian Scots

During the 18th century, a large population of Ulster Scots migrated to Northern Ireland, and resided there for a time. Typically, they spent one or two generations in Northern Ireland before sailing from Belfast, Ireland to Pennsylvania. These first settlements in Northern Ireland, gave the group a new name, Scotch-Irish. In other words, Presbyterians from Northern Ireland were known as Scotch-Irish when they reached Philadelphia. This is how to distinguish the ancient origins from Ulster.

What Happened in Ulster that prompted the Population to Leave Scotland.

The 1607 Irish rebellion occurred when Sir Cahir O'Dogherty forfeited some 500,000 acres of land in Ulster to be put at the disposal of the crown. King James I of England then divided the land into lots and offered it to colonists from England!

The agreement between Sir Arthur Chichester and the English Privy Council to open the land to Scotch settlers was late to the table. The first application was enrolled by James Anderson portion air of Litle Govine, and by September 14, 1609, seventy-seven Scots came forward as purchasers. Had that offer been accepted, they would have possessed 141,000 acres of land between them. But in 1611, the favored Scots were reduced to fifty-nine, with eighty-one thousand acres of land at their disposal, and they were to be accompanied to their new homes by kinsmen, friends, and tenants. Lord Ochiltree, for instance, arrived accompanied by thirty-three followers, a minister, some tenants, freeholders, and artificers.

By the end of 1612 the emigration from Scotland had included 10,000 people, and before the year ended the traffic between Scotland and Ireland now become commonplace. So many emigrants were sailing, that the boat-men were unable to charge what they pleased for passage or freight.

In the selection of the new settlers, measures were carefully taken that the families should be from Ulster, or the inwards part to Scotland, and that they should be so located in Ulster that they were unable to intermarry with mere Irish.

In searching for their exact origins, most immigrants were selected from the shires of Dumbarton, Renfrew, Ayr, Galloway, and Dumfries.

In 1641, there were in Ulster 100,000 Scots and 20,000 English settlers. Yet, not long after the Scots were settled in Ulster, misfortune and persecution caused them much suffering, and for several years afterward, 12,000 emigrants annually left Ulster for the American plantations.

(1) Scotland's Mark on America by George Fraser Black.

Emigrants to America

In 1652, a shipload arrived in Boston aboard the ship John and Sara. They were the Scottish prisoners taken at Dunbar in 1650, and at Worcester (1651) who were sold into service in the colonies. As a result, the Scots Charitable Society of Boston was first formed in America.

A list of the passengers of the John and Sara is given in Suffolk Deed Records (bk. 1, pp. 5-6) and Drake's The Founders of New England (Boston, 1860, pp. 74-76). These men, says Boulton, "worked out their terms of servitude at the Lynn iron works and elsewhere and founded honorable families whose Scotch names appear upon our early records. No account exists of the Scotch prisoners sent to New England in Cromwell's time; at York in 1650 were the Maxwells, McIntires, and Grants. The Mackclothlans [i.e., Mac Lachlans], later known as the Clafins, gave a governor to Massachusetts and distinguished merchants to New York City."

In 1656, the Irish government proposed that persons "of the Scottish nation desiring to come into Ireland" should be prohibited from settling in Ulster or County Louth, but the scheme was not put into effect.

Massachusetts

In 1679-1680, a Scottish merchant in Boston named Hugh Campbell, obtained permission from the authorities of the Bay State Colony to bring in a number of settlers from Scotland and to establish them in the Nipmuc country in the vicinity of Springfield, Massachusetts.

New Jersey

In 1682, a new colony was founded in New Jersey under the management of James Drummond, Earl of Perth, John Drummond, Robert Barclay the Quaker Apologist, David and John Barclay, his brothers, Robert Gordon, Gawen Lawrie, and George Willocks.

George Scot or Scott played a role in encouraging new settlers to New Jersey. Scott (d. 1685) had been repeatedly fined and imprisoned by the Privy Council of Scotland for attending religious gatherings (called "Conventicles") in Scotland. Scott printed a work in Edinburgh called "The Model of the Government of the Province of East New Jersey, in America; and Encouragement for Such as Design to be concerned there." Ultimately, Scott received a grant of five hundred acres in recognition of his work and sailed in the ship Henry and Francis for America. Unfortunately, during the sail, a malignant fever broke out among the passengers, and nearly half of the passengers perished, including Scott and his wife. However, a son and daughter survived, and the proprietors issued a confirmation of the grant to Scott's daughter and her husband (John Johnstone), many of whose descendants resided in New Jersey.

Finally, in August of 1688 R, the evolution in Ireland reached a climax during the siege of Londonderry. Yet, the English government restricted industries and commerce. The restrictions, rack-renting by the landlords, payment of tithes for support of a church with which they had no connection, and other burdens impelled migration to the American colonies from 1718 onwards.

Maine

In 1706, a settlement of Scottish families were planned by Rev. Cotton Mather on the frontiers of Maine and New Hampshire to protect the towns and churches there from the French and Indians, the Puritans evidently not being able to protect themselves, and wrote letters to various persons in Scotland and England to procure such settlements..

