

# McNeill of Tainish & Gigha

Research by Rob Maxtone-Graham

Note: Neil & Nigel are interchangeable, as are Hector/Achyn, Gillespic/Archibald, Gillecillum/Malcolm, Ane/Ean/John. The McNeill of Tainish papers in National Archives of Scotland (ref GD437) contain the vast majority of Tainish documents cited, whilst GD328 has section on MacNeill of Ugadale. Argyll sasines are indexed from 1617 which contain 17 pages of McNeill listings.

## Gigha & Barra owners, 14<sup>th</sup> century

The earliest extant charter of the Island of Gigha dates from the time of Robert the Bruce (1306-29), when it was granted for homage & service to the crown to Roderick, son of Alan. Roderick appears to have had a son Alan (dead by the time of the charter), who had a daughter Cristina de Marre. (RMS1/app i, 9)

The lands & islands parcelled out to Roderick included:-

- 1 ½ davochs of Modworth (Moydart)
- 3 davochs of Knodworach (Knoydart)
- ½ davoch Ayrsak (Arisaig)
- 50d lands of Gedeuall....?
- 50d lands of Glenbestell & Bethy.....?
- 6 davochs Egis & Rum
- 6 ¾ davochs Kilpedre Blisen.....?
- Island of Barre (Barra)
- Island of Giige (Gigha)

This is the only charter known to show Gigha & Barra under the same specific ownership other than general grants to Lords of the Isles, but the identity of Roderick, Allans & Cristina is unknown. The lineage matches neither the published descent of the contemporary Lords of the Isles, nor that of the McNeills of Barra, whilst neither Mar earldom's progression includes such names.

In 1343, John Lord of the Isles was granted by David II the isles of Ylle, Geday, Jura, Colonsay, Mule, Tirade, Colla, Leges, the lands of Moruar, Lochaber, Durdoman, Glenchomure, with all the little isles adjacent (RMS1, app ii, 859)

Two further charters (#s 860, 861, undated, but next to # 859 above on charter roll) show 'Reginaldi filii Rodoricii' or Ranald son of Roderick, (of the Isles) receiving Kencaill in N Argyle, Ywest, Barra, Eggehe, Rune, and part of the lands of Garrow Morwarne, Mudworthe, Mordhowar, Aresayis, Cnudewithe.

The above charters seem to show various western Isles & bordering mainland bits divided between John Lord of the Isles & Ronald son of Roderick. Apart from Morar, parts of which are mentioned in both grants, there is no duplication of Isles or lands.

By 1371-2, Robert II confirmed a charter to his son (in-law) John of the Isles of 30 merklands of the lands previously held by the deceased Alan son of Roderick:- (RMS1/412, 551)

- Modoworte (Moidart)
- Arrasage (Arisaig)
- Moreovyr (Morar)
- Knodeworte (Knoydart)
- Oviste (Uist)
- Barreche (Barra)
- Rumme (Rum)
- Eggehe (Egg)
- Heryce (Harris)

The following year, John of the Isles passes the same lands, and some additions including Swynwort (Sween), to his son Reginaldo/Rannald (RMS1/520)

With exception of the 1343 charter, **Gigha is omitted from grants** made after Robert I

## GIGHA McNeills

**Nigel McNeill**, said to be father of:-

**Torquil McNeill of Gigha**, said (as son of Nigel) to receive a charter of Gigha, Taynish & constabulary of Castle Sween from Lord of the Isles early 15<sup>th</sup> century. This 'son of Nigel' may have been inferred from later charters where fuller patronymics are quoted; see Hector & Neill below.

SHS "Acts of the Lords of the Isles" has 'note of' 1440 charter to Torquill McNeill of Islands of Gigha & Danna, lands of Barbreack, Barbae, Barlochan, Barnashalg, Ardnachaig, constabulary of Castle Sween & Toiseachdor of Knapdale, but mention is made neither of father Neil/Nigel nor of Taynish, although it may at that time have been part of one of the Knapdale holdings above. Said to be father of brothers Hector & Neil below:-

A/ Hector McNeill, "said to be" ancestor of **Taynish McNeills** (See below), probably same as **Hector Torquelli Ingelli or Negelli**, witness 1463, 1472, when described as Constable of Castle Sween (SHS Lords of Isles). The Latin form of the name seems to confirm the patronymics in these generations, if Hector & Neil were brothers as seems likely from the chronology, but does not fit with his being ancestor of "Neill McNeill vic Hector vic Neill" of Taynish below. It may be that he was the family representative as Constable; he is not recorded with any landed designation.

