

## APPENDIX I

### THE ELEVEN TOWNSHIPS OF BALNAKILLY

In order to look at life at this time we are considering the present estate of Balnakilly, as being typical of all. It consisted, then of three separate estates — Balnakilly, Tullochcurran and Over Balnald. Balnakilly was owned by John Robertson, but Tullochcurran was still the property of Atholl. The property, as it exists now, consisted of eleven separate towns, townships or villages, with a population in the region of 150. The remains of these are still clearly visible, and some well worth a visit. The first map shown was printed in 1783, and shows all these "towns". The second map was printed from a survey in 1830, and shows dramatic changes. The third map, which is the present survey, has the location of the old towns on it to assist in finding them.

All of these towns were built on the higher ground, for although the lower areas of the glen had, by now, been cleared of the dense undergrowth, they remained boggy, and much of it is just a swamp. Therefore the towns, and cultivations had to be above this line.

They consist as follows:—

1. **CROFTINUARAN** — "The village of the well". This is on the side of the old road above Balnakilly 1 and 2 cottages. Little remains apart from the well, which is still clearly visible, and is still the principal source of water, and runs consistently, even in the worst of droughts. The prefix 'Croft' means a small settlement, possibly only one family, and probably had a population of 4 - 6 people.
2. **BALINULAR** — Translated literally means "Village of the Lowlands next to the sea". This is further up the same old road, immediately above the timber plantation on the left. Very little remains of this, but the outlines of some of the buildings, the field works and water supply are still visible. The road to it is of interest as a very great deal of work has been devoted to building up the levels and retaining walls, suggesting a town of some importance and probably one of the later ones. The name is also an anomaly, as it is nowhere near the sea. While the possibility exists of a wrong translation it might have been occupied by emigrants from the coast, which was quite common, and who brought the name with them. It is difficult to estimate the population from such few remains, but a reasonable estimate might be 8 - 12 people.
3. **RAOR** — Translated literally means "YESTER-E'EN", or perhaps "The Eve of yesteryear". It has a nostalgic ring about it, and was possibly one of the last to go. This is situated at the opposite corner of the wood from Tullochcurran Cottage, stretches from there to the dyke below the next wood, and well up above the present heather line. This is possibly one of the most interesting and substantial remains exist of houses and buildings, of the field system, and again the 'well'. The 'well' in this case was probably a storage tank built of stone into which the burn was diverted. A reasonable estimate of the population would be in the region of forty people.
4. **BALNALUNAG** — "The Village of Song", and what a delightful name. This stretches most of the way from Loch Cottage to new log cabins and goes right round the corner of the hill. A lot of remains exist, and the longer your look, the more you find. This was obviously the biggest of the townships, and probably consisted of 40 - 50 people. The water supply is intact in the form of a ditch the whole way through the field, bringing water from the hill, and the field works stretch right up into the new plantation.
5. **BALNAIN** — "The Village of Heroes". Once again it would be fascinating to learn the origin of this. This is a small village on a rocky outcrop beside the river, and opposite the two cottages on the opposite bank of the river. Follow the high tension electric line down from Balnalunag to the river where the remains are clearly visible. The population was probably about 6 - 10.
6. **BALNACHLA** — "The Village of Darkness". It would be interesting to know whether this refers to lack of daylight or some shameful or sinister deed. This is situated on the eastern shore of Loch Tullochcurran, (which was made into a curling pond in the early 1800's) and extends down into the wood. Population estimate might be 10 - 12.

7. **TEMLUCHAG** — “Mousebite” — Another bizarre name. This is further along the river bank, upstream, and goes all round a small loch below the wood. Again the water channel can be seen coming from the corner of the wood, where there was presumably a stream before the loch was created. Population perhaps 6 - 8.
8. **DALNAGAILCH** — “Dale of the Chalky Soil”. Perhaps there was a bit of limestone here? Further along the river bank with evidence of some houses. This must have survived in some form, as a road can clearly be seen down to the river and across a ford just below the weir which was built to divert water to the mill at Balvarran. Population perhaps 10 - 12.
9. **BALNAKILLY** — “The place of the Churchyard” — population then perhaps 8.
10. **BALNAULD** — Now Strathview on the road to Glen Derby.
11. **TULLOCHCURRAN MILL** — Clearly a settlement of a kind existed here from early times and perhaps both this and Balnald were one family each.