It was estimated in 1715, Archbishop Synge estimated that not less than 50,000 Scottish families had settled in Ulster during these twenty-seven years. It should also be mentioned that "before the Ulster plantation began, there was already a considerable Scottish occupation of the region nearest to Scotland. These Scottish settlements were confined to counties Down and Antrim, which were not included in the scheme of the plantation. Their existence facilitated Scottish emigration to the plantation, and they were influential in giving the plantation the Scottish character, which it promptly acquired. Although planned to be in the main an English settlement, with one whole county turned over to the city of London alone, it soon became in the main a Scottish settlement."

On August 4, 1718, five ships bearing seven hundred Ulster Scots emigrants arrived in Boston under the leadership of Rev. William Boyd. They were allowed to select a township site of twelve miles square at

any place on the frontiers. A few settled in Portland, Maine, Wiscasset, Worcester, and Haverhill, Massachusetts, but the greatest number finally settled in Londonderry, New Hampshire.

In 1723-1734, a parsonage and church were constructed for their minister, Rev. James MacGregor, and four schools were later added. Prior to the Revolution of 1776, colonists from Londonderry, New Hampshire, made ten distinct settlements. Notable among the descendants of these colonists were Matthew Thornton, Henry Knox, Gen. John Stark, Hugh McCulloch, Horace Greeley, Gen. George B. McClellan, Salmon P. Chase, and Asa Gray.

In 1735, twenty-seven families, and in 1753, a company of sixty adults and a number of children, collected in Scotland by General Samuel Waldo, were landed at George's River, Maine. In honor of the ancient capital of their native country, they named their settlement Stirling.

From 1771 to 1773, the whole emigration from Ulster was estimated at 30,000, of whom 10,000 were weavers.

New Jersey

A colony of Scots was founded in New Jersey in 1682 under the management of James Drummond, Earl of Perth, John Drummond, Robert Barclay the Quaker Apologist, David and John Barclay, his brothers, Robert Gordon, Gawen Lawrie, and George Willocks. In 1684, Gawen Lawrie, who had been residing in the colony for several years, was appointed Deputy Governor of the province and fixed his residence in Elizabeth. In the same year, Perth (so named in honor of the Earl of Perth, one of the principal proprietors, now Perth Amboy) was made the capital of the new Scottish settlement. During the following century, a constant stream of emigrants from both Scotland and Ulster came to the colony. One of the principal encouragers of the Scottish colony in New Jersey was George Scot or Scott (d. 1685) of Pitlochrie, who had been repeatedly fined and imprisoned by the Privy Council of Scotland for attending "Conventicles," as clandestine religious gatherings were then called in Scotland, and in the hope of obtaining freedom of worship in the new world he proposed to emigrate "to the plantations." To encourage others to do the like, he printed at Edinburgh (1685) a work, now very rare, called "The Model of the Government of the Province of East New Jersey, in America; and Encouragement for Such as Design to be concerned there." Scot received a grant of five hundred acres in recognition of his having written the work and sailed in the Henry and Francis for America. A malignant fever broke out among the passengers, and nearly half on board perished, including Scot and his wife. A son and daughter survived, and the proprietors, a year after, issued a confirmation of the grant to Scott's daughter and her husband (John Johnstone), many of whose descendants are still living in New Jersey.

Walter Ker of Dalsarf, Lanarkshire, was banished in 1685, settled in Freehold, New Jersey, and was active in organizing the Presbyterian Church. The Scottish settled near Princeton, Elizabeth, Newark, Middleton, and Shrewsbury.

These Scots, says Duncan Campbell, largely gave "character to this sturdy little state not the least of their achievements being the building up if not the nominal founding of Princeton College, which has contributed so largely to the scholarship of America."

South Carolina Settlements

In 1682, a company of nobles and gentlemen in Scotland arranged for a settlement at Port Royal, South Carolina. These colonists consisted mainly of banished Presbyterians for attending "Conventicles."

Names: James McClintock, John Buchanan, William Inglis, Gavin Black, Adam Allan, John Gait, Thomas Marshall, William Smith, Robert Urie, Thomas Bryce, John Syme, John Alexander, John Marshall, Matthew Machen, John Paton, John Gibson, John Young, Arthur Cunningham, George Smith, and George Dowart. (1)

Search the following South Carolina Counties for Scottish Settlers: (county records are available online to members of southcarolinapioneers.net

It is presumed that those families who landed in Charleston, South Carolina, settled in the counties of Charleston, Chester, Lancaster, Laurens, and York.

North Carolina Settlements

The immigration from Ulster, Scotland, to Pennsylvania began about 1680 and lasted throughout the 17th century. Soon afterward, the Scotch-Irish commenced settling the Colony of North Carolina. But their first route was through Virginia

1722 and earlier, the first known Scottish Highlanders settled on the Cape Fear River. Wilmington emerged as a port city in about 1729. Its strategic location on the dark waters of the Cape Fear River emptied into the Atlantic Ocean. Thus, it became a famous landing for the English and Scottish Highlanders. During the eighteenth century, Scots were plentiful in the region. Then, in 1739, the Royal Governor of North Carolina, Gabriel Johnston, invited 360 Highland Scots to settle in North Carolina.

In 1736, Henry McCulloh settled a colony of Scotch-Irish from Ireland in Duplin County. From 1740, a stream of Scotch-Irish and German immigrants from Pennsylvania and the valley of Virginia poured along the whole Piedmont section.