B/ **Neil MacTorquill Vic Neill of Gigha**, had 1455 charter from Lord of the Isles of 1/8 parts of several Gigha farms & constabulary of Castle Sween, previously granted to Torquill above, apparently succeeded in Gigha by Malcolm below. It may well be that this Neill was the ancestor of Neil McNeill vic Hector vic Neill of Taynish; both the patronymics & the chronology point towards this generation as the root of Taynish branch as a separate entity (see Taynish). Neil was apparently succeeded in Gigha by:-

**Malcolm or Gillechallum McNeill of Geya**, witness 1478 (RMS2/1419), said to be alive 1493, but died around this time. In 1553, Mary Queen of Scots granted the fermes & maills of Gigha to Hector Makclane, natural son of the late Alan M, brother of Hector Makclane of Dowart, as it had been in crown hands due to the non-entry of an heir **for 60 years after Malcolm's death**. A supposed 'pretender' to the lands, Nigel Maknele of Gigha, resigned his rights to them & sold them to James McConnell of Dunaveg & Glennis in 1554 (RMS4/800-1, 921). The assize called to adjudicate on the land-holding included:- Neil Makcachane of Tyth/Tuht, Neil Makcane Maknele, Dugal McAkane McNele of Sorba, Neil Maknele Makcane, Donald dow Makcachane.

In 1481 John Lord of the Isles was granted a huge bundle of lands in south-west Kintyre "claimed by MakNele" & more in Knapdale, claimed by Makclane & Maknele, whilst Tarlach MakAlexander gained a different set of lands in south-east Kintyre. (RMS2/1480,1485) The Kintyre lands claimed by McNeill included many estates later bought by Lachlan McNeill Buie of Tirfergus & his descendants, who might therefore be considered to be 'reclaiming old family lands'. RMS4/800 shows Hector Makclane, natural son of the Alan, (brother of Hector of Duart) who murdered Neil of Gigha in 1530, being granted not only the McNeill lands in Gigha, but also 16 merklands in Kintyre, viz. Macrihanish, Clachgill, Crailliegall, Dareyrachane & Lesnerk, previously pertaining to the Malcolm of Gigha who died c. 1493, showing that the family still had some rights to the lands in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

It would seem that only 'claimed' lands that the McNeills or McLeans held no valid title to were granted to John Lord of the Isles; Gigha & Carskey are excluded from the Kintyre list, as are the various Taynish lands from the list of Knapdale estates granted to him. In the case of Gigha & Taynish area, we

know they held good title & it can be reasonably implied that Carskey also did, or his lands would surely have been included in the grant. It would seem that Carskey was a crown tenant in 1505 (ER), yet it has been claimed by AIB Stewart that their first recorded title only dates from c. 1700 & were only 'in' Carskey until then. There is a legend that the Carskey papers were destroyed at the time of the Dunaverty massacre in 1647, which might account for both versions.

Malcolm was apparently succeeded by:-

**Colin McNeall de Gygha**, or Colino Nigelli Gewa, witnessed 2 Lords of Isles Charters in 1492, (one in RMS) which is close enough to the calculated death date for Malcolm to seem credible. Colin was apparently succeeded by:- (although this Colin may be Callum/Malcolm, said to be still alive 1494)

**Neil McNele of Gaeya**, said to have been slaughtered alongside 60 of his clansmen by Allane MacLane, brother of Hector of Duart in 1530, succeeded as chief by:-

“**Torquill MakNele, chief & principal of Clan & surname of MakNelis**”, so described in letter of 4/1/1530-1, granting him the gift of the mails & fermes of Gigha pertaining to the late Gillechallum above. (Pitcairn's criminal trials & RSS) In Lords of Council entry from 1539, Torquill is again the incumbent, but his predecessor as Chief was Neil McNeill of Geya, not Gillechallum. Both are technically correct, as is the description of Neil's heir (in the lands) being his daughter, then his natural son.

Torquill's root or connection to the main Gigha line is unknown. Neil's only remaining immediate family would appear to be his brother/cousin notary Alexander (& son? John), daughter Annabel & her illegitimate half-brother Neill, below. With 60+ male McNeills slaughtered in 1530, it may be that a caretaker chief was appointed from remaining suitable adult McNeills. There is no record or reference to Torquill being infeft in the lands themselves. Had he been able to prove legitimate kinship to a previous chief, he would surely have been the male heir in both the island & chieftanship.

At this point another senior Gigha MacNeill also becomes involved in family affairs:-

**Alexander MakNele, notary in Edinburgh**, who petitioned the Lords of Council on behalf of his “cousingnece” Annabel, daughter of Neil McNeill of Gigha in 1539. Cousingnece is usually taken to mean niece, but might have included a 1<sup>st</sup> cousin once removed. If niece, then notary Alexander would have been brother of Neil of Gigha & therefore his heir; a more distant relationship seems more likely.