Therefore the total population was in the region of 150, but by about 1815, was probably no more than 30.



LOCATION MAP OF OLD TOWNS AND LIME KILNS



- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. CROFTINUIARAN | 7. TEMPLUCHAG      |
| 2. BALINULAR     | 8. DALNAGAILCH     |
| 3. RAOR          | 9. BALNAKILLY      |
| 4. BALNALUNAG    | 10. BALNAULD       |
| 5. BALNAIN       | 11. THE BLACK MILL |
| 6. BALNACHLA     | 12. LIME KILNS     |

## APPENDIX II

1649 — We have, preserved in the Acts of the Scots Parliament of this year, one of the most valuable and interesting records connected with this period of Perthshire history, and which, of course, is authentic, viz., “The Rentall of the County of Perth, by Act of the Estates of Parliament of Scotland, 4th August, 1649”:—

### RENTALL OF THE COUNTY OF PERTH

By Act of the Estates of Parliament, 4th August, 1649

PARISH OF KIRKMICHAEL						PARISH OF MULZOING (MOULIN)			
William Spalding of Ashintullie for his lands in the parish	£540	0	0			Dougall Stewart for Stragarrich	£53	6	8
John Robertson for Easter Straloch	240	0	0			Alex McLachlan for his wadsett of Do.	53	6	8
Laird of Kirkmichael	300	0	0			Alex Stewart for Orqwhillbeg	166	13	4
Andrew Rattray for his lands	80	0	0			John Stewart of Orrard for Orqwhill	290	0	0
Alexander Rattray for Dalruzian	100	0	0			Robert Robertson and his mother lyfrenter for Fascallie	445	0	0
William Spalding for Runavey	70	0	0			Duncan Robertson for Auchlecks & Belligowan	66	13	4
Robert McKintosh for his lands	90	0	0			Donald Robertson for Balnacraig & Glenbirachane	100	0	0
John McKintosh for Fairneazaird	90	0	0			John Robertson for Lettoch	76	0	0
Andrew Leslie for Mornloch (now Whitefield)	80	0	0			Robert Fergusone for Pitfeurie	66	13	4
Jean Herring for her lands	80	0	0			Fergus Fergusone for Balledmint	133	6	8
James Robertson for his part Cultalonies	70	0	0			Margorie Stewart for her lyfe-rent of the half of Kinnaird	53	0	0
John Cutts & his Goode Sister for their part yreof	16	0	0			John Robertson for Croftmichaoch	22	0	0
John Robertson for Lenochochmore	25	0	0			Archibald Buttar for Pitlochrie, with the Mylne	133	6	8
Robert Flemynge for his part Binzean	25	0	0			John Murray of Balnabroiche for his wadsett of Tombuy, Fandoch & Dalnagardine	66	13	4
Duncan McKenzie for his part yreof	15	0	0			John Robertson fiar of Gillichangie for Drumquhar	18	0	0
John Rattray for Boirlands	66	13	0			Thomas Buttar for Killiemulzean	46	13	4
John Stewart for his half of Dalvouzie	20	0	0			David Murray for Croftinloane	63	6	8
The said John Stewart for Cuithill	30	0	4			John Stewart for his wadsett of Lannoch	53	6	8
John Spalding for one quarter of Innerredrie	12	0	0			David Rattray for his wadsett of Edradour			
Richard McIntosh for part Cambus & quarter Innerredrie	35	0	0			James Stewart for Wester Clunie			
David Farquharson for Broichdarg	70	0	0			John Cunnison for his wadsett of Ardie			
John Robertson for Bleatone	130	0	0			John Robertson for Easter Straloch	178	0	0
John Rattray for Mylne of Eunoch	60	0	0			Andrew Small for Dirnean	89	0	0
John Robertson for half of Wester Eunoch	40	0	0			Alex Robertson for Wester Straloch	166	13	4
John Murray for Balnabriche	60	0	0			Janet Robertson for her wadsett of Drumchorrie	53	6	8
John Dowlich for his part Balmyle and Merkland	33	6	8			The half thereof belongs to the Earl of Atholl & is posses by him,			
John Stewart for his half Balmyle	15	0	9			Alex McCoull for Easter Kindrogan	53	6	8
John Easson for his half yreof	30	0	0			Alex Fergusone for Bellizulein	90	0	0
John Robertson for Stronymuick & oyr lands	110	0	0			John Stewart for Balnakell	374	0	0
John Stewart for Easter Bannateym	24	0	0			Christian Robertson for her lyfe-rent of lands of Kinnaird	53	0	0
Janet Robertson for her part Balmacrochie	36	0	0			Earl of Atholl for his Few-duties in this parish	37	4	4
Patrick Fergusone for his part yreof	24	0	0						
John Mustard for his part yreof	4	0	0						
John Brae for his part yreof	8	0	0						
The said John Brae for Dalnabroick	45	0	0						
John McKenzie for his part of Dalnabroick	20	0	0						
Fergus Shaw for his half yreof	20	0	0						
Alexander Bruce for his lands and Mylne of Pitcarmick	66	13	4						
John Bruce for Wester Pitcarmick	66	12	4						
John Bruce for Tomnamone	16	13	4						
George Small for Dalreoch	50	0	0						
John Eviot for his part Wester Innerchroskie	30	0	0						
Alex Spalding for his part yreof	30	0	0						
John Red-Gow for his part yreof	30	0	0						
Robert Fleming for his part Innerchroskie	45	0	0						
Andrew Spalding for his part yreof	25	0	0						
Lachlan McKeich for his part yreof	25	0	0						
Patrick Robertson for Glengennet & oyres	210	0	0						
Patrick McIntosh for Camuies	36	0	0						
Alex Mackenzie for Taine	40	0	0						
Annaple Murray for Solzearie	60	0	0						
Earl of Atholl for his Few-duties	150	0	0						
Earl of Airlie for his Teynd-duties	160	0	0						
Laird of Teyllin for his Few-duties	260	0	0						
	£4015	0	0						