In 1739, Neill McNeill of Jura brought over a colony of more than 350 from Argyllshire to settle on the Cape Fear River.

In 1745, after the English defeated the Scots at the Battle of Culloden, there was an incentive to depart the native home of Scotland, and by 1754, merchants settled among Highlander settlements already on Cross Creek, an interior town along the Cape Fear River. Settlements then moved up the Cape Fear River, settling in Bladen, Sampson, Cumberland, Monroe, Robeson, Richmond, and Scotland Counties. Interestingly, the 1790 Census listed the origin of the families in Wilmington as Scotland.

Before 1750, Presbyterian colonists settled in Orange, Rowan, Haywood, Granville, Haywood, and Edgecombe Counties—the settlers from three directions: Western Pennsylvania and Virginia.

For the North Carolina researcher to locate his Scottish origins, it is important to research all records in Anson, Bladen, Moore, Cumberland, Richland, Scotland, and Robeson counties.

One thing to remember is that the Scots took the side of Great Britain and that their lands and estates were confiscated after the war. To avoid hanging, some Scots left North Carolina to settle in Barbados, where they may already have relatives. To that end, books containing Barbados' Wills and Administrations are available on eBay or Amazon.

May 1768. Brunswick. The Scots Magazine records that a number of settlers from the Western Isles had embarked for Carolina and Georgia, including forty or fifty families from Jura alone. In September of following year it is stated that a hundred families of Highlanders had arrived at Brunswick, North Carolina. In August of 1769 the ship Mally sailed from Islay full of passengers for North Carolina, which.

In August 1770, six vessels carrying about twelve hundred emigrants sailed from the western Highlands to make North Carolina their home. In February of 1771, five hundred souls in Islay and adjacent islands prepared to emigrate to America the following summer. In September of the same year, three hundred and seventy persons sailed from Skye for North Carolina, and in 1772, emigrants came from Sutherland and Loch Erribol

Notwithstanding this, it is a great loss to us, yet the depopulation caused by these immigrants is much greater. Besides, the continual emigrations from Ireland and Scotland will soon render our colonies independent on the mother country." In August 1773, three gentlemen of the name of Macdonell, with their families and four hundred Highlanders from Inverness-shire sailed for America to take possession of a grant of land "in Albany." On June 22, previously, between seven and eight hundred people from the Lewis sailed from Stornoway for the colonies. On September 1, 1773, four hundred and twenty-five men, women, and children from Inverness-shire sailed for America. "They are the finest set of fellows in the Highlands. It is allowed that they carry at least 6000 pounds sterling in ready cash with them."

One thousand seven hundred seventy-four farmers and heads of families in Stirlingshire were forming societies to emigrate to the colonies. The fever had also extended to Orkney and Shetland and the north of England. In 1753, it was estimated that there were one thousand Scots in the single county of Cumberland capable of bearing arms, of whom the Macdonalds were the most numerous. Gabriel Johnston, Governor of the province of North Carolina from 1734 to 1752, appears to have done more to encourage the settlement of Scots in the colony than all its other colonial governors combined.

In 1775, Flora MacDonald and her clan landed on the North Carolina coast and requested land from the Governor. The clan was given 40,000 acres in Moore County, North Carolina. However, most of the Scottish families in Moore County sided with the Tories. The clans departed North Carolina after the American Revolutionary War to avoid being tried for treason and hanged.

William Montgomery left Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary War and settled on Buffalo Creek in Guilford County. His wife rode horseback from Reading, Pennsylvania—source: History of Alamance by Miss S. W. Stockard (1900).

David White left Ulster because of religious persecution to settle in New Sweden in the valley of the Delaware River. During the Revolutionary War, his sons fought the Tories on Bushy Creek in Chatham County. (4)

William Forster, born in 1748 in Ireland, emigrated to Virginia when he was young. After the Revolutionary War, he settled in Western North Carolina on the Swannea River.—source: Asheville & Buncombe County by F. A. Sondley, L. L. D.(1)

On that day, many men were so eager for freedom and a chance to get a fresh start that before sailing, through the enterprises set up by shipowners and emigration agents, they bound themselves with written indentures to work for a certain period of time. These persons were called Indents. Their labor was sold so that, in reality, they were little more than enslaved people. When they finally worked out their time, they earned their freedom and were called Redemptioners. The practice of selling Redemptioners continued until 1820, all forty-four years after "Honest" John Hart had signed his name to the Declaration of Independence. It is said that a lineal descendant of Emperor Maximilian was so bound in Georgia.

The Scotch-Irish among the newcomers wanted land of their own—independence above all independence. So they drifted down the coast to the western fringe of settlement and established themselves in the foothills east of the Blue Ridge in what is now the Carolinas. Migration might just as well have moved west from Virginia and across the Alleghenies. However, not only did the mountains themselves present an impenetrable barrier, but settlers were forbidden to cross by "proclamation of the authorities" on account of the hostility of the Indians on the west of the mountain range. Then, too, there were inviting fertile valleys on this eastern side of the Blue Ridge, where they might dwell.