Alexander appears as a clerk from c. 1511 then succeeded James Young as Notary Public in Edinburgh's Canongate c. 1515 and was still active in 1545, joined in some witnessings by John MakNeill from c. 1528. John became notary by 1534 then Canongate NP by 1549, succeeding Alexander, his father, maybe?, Canongate Burgess by 1559, alive 1566. John was granted land in west Stirling-shire under the Great Seal by F. Andrew Makneill of the Friars Preachers at Stirling – a family member maybe?

Alexander is thought to have been the Alex who was legitimised in 1529 under the Privy Seal, as a natural son of John McNeill. (A John McNeill appears as a witness in Edinburgh in 1503 (RMS2/2726), whilst in 1511 Alex then John, both clerks, witness two successive Great Seal charters) If Alex was even a 1<sup>st</sup> cousin of Neil's, then his line, if still extant, may be the senior Gigha family. It may be that Alex wasn't interested in the land or chieftanship; a cushy number in Edinburgh might have been preferable to the chance of being murdered like his predecessor! Notaries Alexander & John made meticulous records of their legal work & seven of their Canongate Protocol Books survive in NAS, which may include further MakNele family documents. One of Edinburgh notary John Foular's Protocol Books records a sasine of 1528 granting land in Blackfriars St to Alexander McNeill & his wife Margret Richardson.

John jr. was granted land at Restalrig in 1556, with his wife Grissillidi Wylsoun (RMS5/1565). John died by 1573, when his son & heir William McNeill recorded his marriage contract between himself & Elizabeth, daughter of John Crawford in Kinneill. William was a Burgess of the Canongate by c. 1580.

Neil who was murdered in 1530 was father of:-

**Annabel McNeill of Gigha**, who is said to have made over Gigha to her natural brother below

**Nigel McNeill of Gigha**, whose right to the land was the subject of the assize mentioned above; although his title conflicted with the MacLane's one, he was recompensed for the land lost to James McConnell. Gigha passed next to Angus McConnell, also of Downevaig, who sold it to Sir John Campbell of Caddell, who sold it to the Tainish branch below. It is said that this original Gigha line failed in the (legitimate) male line from this point, but see notary Alexander & possibly chief Torquill above.

## TAYNISH McNeills

**Nigel Oig**, granted the lands of Killmychill, Drondayllen, Dunnor, Keylpoll, Reynethan by Robert I (RMS I, app ii, 656), possibly father of:-

**Dugall son of Nigel**, made agreement with Dugall Campbell son of Sir Colin Campbell, kt. on 3/8/1323 about 20 merklands of Ardscondniche (Scotnish?) & advocacy of the Church of Kilmartin. (RMS I, app ii, 695)

The above two refs show that McNeills were probably in the Knapdale area & particularly Scotnish, long before the first surviving sasine that mentions Gigha, although earlier charters may have existed; it would seem likely that these might well have been destroyed at the time of the 1530 massacre of the Gigha branch by MacLane.

[Hectore Torquilli Negelli, constable of Castle Sween 1472 (RMS2/2281) See likely **Gigha** descent & doubt about his supposed ancestry of this group.]

Gilchrist McNele, witness at Lochawe in 1495 (RMS2/2352)

Archibald filio Negelli, witness to GD112 sasine in 1498, place unknown, but previous ¼ seal precept signed in Kintyre.

A mediaeval grave-slab at Keills church, Knapdale reads:-

“Hic iacet Torkell(us) M(a)col(mi Nigel(i)i)” or ‘here lies Torquil son of Malcolm son of Neill’  
The rest of the inscription is said to read “CTCOLMCRMGI”, and whilst it is thought that this is made up of several abbreviations, the meaning is unclear. Steer & Bannerman in “Mediaeval monumental sculptures in Argyll” reckon this refers to the Torquill who was considered chief in 1531, state that he was son of Malcolm of Gigha & died c. 1553, but there is no evidence to support these latter theories, although he may have been the Chief in 1530.

The Patronymics highlighted below suggest the following ancestry.....

Neill (McNeill), father of?:-

Hector (McNeill), father of?:-

Neil (McNeill), father of:-?

**Neill McNeill vic Hector vic Neill**, granted lands by Archibald Earl of Argyll in c. 1505 (GD437/32) Knapdale, Barbrek, Drumnagal, Fernach beg Antagan, Barnascealga, Scotinis Anrana & Mor etc.

Hector/Achyn (McNeill), father of:-?