## APPENDIX 3

### THE MACDONALDS AND WILLIAMSTOWN 19th Century

One of the rewards for having written a book, such as this, is being contacted by people with family connections and other special interest in the glen, and who have valuable information to add to the story. In this connection, I am greatly indebted to Mrs Anne English, from Edinburgh, whose family, the McDonalds, were such a major influence in the growth of Kirkmichael during the nineteenth century.

Throughout the eighteenth century, Balnakilly had been Robertson property. Donald McDonald married into this family when he married Dorothy in 1786 in the Kirk in Kirkmichael. He was 23, but Dorothy was just 16. His designation of "Merchant" almost certainly identifies him as the proprietor of the first shop; indeed there is ample evidence later on to confirm this. The shop was built in the logical place, immediately adjacent to the coaching Inn which had been built where the first road up the glen terminated, on the West side of the river, as described in the main text. This building is now the bottom house of Williamston. Nothing then existed on the East side of the river except the Kirk, school, and manse, all of which were approached by a wooden footbridge, as the original bridge had collapsed some years earlier. Although it has not been possible to determine the exact date when the shop was built, it is reasonable to assume that it was in the early 1780's. Donald was obviously fully occupied with this until 1803, when he bought the first part of Balnakilly from the Robertson family. During the next six years, he completed the purchase of the remainder of the property, so that by 1809, he was the owner of all of it. In this same year, his seventh child, William, was born; he and Dorothy having already had three sons and three daughters.

We know that he built a substantial part of the farm steading in 1816, and it must have been about this time that he built the first house on Balnakilly. It now seems probable that this was not the big house, but almost certainly Balnakilly Cottage, up the road from the steading, and which was later sub-divided into the two farm cottages, now known as Balnakilly 1 & 2.

The recently discovered bell-wires in the attic of this cottage must indicate the presence of indoor staff, which accurately matches the population census later on.

The Census Return for 1841 for Balnakilly shows Donald McDonald, now 78, a farmer, with his wife, Dorothy, now 70, his son William, now 32, and Margaret Robertson, a servant. There were also four farm workers and a baker living on the place which then was only 100 acres. The rest of the family had all left home; and indeed we know that the eldest daughter had married Mr McDougall, the Kirkmichael schoolmaster, in 1819. In 1834, Donald handed over the management of the place to his son William, and when he died in 1843, William inherited the property from his father with the burden of having to pay certain legacies to his brother and sisters. By 1846, William had managed to get these burdens discharged, but it is interesting to note that his two sisters had needed their husband's consent before this was legal.