But these newcomers, at least the Scotch-Irish among them, were not primarily men who wanted to till the soil. They were not by nature farmers like the Germans in Pennsylvania. And they did not intend to become underlings of their more prosperous predecessors and neighbors who had already taken root in the valleys and who had set up projects to further their gains. Furthermore, being younger in the new world, they were more adventurous. The wilderness, with its hunting and exploring, beckoned. And so they pressed on deeper into the mountains. There was always more room the higher up they climbed. As they moved on, they carried along with them as a surging stream gathered up the life along its course, a sprinkling of all the various denominations whose lives they touched among the settlements along the coast.

The Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina

Many Scots settled in the Blue Ridge Mountains. But, before migrating, their baggage and possessions were often confiscated and known as the convicts. (5)

Search the following North Carolina Counties for Scotch-Irish settlers (available online to members of northcarolinapioneers.com)

Alamance County Records

Bladen County Records

Buncombe County Records

Chatham County Records

Cumberland County Records

Duplin County Records

Granville County Records

Guilford County Records

Haywood County Records

Orange County Records

Robeson County Records

Rowan County Records

Sampson County Records

Scottish Emigrants to Georgia

In 1735, one hundred thirty Highlanders with fifty women and children sailed from Inverness, Scotland. They landed at Savannah in January 1736 at the invitation of General James Oglethorpe to Fort Frederica to defend the colony against the Spanish in Florida. They were under the leadership of Lieutenant Hugh Mackay. They named the new home "New Inverness," today, this location is Darien, Georgia. Note: Traced genealogies of Oglethorpe's first voyagers in the format of Colonial Georgians by Jeannette Holland Austin are available online to members of georgiapioneers.com

The Darien descendants fought in the American Revolutionary War, viz: John Mohr McIntosh, Captain Hugh Mackay, Ensign Charles Mackay, Col. John McIntosh, General Lachlan McIntosh, etc.

Georgia Counties to Search for Scottish Emigrants:

Chatham County Records

Glynn County Records

McIntosh County Records

Emigrants of the Scotch-Irish to the Valley of Virginia

In 1719, just two years after the Antrim Eviction, thirty thousand more Protestants left Ulster for America. Such names were known as Grigsby, Caruthers, Crawford, and McCuen. As early as 1728, a sturdy Scot from Ulster by the name of Alexander Breckinridge was settled in the Shenandoah Valley, though later, he was to be carried with the tide of emigration that led to Kentucky. (4)

The following names of the immigrants who flocked into Virginia in 1729 and 1740:

Alexander Breckinridge, David Logan, Hugh Campbell, William Graham, James Waddell (the "Blind Preacher"), John McCue, Benjamin Erwin, Gideon Blackburn, Samuel Houston, Archibald Scott, Samuel Carrack, John Montgomery, George Baxter, William McPheeters, and Robert Poage, and the names of Bell, Trimble (Turnbull), Hay, Anderson, Patterson, Scott, Wilson, and Young.

In 1742, John McDowell and eight of his men were killed by Indians, including his father, Ephraim McDowell. In 1763, the Indians attacked a peaceful settlement and carried off a number of captives.

In the following year, Colonel Henry Bouquet led a strong force against the Indians west of the Ohio and compelled them to desist from their predatory warfare and deliver up the captives they had taken. One of his companies was made up of men from the Central Valley of Virginia, largely composed of Scots or men of Ulster Scot descent, and commanded by Alexander McClanahan, a good Galloway surname. Ten years later, the battle of Point Pleasant occurred when men of the same race under the command of Andrew Lewis defeated the Shawnee Indians.

John Lewis was born in Ireland and married Margaret Lynn, daughter of the laird of Loch Lynn, a descendant of a powerful Scotch clan. They had three sons, and John Lewis soon rented more land from a landlord. These lands brought him more and more wealth, and the landlord grew jealous. He told Lewis that he would not let him continue to cultivate them, although the lease had not expired. One day, the landlord came to the Lewis home. He brought many of his hirelings and demanded that Lewis vacate the house at once. At the time, Lewis' brother was ill and could not help him defend his home. Margaret, his wife, and a few servants quickly barred the doors and windows and defied the landlord to enter. The infuriated man began to fire into the house, and one shot killed John Lewis' brother and one wounded Margaret. John could not stand such an outrage any longer, so he rushed out and killed the landlord!

His family and neighbors, knowing that they would get a fair trial, urged him to flee the country. At last, he consented to go, but before he did, he carefully wrote down all the details of the trouble and sent it to the proper authorities. Then, he hastily left the country and soon arrived in Williamsburg, Virginia.

After landing, Lewis went to Williamsburg after landing in Virginia, later settling in Shenandoah Valley, settling on Lewis Creek. He obtained authority to 100,000 acres of land in and near the ground on which he built his fort-like house. Before very long, many of his friends and neighbors from Ireland were on their way to Virginia to join him. Many of them settled in Western Augusta near Fort Lewis. One can imagine how happy it made John Lewis to be told that the authorities, upon investigation, had granted him a pardon and absolved him from all blame in the killing of his landlord before he left Ireland. These Scotch-Irish, like their German neighbors, did not have very much trouble from the Indians for several years.

Thomas, a son of John Lewis, studied and went to represent his county in the House of Burgesses. He was a man of sound judgment and voted for Patrick Henry's celebrated resolutions.