**Neill McEachin (McNeill) of Tainish**, had sasine thereof from Colin Campbell, Earl of Argyll in 1525 (GD437/2) probably father of:-

**A/ Gillespie McNeill vic Achin, baron of Kalkillie** in 1548-9, when he acts as baillie to Neil McNeill vic Achyn below (GD437/6), (possibly father of Donald McGillespie McNeill of Kilmory below), and surely same as:- **Archibald McNeill vic Achyn of Kalchalze**, baillie to Argyll 1553. His lands were re-granted in 1576 to himself & heirs male and to John Oig McNeill, son of Neil McNeill vic Achyn. Alive 1587. He would appear to be the **1<sup>st</sup> McNeill of Gallochallie**

**B/ Neil McNeill vic Achyn of Tainish** – probably (elder) brother of Archibald above. Granted lands 1539 on, sasines including Tainish, Ardbeg, Ob, Kilmore, Dunworich, Turbiskyll, Bacht----?, Barbay, Scottinchmore & Scotinchineran, the combined grants to either Neil McNeill vic Achyn or Neill McNeill vic Hector vic Neill above making up what later became known as the Tainish estate. Servitor to Archibald, master of Argyll in 1553, when granted the nonentries & maills of Ardbeg & Barbay by Argyll (GD437/7), alive 1574, possibly 1576, dead by 1580, father of:-

- 1/ **Torquell McNeill vic Achin**, succeeded his father 1580 (see below)
- 2/ John Oig McNeill vic Achne, infest in **Calchalzie** with Archibald above in 1576 & was ancestor of Gallochallie McNeills (see **Gallochallie**)
- 3/?? Donald McNeill VcAuchtin, servitor to Argyll, was granted lands & islands south of Tainish in 1574 by Neil McNeill VcAuchtin (both d. by 1597 –RMS6/635). It would appear that if Donald's heirs failed, the lands were to revert to Neil's heir John McNeill VcAuchtin, probably John Oig above. These lands became part of the Gallochallie estate by 1640s, when Hector of Ellan Makocharmag held them (SHS Synod of Argyll). (see **Gallechallie**)
- 4/ Hector Bridach McNeill vic Achne, servitor to Argyll, **was granted Galchylie** by Argyll in 1564, was witness in 1578-9 Tainish sasine (GD437/11), alongside his brother John Oig, surely same as John Oig above of Calchalzie?

The eldest son **Torquil McNeill VcAchin of Tainish** succeeded in 1580, father of:-

[2/ Affrica nic Torquill vec Neill, married Alexander McDoule 1578-9, probably daughter of Torquill.]

3/, 4/, 5/ A Privy Council entry for 1603 shows Neill of Tainish with brothers **McCallum, Lauchlane & Gorie McNeills**, accused of raiding in Bute with 1200 men. See possible descent from Lachlan below....

3/ Malcolm McTorquil vc Neill vc Achin, presumably the 'McCallum' mentioned 1603, was witness to 1587 infestment of Neill McTorquill vic Eachin alias McNeill below. Also...Malcolm McNeill, described as uncle to Hector of Tainish in 1615, when both were summoned by the Privy Council to answer for their taking of His Majesty's castle of Dynnevaig

4/ Lachlan McNeill, [possibly father of:-

1/ Neill McNeill, possibly father of:-

1/ **Neil Oig McNeill vc Lauchlane vc Torquill** in Barbea in Knapdale, married Catherine, daughter of Patrick Campbell of Ulva & the late Isobell McNeill in 1663 (mar cont, deeds). Neil Oig was cautioner to John of Tainish in a 1661 bond, was in Cessindrochit by 1674, when he took sasine of a merkland of Ffernoch for 1000 merks from Patrick Campbell of Ulva, alive there 1690x98?, father of:-

1/ Moir McNeill, died Mar 1690, her executor in 1698 being her sister Finguell below on behalf of herself and siblings

2/ Isobell McNeill

- 3/ Dorathie McNeill
- 4/ John McNeill
- 5/ Finguell McNeill]

5/ Gorie McNeill, mentioned 1603 RPC

[6/? Donald McTorquill McNeill, who may be son of Torquill, as the next apparent generation appears as a witness to a 1648 sasine below. Donald was alive in 1651 in Chauceroch, Gigha, witnessing the infetment of John of Tainish. If he was brother of Neill McTorquill below, he would have been of considerable age by 1651, probably the 'grand old man' of the family:-

1a/ Neil Oig McDonell vc Torquill vc Neill in Gigha, witness alongside John Keir McNeill (known to be in Tainish, 1651) & Hector of Gallochallie in 1648, the patronymics showing his possible descent.]