The Census Return of 1851 shows William, now head of the house, with his wife, Margaret and two servants. He was still farming 100 acres, and employing four farm workers. Very little, therefore had changed through the years although he had made certain agreements with his neighbours, and one is left with the general impression that his financial position was not all that good after discharging the burdens to his brothers and sisters.

In the next few years, there seems to have been a very dramatic change in their fortunes. In the course of the next two or three years, he had increased his land holding very considerably to 450 acres, a substantial size for a farm at that time. He had also built six cottages on to what we have assumed to be his father's shop, to house his greatly increased farm staff of 8 labourers, 2 boys, a housemaid and a dairymaid. These cottages were called Williamston, quite a common form of nomenclature at that time, and have been called that ever since, although the 'W' of 'Town' was deleted from the maps. Also, the big house of Balnakilly must have been built at this same time. This original house was of a substantial size, with six bedrooms, and considerable living areas. William and his family must have taken up residence in this new house straight away, and they are shown to be in residence in the 1861 Census Return, while 'Balnakilly Cottage', where they must have been living up until then, is now shown to be occupied by the Ferguson family, a retired farmer and his wife, with a young son and an elderly brother, also a retired farmer, and one domestic servant.

Another event also took place at this same time. John Grant Shepherd, a banker in Bournemouth, had a son whom he called William McDonald Shepherd. While it would be easy to dismiss this as a strange co-incidence, it must at once be disproved by the fact that William McDonald left the entire estate of Balnakilly to him at his death in 1893, although he had a family of his own. Many possible explanations spring to mind for this most strange series of events, some of them quite intriguing, but after considering all the possibilities, and taking the two events together, it would seem to be highly probable that the Bournemouth banker financed this capital expansion on the condition that his son would inherit it. In which case it was simply a 'Sell with a life rent' situation which still occurs to-day. It should also be borne in mind that by 1848, the direct railway line was

completed from London to Perth, and two years later this was extended to Coupar Angus. It would not therefore be so surprising if an enterprising banker from Bournemouth might well take advantage of the comfort and speed of such a journey, as opposed to being bumped and jolted around for several days in a horse-drawn coach, and spending several nights in uncomfortable wayside inns. In the course of his travels he must have met up with William McDonald and made this deal. This however is speculation on my part, and possibly evidence will come to light one day which will either confirm or deny this. In any case, Balnakilly house was extended in 1870 to almost its present size and while still in the ownership of William McDonald.

By 1881, William and Margaret had taken up residence at Redhu, and were living there with one servant, Jessie Reid. I have tried to find out more about this house, but it seems certain that it must also have been McDonald property, and, as it is described as "The Hamlet of Williamstown" was probably built in the early 1850's at the same time as all the other houses. It is possible that it was built earlier, or that possibly there was an earlier house there in conjunction with the coaching inn. Maybe these facts will also come to light one day. It would also be interesting to know what involvement, if any, the McDonalds had with the coaching inn.

The Bournemouth Connection surfaced again recently. In conversation with Katherine Balfour shortly before her death, she told me that her family had been tenants of Balnakilly before the first World War, when she was very young. William McDonald Shepherd had only kept the estate for six years after inheriting it in 1893, and in 1899, had sold it all to Frank Balfour, the father of F. K. Balfour, from whom my family bought it. Again one can only speculate as to whether W. M. Shepherd was in any way instrumental in bringing Sir George and Lady Dolby to the glen early in the century, or whether it was just another strange coincidence. You see, at that time, Sir George Dolby was Mayor of Poole in Dorset, but lived in Bournemouth!

I can only hope that should any information come to light which would help to explain any of these points, it would be appreciated if they could be included in this book in any future printing.

*A. G. Reid, December 1991*

The mystery of John Shepherd, the banker from Bournemouth, has been cleared up again from a rather unlikely source. Correspondence with a Mr John White in Australia concerning his own forbears who were in the Glen reveal that John Grant Shepherd was in fact born in Blairgowrie but then went as manager to 'The Bank of British North America' from 1863 to 1868. It seemingly moved two thirds of the gold during the gold rush using Wells Fargo. He subsequently returned to England, where he became manager of The W & D Bank in Bournemouth and lived in the house above it. There was some distant relationship between him and William McDonald all of which would endorse the theory set out.

*A. G. Reid, December 2002*