Andrew Lewis, another son, was a soldier and made his home in Botetourt County. During the Indian Wars, he was made a General, but not until he had proved his worth in many battles. He served with George Washington on July 4, 1754, when Fort Necessity was taken, and he was present when the

articles of the treaty were agreed upon. When Washington was made Commander-in-Chief, it is said he asked Lewis to accept the commission of brigadier-general. In 1776, he commanded the Virginians when Governor Dunmore was driven from Gwynn's Island. We are told he gave the order to attack the enemy, and he himself lit the match to the eighteen-pounder. General Lewis resigned in 1780 and, on his way home, was taken ill with fever. He died near Bedford, about forty miles from home. (2)

Fincastle County, Virginia

In January 1775, the freeholders of Fincastle presented an address to the Continental Congress, declaring their purpose to resist the oppressive measures of the home government. Among the signers were William Christian, Rev. Charles Cummings, Arthur Campbell, William Campbell, William Edmundson, William Preston, and others. Several other counties in the same state, inhabited mainly by Scots or people of Scottish descent, adopted resolutions like these. During the Revolutionary war, in addition to large numbers of men of Scottish origin serving in the Continental Army from this state, the militia was also constantly in service under the leadership of such men as Colonels Samuel McDowell, George Moffett, William Preston, John and William Bowyer, and Samson Mathews.

During the 18th century, many emigrants from Northern Ireland landed in Philadelphia and crossed the Kittatinny Valley and the Potomac River southward through the Shenandoah Valley. The families primarily traveled in covered wagons pulled by oxen. Some were astride horses, while others walked. The places of settlements were varied, but mainly in the Virginia Colony in the regions that later became the counties of Augusta, Culpeper, Rockingham, and Shenandoah. This is where to search if you are searching for your emigrant ancestors.

Augusta County was formed in Orange County in 1738 and stretched from the Shenandoah Valley to the Mississippi River. When searching in this county, one must consider the surrounding regions that were once part of old Augusta County, viz: Fincastle, Pendleton, Bath, and Ohio, Monongalia, and Yohogania counties, the latter portion of which are now part of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio.

Where to Search for Scottish Emigrants in Virginia (county records are available to members of virginiapioneers.net)

Augusta County Records

Bedford County Records

Buckingham County Records

Culpeper County Records

Rockingham County Records

Shenandoah County Records

South Carolina Emigrants

The following Scots were members of His Majesty's Council in South Carolina under the royal government from 1720 to 1776:

Alexander Skene, James Kinloch (1729), John Cleland, James Graeme, George Saxby, James Michie, John Rattray (1761), Thomas Knox Gordon, and John Stuart. Andrew Rutledge was Speaker of the Commons House of Assembly from 1749 to 1752. David Graeme, attorney at law in 1754, was Attorney-General of the State from 1757 to 1764. James Graeme, most probably a relation of the preceding, was elected to the Assembly from Port Royal in 1732, became Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty from 1742 to 1752, and Chief Justice from 1749 to 1752. James Michie was Speaker of the Assembly from 1752 to 1754, Judge of the Court of Admiralty from 1752 to 1754, and Chief Justice from 1759 to 1761.

William Simpson served as Chief Justice from 1761 to 1762. Thomas Knox Gordon was appointed Chief Justice in 1771 and served till 1776, and in 1773, he also appeared as a member of the Council. John Murray was appointed Associate Justice in 1771 and died in 1774. His Majesty's mandamus appointed William Gregory to succeed him in 1774. Robert Hume was Speaker of the Assembly in 1732-1733. Robert Brisbane was Associate Justice in 1764, and Robert Pringle appeared in the same office in 1760 and 1766. John Rattray was Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty in 1760-61, and James Abercrombie appeared as Attorney-General in 1731-32. James Simpson was Clerk of the Council in 1773, Surveyor-General of Land in 1772, Attorney-General in 1774-75, and Judge of Vice-Admiralty in the absence of Sir Augustus Johnson in 1769. John Carwood was Assistant Justice in 1725.

In 1707, Thomas Nairne was employed as a resident agent among the Indians, with the power to settle all disputes among traders, traders guilty of misdemeanors and send them to Charleston for trial, etc. This Thomas Nairne is probably the same individual who published, anonymously, "A letter from South Carolina; giving an account of the soil ... product ... trade ... government [etc.] of that province. Written by a Swiss Gentleman to his friend at Bern," the first edition of which was published in London in 1710 (second ed. in 1732).

In 1743, the names of seventeen corporate Sottish members of the Charleston Library Society were as follows: Robert Brisbane, Alexander M'Cauley, Patrick M'Kie, William Logan, John Sinclair, James Grindlay, Alexander Baron, and Charles Stevenson.

In 1775, the Scottish members of the Provincial Congress held at Charleston were Major John Caldwell, Patrick Calhoun (ancestor of Vice-President Calhoun), George Haig of the family of Bemersyde, Charles Elliott, Thomas Ferguson, Adam Macdonald, Alexander McIntosh, John M'Ness, Isaac MacPherson, Col. William Moultrie, David Oliphant, George Ross, Thomas Rutledge, James Sinkler, James Skirving, senior, James Skirving, junior, William Skirving, and Rev. William Tennent.