1/ **Neill McTorquill VcNeill VcAchin alias McNeill of Tainish & Gigha**, was infet in some lands 1587, purchased Gigha from Sir John Campbell of Caddell in 1591 (RMS6/790), was one of the Commissioners for the trial of resettlers of Clan McGregor in 1611 (RPC), died c. 1612, father of:-

1a/ **Hector McNeill of Tainish & Gigha**, married (1) Mary Campbell, (2) Anna Campbell by 1643 (sasine), was infet in his late father's lands 1613, appointed JP for Tarbert/Argyll in 1634, Elder of Kirk c. 1640, died by 1649, father of:-

1b/ Anna McNeill, eldest daughter of Hector, married Lauchlane McLauchlane junior of that ilk in 1643 (RMS9/132)

2b/ Issobell McNeill, married Alexander Campbell of Barrichbyan in 1652 (GD437/132)

3b/ Maria McNeill, married Dugald Campbell in 1634, Neil Campbell fiar of Duntrune in 1643 (sasine), Archibald Campbell, fiar of Inverawe in 1657 (deed)

2a/ Anon McNeill, father of:-

1b/ **John McNeill of Tainish & Gigha**, succeeded as nearest heir to his uncle Hector in 1651, married Anna Stirling, Lady Otter, alive 1697, described as uncle to Donald McNeill of Gallechlie in January 1699, and was succeeded by his **1<sup>st</sup> cousin Neill below**. The witnesses to his 1651 infetment included his brother Donald, John Keir McNeill in Tainish, Donald McTorquill McNeil in Chauceroch, Hector of Gallechallie & Neil Oig McNeill in Drumnamuckloch. The baillie for Argyll was Neill McNeill in Barnascholge who had a brother John McNeill. Since only Donald is quoted as brother, the others might be assumed to be more distant relations. (RS9/2, f. 189)

Father of:-

1c/ Elspeth McNeill, described as daughter of John of Tainish in her marriage contract with Donald McNeill of **Gallochallie**, registered in 1681.

[2b/ Anon McNeill, father of:-

1c/ Donald McNeill of Gallochallie (by 1670), said to be nephew of John of Tainish, cousin of Malcolm & Hector below; he was definitely John's son-in-law, but nephew seems doubtful. (see **Gallochallie**)

2c/ Margaret McNeill, only sister of Donald, married John McNeill of Tirfergus & d. 1690 (see **Tirfergus**)

3c/ Torquill McNeill, brother & creditor to his sister Margaret in 1694 testament. This may refer to Torquill of Ugadale, who was her brother IN LAW. See **Tirfergus**

3b/ Anon McNeill(s), father(s) of:-

1c/ Malcolm McNeill, described as cousin-german to Donald McNeill of Gallochallie in 1704, died 1723 (testament – executor was his late brother Capt Hector's son John below)

2c/ Captain Hector McNeill of Athurdi, co Louth, also described as cousin-german to Donald (& to Malcolm above, but this must be a mistake, as they were brothers). Hector was married to Anna McNeill by 1707 (GD437/29),

- was sequestrated as a rebel alongside his cousin-german Donald of Gallochallie in 1690, died by 1723, father of:-
- 1d/ John McNeill, miller of Calzebar, 1706 – 1720, served heir to his uncle Malcolm, cousin of Donald of Gallochallie, in 1723, executor to him in 1726
  - 3c/ Neil McNeill, described as nephew to John of Tainish in 1690 (Mack LXV, 879, 881) – but may have had a different father.
  - 4b/ Donald McNeill, described as brother to John of Tainish when he witnessed his infertment in 1651-2. He married Mary, sister to Duncan Campbell of Culygaltra (SHS Highland, vol 4) & died by 1674. May be one of the anonymous fathers above.
  - 3a/ Anon McNeill, father of:-
    - 1b/ **Neill McNeill of Tainish & Gigha, 1<sup>st</sup> cousin & successor to John above**, married Elizabeth Campbell, father of:-
      - 1c/ **Hector McNeill of Tainish & Gigha**, married Ann Montgomery, daughter of Hercules Montgomery of Ballilossan by 1721, died 28/7/1738, father of:-
        - 1d/ Archibald McNeill, described as eldest son & heir to Hector in 1721, but must have died shortly thereafter, but maybe same as:
        - 3d/ Archibald McNeill, b.c. 1722, as he was described as aged 16 in 1738, when his father died. He took his elder brother Roger below to court in 1748 over unpaid monies under a 1721 bond of provision (Session Papers, NLS)
        - 4d/ Neil McNeill, died between 1738 & 1748
        - 5&6d/ 2 younger sons mentioned in 1748 case papers
        - 7d/ Lyndon McNeill, a daughter mentioned in case papers,
        - 8d/ Anon McNeill, a daughter said to have died about a year after her father
        - 2d/ **Roger Hamilton McNeill of Tainish & Gigha**, described as second son in 1721, married in 1743 Elizabeth (d. 1781), daughter & heiress of Cromwell Price, with whom his heirs are said to have obtained the estate of Raploch, previously a Hamilton property. He wadsetted Ardminish to Neil McNeill of Birdisle/Bredisle in 1748 for £410 stg & the remainder of the island to Neil McNeill merchant in Bristol 1756 for £3300 stg. & another £887 in 1757. He sold Tainish & Gigha to Sir Archibald Campbell in 1779, who also purchased the Ardminish wadset as well as obtaining rights to the reversion of any other wadsets held over Gigha. Campbell then sold these rights back to John McNeill of Gigha in 1787 (GD437/120,121+ sasines). Father of:-
          - 1e/ Roger Hamilton Montgomery McNeill of Raploch, served heir to his mother Elizabeth Hamilton in 1787, died 29/1/1827, father of:-
            - 1f/ Daniel Hamilton McNeill of Raploch, served heir to his father Roger in 1827, succeeded by:-
              - 1g/ Capt. Thomas Montgomery McNeill Hamilton of Raploch
              - 2g/ Capt. William Henry McNeill (now Hamilton) of Raploch, served heir to his brother Thomas in 1862 & to his g-father Roger in 1863, succeeded by:-
                - 1h/ Henry Montgomery McNeill Hamilton of Raploch, so described by 1900, succeeded by:-

1j/ William Maurice Montgomery  
McNeill Hamilton, so  
described 1956

2d/ Neil McNeill, described as son of Hector of Taynish when his  
brother was served his heir in 1747

3d/ Archibald McNeill, served heir to his brother Neil in 1747

2c/ Daniel McNeill, described as son of Neil & brother of Hector in sasines  
1719, 1738, married Margaret McTavish by 1725, emigrated to America  
1739, founding a large dynasty there.

3c/ Margaret McNeill, only daughter to Neil, married 'Turk' John McNeill (see  
**Tirfergus**), her 5000 merk tocher being mentioned in 1748 case papers

2b/ Daniel McNeill, described as uncle to the late Taynish in 1748 list of debts due by  
Hector above.

4a/ **John McNeill of Ardbeg**, described as uncle to John of Taynish in 1660 sasine (see  
Ardbeg) May be one of the anonymous fathers above.

6/ Hector McNeill, described as a brother to the deceased Neil McNeill of Taynish in 1614, when he  
witnesses a sasine (GD437/95)

7/ Anon McNeill, also described as brother of late Neil in above doc, but forename missing. Could  
be Malcolm, Gorie or Lachlan above.

John McNeill of Gigha, bought it from Roger Hamilton McNeill of Taynish by 1789 & was presumably  
father of:-

John McNeill Of Gigha & Oakfield, described as younger of Gigha by 1803 (GD43/parcel 8/5),  
succeeded by his kinsman from the Colonsay line:-

Alexander McNeill of Gigha, so described in 1839, father of:-

Lt-Col John Carstairs McNeill of Gigha, so described in 1853 (SC50/5/1853/49)

## **ARDBEG McNeills (Islay or near Taynish, Knapdale)**

John of Ardbeg, described as uncle to John of Taynish in 1660 sasine, dead by 1699, father of:-

Lauchlane McNeill, described as natural son of John of Ardbeg in 1660 sasine. Dead by 1699, father of:-  
Malcolm McNeill, died by 1699, his executors being his siblings:-

John McNeill

Katherine McNeill

Hector McNeill of Ardbeg, drover, 1677 deed, fiar in 1679, Hector of Ardbeg, fiar in 1691, witness in  
1704 (GD437/107), described as son of John, wadsetter of Ardbeg in 1683 sasine, when married  
to Katherine Campbell

Neil McNeill, described in 1678 deed as brother of Hector, fiar of Ardbeg & as son of John of Ardbeg in  
1673 deed.

Succeeded by:-

Donald McNeill of Ardbeg, 1716 sasine, dead by 1712

John McNeill of Ardbeg with wife Beatrix Campbell in 1716 sasine, served heir to his brother Donald in  
1712 (SC54/7/1/5/4)

## **ARDELAY/Ardaily McNeills (Gigha)**

ROOT:- possibly related to **Tarbert** line, as also from Islay, & one of whom, Hector in Portnellan, was  
procurator for Hector below in the 1667 sasine.