Counties to Search for the Scotch-Irish in South Carolina (available to members of southcarolinapioneers.net)

It is presumed that those Scotch-Irish families who landed in Charleston, South Carolina, settled in the counties of Charleston, Chester, Lancaster, Laurens, and York.

Maryland Emigrants

In 1670, a colony of Scots under Colonel Ninian Beall settled between the Potomac and the Patuxent Rivers.

Many other small Scottish colonies were settled on the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, particularly in Accomac, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties. To minister to them the Rev. Francis Makemie and the Rev. William Traill were sent out by the Presbytery of Laggan in Ulster. Upper Marlborough, Maryland, was founded by a company of Scottish immigrants and were ministered to by the Rev. Nathaniel Taylor, also from Scotland.

Two shiploads of Scottish Jacobites taken at Preston in 1716 were sent over in the ships Friendship and Good Speed to Maryland to be sold as servants. The names: Dugall Macqueen, Alexander Garden, Henry Wilson, John Sinclair, William Grant, Alexander Spalding, John Robertson, William MacBean, William McGilvary, James Hindry, Allen Maclien, William Cummins, David Steward, John MacIntire, David Kennedy, John Cameron, Alexander Orrach [Orrock?], Finloe MacIntire, Daniel Grant, etc. Another batch taken in the Rising of '45 and also shipped to Maryland included such names as John Grant, Alexander Buchanan, Patrick Ferguson, Thomas Ross, John Cameron, William Cowan, John Bowe, John Burnett, Duncan Cameron, James Chapman, Thomas Claperton, Sanders Campbell, Charles Davidson, John Duff, James Erwyn, Peter Gardiner, John Gray, James King, Patrick Murray, William Melvil, William Murdock, etc.(1)

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Volume 23, Register of Marriages for the Parish of Edinburgh 1701-1750

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Volume 27, Protocol Book of Sir William Corbet, 1529-1555

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Volume 29, Register of Marriages and Baptisms, Parish of Kilbarchan, 1649-1772

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North Carolina Countys - where to search for Scotch-Irish

Orange County Records

Robeson County Records

Rowan County Records

Sampson County Records

Scottish Emigrants to Georgia

In 1735, one hundred and thirty Highlanders with fifty women and children sailed from Inverness, Scotland and landed at Savannah in January 1736 at the invitation of General James Oglethorpe to Fort Frederica to defend the colony against the Spanish in Florida. They were under the leadership of Lieutenant Hugh Mackay. They named the new home "New Inverness", and today this location is Darien, Georgia. Note: Traced genealogies of Oglethorpe's first voyagers in the format of **Colonial Georgians by Jeannette Holland Austin** is available online to members of georgiapioneers.com

The Darien descendants fought in the American Revolutionary War, viz: John Mohr McIntosh, Captain Hugh Mackay, Ensign Charles Mackay, Col. John McIntosh, General Lachlan McIntosh, etc. **Georgia Counties to Search for Scottish Emigrants:**

Chatham County Records

Glynn County Records

McIntosh County Records

Emigrants of the Scotch-Irish to the Valley of Virginia

In 1719, just two years after the Antrim Eviction, thirty thousand more Protestants left Ulster for America. Such names were known as Grigsby, Caruthers, Crawford, and McCuen. As early as 1728 a sturdy Scot from Ulster, by name Alexander Breckinridge, was settled in the Shenandoah Valley, though

later he was to be carried with the tide of emigration that led to Kentucky. (4)

The following names of the immigrants who flocked into Virginia in 1729 and 1740:

Alexander Breckinridge, David Logan, Hugh Campbell, William Graham, James Waddell (the "Blind Preacher"), John McCue, Benjamin Erwin, Gideon Blackburn, Samuel Houston, Archibald Scott, Samuel Carrack, John Montgomery, George Baxter, William McPheeters, and Robert Poage, and the names of of Bell, Trimble (Turnbull), Hay, Anderson, Patterson, Scott, Wilson, and Young.

In 1742, John McDowell and eight of his men were killed by Indians, including his father, Ephraim McDowell. In 1763 the Indians attacked a peaceful settlement and carried off a number of captives.

In the following year Colonel Henry Bouquet led a strong force against the Indians west of the Ohio, and compelled them to desist from their predatory warfare, and deliver up the captives they had taken. One of his companies was made up of men from the Central Valley of Virginia, largely composed of Scots or men of Ulster Scot descent, and commanded by Alexander McClanahan, a good Galloway surname. Ten years later occurred the battle of Point Pleasant when men of the same race under the command of Andrew Lewis defeated the Shawnee Indians.

John Lewis was born in Ireland and married Margaret Lynn, daughter of the laird of Loch Lynn, a descendant of a powerful Scotch clan. They had three sons and soon John Lewis rented more lands from a landlord. These lands brought him more and more wealth and the landlord grew jealous. He told Lewis that he would not let him continue to cultivate them, although the lease was not expired. One day the landlord came to the Lewis home. He brought many of his hirelings and demanded that Lewis vacate the house at once. At the time, Lewis' brother was ill and could not help him defend his home. Margaret, his wife, and a few servants quickly barred the doors and windows and defied the landlord to enter. The infuriated man began to fire into the house and one shot killed John Lewis' brother and one wounded Margaret. John could not stand such an outrage any longer, so he rushed out and killed the landlord!