Neill vic McNeill in Killoane, Isla, died by 1667, father of:-

Hector McNeill of Ardelay, had sasine thereof from John of Taynish in 1667, father of:-

Neill McNeill of Ardelay, described as only lawful son & apparent heir to the late Hector, son of the late Neill in Islay, 1727 sasine, married Grizell Campbell, was one of the leaders of 1739 emigration. & was father of:-

2/ Daniel McNeill, described as brother-german & next heir of line to Hector in 1727 sasine

1/ Hector McNeill, described as son of Neil & Grizell in 1727 sasine, when the previous wadset of Ardelay was converted to a feu. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Donald McTavish of Dunardry & his wife Bessie Campbell, eldest daughter of Mr Dugald Campbell, parson of Knapdale. Said to have emigrated to America, succeeded much later by:-

John McNeill of Ardelay, writer in Inveraray, purchased Arichonan in 1782, Gigha 1787, consolidated previous wadsets 1800, father of:-

John McNeill of Gigha

Lilias McNeill, sister of John, lent her brother £1000 held over Gigha in 1831

## **ARDGLAMMIE McNeills (Gigha)**

ROOT:- unknown, but

Malcolm McNeill of Ardegloume in Gigha, 1669-73 sasines

Hector Baan McNeill, described as brother to Malcolm in 1672 sasine

Donald McNeill of Ardglome, appears in 1671 deed with John of Taynish

Malcolm McNeill of Ardgammie, sasines 1695-1709, father of:-

Torquil McNeill of Ardglane younger, 1695 sasine, when married to Margaret Campbell, described as son of Malcolm in 1698 sasine

Neil McNeill of Ardgammie, sasines 1718-57, said to be one of the organisers of 1739 emigration to America, when he sold Ardgammie, died 1749, was planter in Jamaica & had family executor recorded 1785, his niece below.

Donald McNeill, tenant in Knapdale, brother to Neil of Ardgammie, presumed dead by 1785, leaving an only surviving child:-

Elizabeth McNeill, relict of Donald Graham, Ardnailret?, Knapdale in 1785, when executor to her uncle Neil of Ardgammie.

Lauchlan McNeill of Ardgammie, sasines 1737-51, married Margaret McNeill; GD328/12/4 (1743) shows this Lachlan as son of John of **Tirfergus**. He may have held a wadset over the lands, as did the Kilmaluag branch.

## **ARDMEANISH McNeills (Knapdale)**

Neil McNeill of Ardmanoch relaxed from the Horn by Privy Council in 1592, alongside McNeill of Barra(y)

Lauchlan McNeill in 'Airdvamies', 1671 sasine, father of:-  
Hugh McNeill, son of Lachlan in 1671

Lachlan McNeill of Ardmeanish, Kilberry, died October 1673, his executor being his son Hector, for himself and his sister:-

Fingeulle McNeill, alive 1673

Hector McNeill, executor to his father 1673, collecting debts by Neil Oig McNeill in Croftind----?, Neil Buie McNeill, son to Lauchlane McNeill of Tirfergus, Neil Oig McNeill of Arichonan.

Hew McNeill, fiar of Ardmenish, 14/7/1675 (SHS Argyll Justiciary Records)

Hugh McNeill of Ardmeanish, 1687 (Mack LX/772), in a deed alongside Donald of Crear, John in Drumnalea, Neil son of Iver in Glasgow

Neil McNeill of Ardmeanish, married Ann Campbell by 1701 (sasine), father of:-  
Hector McNeill of Ardmeanish, described as son of Neil in 1723 (GD437/153), alive 1731?

## **ARDMINISH McNeills (Gigha)**

ROOT:- probably from **Tarbert** branch & related to **Ardtalla** line, which see.

Neil McNeill of Birdisle, wadsetter of Ardminish 1748, father of:-

Donald McNeill (same as below?)

Hector McNeill

John McNeill

Malcolm McNeill

Janet McNeill

Mary McNeill

Donald McNeill of Ardmeanoch, wife Isobel McKenzie was served heir to some lands in 1757

Printed copy of note and scheme of bills said to have been drawn by Colin Mackenzie

[McKenzie], late factor of Lewis, and now under reduction at instance of Roderick Maciver

GD427/239 [McIver] and 351 other inhabitants of Lewis against Donald Macneil [McNeil] of Ardmeanoch

[Ardminish] and Isobel Mackenzie [McKenzie], his spouse, daughter of said late Colin Mackenzie [McKenzie].

<sup>c</sup>  
1756 Open

Neil McNeill of Ardmunich, 1776 sasine

Neil McNeill of Ardmeanish (Gigha), merchant in Stornoway, renounced wadset rights over Ardminish in 1818, the original loan of £410 having been made by Neil McNeill of Birdisle to Roger of Tainish in 1748.