His family and neighbors, knowing that they would get a fair trial, urged him to flee the country. At last he consented to go, but before he did, he carefully wrote down all the details of the trouble and sent it to the proper authorities. Then he hastily left the country and soon arrived in Williamsburg, Virginia.

After landing Lewis went to Williamsburg after landing in Virginia, later settling in Shenandoah Valley, settling on Lewis Creek. He obtained authority to 100,000 acres of land in and near the ground on which he built his fort-like house. Before very long, many of his friends and neighbors from Ireland were on their way to Virginia to join him. Many of them settled in Western Augusta near Fort Lewis. One can imagine how happy it made John Lewis to be told that the authorities, upon investigation, had granted him a pardon and absolved him from all blame in the killing of his landlord before he left Ireland. These Scotch-Irish, like their German neighbors, did not have very much trouble from the Indians for several years.

Thomas, a son of John Lewis, studied and went to represent his county in the House of Burgesses. He was a man of sound judgment and voted for Patrick Henry's celebrated resolutions.

Andrew Lewis, another son, was a soldier, and made his home in Botetourt County. During the Indian Wars, he was made a General but not until he had proved his worth in many a battle. He served with George Washington on July 4th, 1754 when Fort Necessity was taken, and he was present when the articles of the treaty were agreed upon. When Washington was made Commander-in-Chief, it is said he asked Lewis to accept the commission of brigadier-general. In 1776 he commanded the Virginians when Governor Dunmore was driven from Gwynn's Island and we are told he gave the order for attacking the enemy and he himself lighted the match to the eighteen-pounder. General Lewis resigned in 1780 and on his way home was taken ill with fever. He died near Bedford, about forty miles from home. (2)

Fincastle County, Virginia

In January 1775, the freeholders of Fincastle presented an address to the Continental Congress, declaring their purpose to resist the oppressive measures of the home government. Among the signers were William Christian, Rev. Charles Cummings, Arthur Campbell, William Campbell, William Edmundson, William Preston and others. Several other counties in the same state, inhabited mainly by Scots or people of Scottish descent, adopted like resolutions. During the Revolutionary war, in addition to large numbers of men of Scottish origin serving in the Continental army from this state, the militia were also constantly in service under the leadership of such men as Colonels Samuel McDowell, George Moffett, William Preston, John and William Bowyer, and Samson Mathews.

During the 18th century, many emigrants from Northern Ireland landed in Philadelphia and crossed the Kittatinny Valley and the Potomac River southward through the Shenandoah Valley. The families primarily traveled in covered wagons pulled by oxen. Some were astride horses, while others walked. The places of settlements were varied, but mainly in the Virginia Colony in the regions that later became the counties of Augusta, Culpeper, Rockingham, and Shenandoah. This is where to search if you are searching for your emigrant ancestors.

Augusta County was formed in Orange County in 1738 and stretched from the Shenandoah Valley to the Mississippi River. When searching in this county, one must consider the surrounding regions that were once part of old Augusta County, viz: Fincastle, Pendleton, Bath, and Ohio, Monongalia, and Yohogania counties, the latter portion of which are now part of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio.

Where to Search for Scottish Emigrants in Virginia (county records are available to members of virginiapioneers.net)

Augusta County Records

Bedford County Records

Buckingham County Records

Culpeper County Records

Rockingham County Records

Shenandoah County Records

South Carolina Emigrants

The following Scots were members of His Majesty's Council in South Carolina under the royal government, from 1720 to 1776:

Alexander Skene, James Kinloch (1729), John Cleland, James Graeme, George Saxby, James Michie, John Rattray (1761), Thomas Knox Gordon, and John Stuart. Andrew Rutledge was Speaker of the Commons' House of Assembly from 1749 to 1752. David Graeme, attorney at law in 1754, was Attorney-General of the State from 1757 to 1764. James Graeme, most probably a relation of the preceding, was elected to the Assembly from Port Royal in 1732, became Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty from 1742 to 1752, and Chief Justice from 1749 to 1752. James Michie was Speaker of the Assembly from 1752 to 1754, Judge of the Court of Admiralty from 1752 to 1754, and Chief Justice from 1759 to 1761.

William Simpson served as Chief Justice 1761-1762. Thomas Knox Gordon was appointed Chief Justice in 1771 and served till 1776, and in 1773 he also appears as Member of Council. John Murray was appointed Associate Justice in 1771 and died in 1774. William Gregory was appointed by His Majesty's mandamus to succeed him in 1774. Robert Hume was Speaker of the Assembly in 1732-1733. Robert Brisbane was Associate Justice in 1764, and Robert Pringle appears in the same office in 1760 and 1766. John Rattray was Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty in 1760-61, and James Abercrombie appears as Attorney-General in 1731-32. James Simpson was Clerk of the Council in 1773, Surveyor-General of Land in 1772, Attorney-General in 1774-75, and Judge of Vice-Admiralty in the absence of Sir Augustus Johnson in 1769. John Carwood was Assistant Justice in 1725.

In 1707, Thomas Nairne was employed as a resident agent among the Indians, with power to settle all disputes among traders, traders guilty of misdemeanors and send them to Charleston for trial, etc. This Thomas Nairne is probably the same individual who published, anonymously, "A letter from South Carolina; giving an account of the soil ... product ... trade ... government [etc.] of that province. Written by a Swiss Gentleman to his friend at Bern," the first edition of which was published in London in 1710 (second ed. in 1732).

In 1743, the names of seventeen corporate Sottish members of the Charleston Library Society were as follows: Robert Brisbane, Alexander M'Cauley, Patrick M'Kie, William Logan, John Sinclair, James Grindlay, Alexander Baron, and Charles Stevenson.

In 1775, the Scottish members of the Provincial Congress held at Charleston were: Major John Caldwell, Patrick Calhoun (ancestor of Vice-President Calhoun), George Haig of the family of Bemersyde, Charles Elliott, Thomas Ferguson, Adam Macdonald, Alexander McIntosh, John M'Ness, Isaac MacPherson, Col. William Moultrie, David Oliphant, George Ross, Thomas Rutledge, James Sinkler, James Skirving, senior, James Skirving, junior, William Skirving, and Rev. William Tennent.

Counties to Search for the Scotch-Irish in South Carolina (available to members of southcarolinapioneers.net)

It is presumed that those Scotch-Irish families who landed in Charleston, South Carolina, settled in the counties of Charleston, Chester, Lancaster, Laurens, and York.

Maryland Emigrants

In 1670, a colony of Scots under Colonel Ninian Beall settled between the Potomac and the Patuxent Rivers.

Many other small Scottish colonies were settled on the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, particularly in Accomac, Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties. To minister to them the Rev. Francis Makemie and the Rev. William Traill were sent out by the Presbytery of Laggan in Ulster. Upper Marlborough, Maryland, was founded by a company of Scottish immigrants under the ministry of the Rev. Nathaniel Taylor, also from Scotland.

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General Thomas Jonathan Jackson was born January 21, 1824, Clarksburg, West Virginia, then a part of old Virginia. He sprang from Scotch-Irish stock. His great-grandfather, John Jackson, was born in Ireland, but his parents moved to the city of London when John was only two years old. John Jackson grew up to be a great trader. In 1748 he came to the New World to make his fortune, and landed in the State of Maryland where he married Elizabeth Cummins. (3)

New York Emigrants

In 1735, loyal protestant Highlanders were invited to settle the lands between the Hudson River and the northern lakes. During 1738-1740, Captain Lauchlin Campbell of Islay brought over eighty-three families of Highlanders to settle on a grant of thirty thousand acres in what is now Washington County.

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Volume 49, Protocol Book of John Foular 1500-1503

Volume 50, Protocol Book of Sir Robert Rollok 1534-1552

Volume 51, The Burgesses and Guild Brethren of Glasgow 1751-1846

Volume 52, Inventory of Pitferrane Writs 1230-1794

Volume 53, Roll of Edinburgh Burgesses and Guild Brethren 1761-1841

Volume 54, An Inventory of Lamont Papers 1231-1897

Old Parochial Registers of Scotland

The Episcopal History of Perth 1689-1984

The Parish of Colinton

County Histories

Eminent Men of Aberdeen

An Angus Parish in the 18th century

Records of Argyll, Legends, Traditions, Recollections

Borthwick Castle, chiefs of the house of Argyll

History of Parish of Banchory-Devenick

Borrowstounness and district

Volumes 1 & 2 Isle of Bute in the Olden Time

Argyllshire and Buteshire

Auld Biggins of Stirling

History of the province of Caithness and Sutherland

Caithness and Sutherland

Scenes and Legends of the north of Scotland (Cromarty)

Annals of Caledonians, Picts, Scots, Strathclyde, Cumberland, Volume 1

Annals of the Caledonians, Picts, Scots, Strathclyde, Cumberland, Volume 2

History of the burgh of Dumfries with notices of Nithsdale, Annandale

History of Dumfries and Galloway

Eminent Burgesses of Dundee 1513-1886

Volume 1, Hereditary Sheriffs of Galloway

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The Post-Office annual Glasgow Directory

Abstracts of protocols of the town clerks of Glasgow, Volume 8

Abstracts of protocols of the town clerks of Glasgow

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Inverness of Kirk-session records 1661-1880

A History of County of Inverness (mainland)

Antiquarian Notes, Inverness shire parish by parish

Muniments of the royal burgh of Irvine

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History of Nairnshire

Orkney and Shetland

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Collection of Armorial of the County of Orkney

Outer Isles

Perth, its annals and archives

Perthshire in bygone days and one hundred biographical essays

Lowland Scotch in the lower Strathearn District of Perthshire Illustrations of history
and antiquities of Perthshire

The Isle of Skye in 1882-1883

Stirling Historical, with extracts from Burgh Records

Volumes 1 & 2, Old Faces of Stirling

Strathmore, past and present

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Scotland Births and Baptisms 1564-1950

Scotland Church and Kirk Session Records 1658-1919

Scotland Marriages 1561-1910

Scotland Presbyterian and Protestant Church Records 1736-1990

Lanarkshire Church Records 1823-1967

THE END