## **ARDNACROSS McNeills (East Kintyre, N of Campbeltown)**

Neil McNeill in Ardnacross 1734, spouse Grizel MacAlester, sasine.

**Neil McNeill of Ardnacross**, purchased those lands post 1746?, father of:-

**Godfrey McNeill** of Ardnacross, served heir to his father 1767-77

**Neil MacNeil of Ardnacross**, 1844, court case vs tenant, married Annabel Gillies, father of:-

**John McNeill of Ardnacross**, died by 1858, when his brother Godfrey was retoured his heir

**Godfrey MacNeill of Ardnacross**, court case 1858, died by 1859, when his brother Hector was served his heir

(4<sup>th</sup> son) **Hector McNeill of Ardnacross**, (Fasti has b. Ellister 28/12/1807, lic. 1832, assistant at Dunoon, to Portnaven 1835, Glasgow 1836, minister at Campbeltown 1841, married 8/6/1847, Mary Jane, only daughter of George MacNeale of Ugadale, died 3/8/1879)

Neil McNeill of Ardnacross, father? of:-

Mrs Marjorie Cameron Sinclair or McNeill, sale of property 1930

## **ARDTALLA McNeills (Islay)**

ROOT:- Obviously linked to **Tarbert & Ardminish** lines, from the wording below.

SC54/6/3/1/5 dated 20/11/1767 has a

...Claim by Malcolm McNeill, tacksman of Drumchroe as curator in law to his brother Mr Neill McNeill merchant in Bristol, who had been incompos mentis since August 1766.

Witnesses were Mr William Mowat (57), minister of Gigha where Mr McNeill lived since his return from St Kitts & Jamaica, plus Patrick Gilchrist (60), schoolmaster in Gigha who was employed to shave Mr McNeill, which required 2 or 3 people to hold him.

Summons to Lachlan McNeill of Tarbert & Donald McNeill of Ardmenish nearest in kin on the father's side & Pat Simson minister in Dundalk & John Simson merchant in Killarow in Islay.

No inventory was given up.

Malcolm McNeill tacksman of Ardtalla in 1776 sasine, when married to Florence widow of James Campbell, wadsetter of Barbreck.

Malcolm McNeill of Ardtally and his brother below, mentioned in 1800 sasine re several wadsets held over Gigha from 1757

Neill McNeill, merchant in Bristol, died in debt, his brother Malcolm of Ardtally deemed his heir. Neil died at Ardtalla in Jan 1770, his executors being his brother Malcolm & sister:-

Flory McNeill, married Angus McDuffie, tacksman of Cornibus, Islay by 1770, when executor to her brother Neill

## **ARICHONAN McNeills (South Knapdale, N of Tayvallich)**

**Neil Oig McNeill of Arichonan**, so described by 1659 & by 1673 was owing money to Lauchlan of Ardmeanish, married Marie McLachlan, sister to Archibald McL of that ilk, alive 30/6/1675, when member of assize at Inveraray, father of:-

1/ Malcolm McNeill, described as fiar of Arichonan in 1662 marriage contract with Catherine Campbell, daughter of Patrick Campbell of Duntrune. Malcolm predeceased his father by 1666, when brother John was executor and next 'fiar'

3/ **Donald McNeill Of Crear**, described in 1671-9 deeds as son of Neil of Arichonan & brother of John of Arichonan, infert in lands of Crear, Glennasiach, Kilmaluage, Drumdrissage, barony of Tarbert, 1672, when described as son of Neil Oig of Arichonan (**see Crear & Colonsay**)

2/ **John McNeill of Arichonan**, married Marie McLauchlane 1668 (deeds) probably succeeded c. 1675, died October 1696, father of:-

1/ **Neill McNeill of Arichonan**, executor to his father in 1697, married Ann Campbell, died February 1724, his executor and tutor to his only daughter being Malcolm of Colonsay:-

1/ Elizabeth McNeill, alive 1725

2/ Hector McNeill, 2<sup>nd</sup> son of John of Arichonan, died by 1722, his executor being his brother below

- 3/ Donald McNeill, described as brother of Neill in 1697
  - 4/ Duncan McNeill, also described as brother to Neill in 1697
  - 5/ **Archibald McNeill of Arichonan**, 1727 sasine
  - 6/ **Mr Daniel McNeill of Arichonan, minister at Morven**, executor to Hector in 1722. [Fasti describes him as youngest son, married Mary or Margaret Cameron, had issue & died 2/3/1724:-
    - 1/ **Neil McNeill of Arichonan**, served heir in 1753, married Ann Campbell, possibly of Duntrune stock, father of:-
      - 1/ **Daniel McNeill of Arichonan**, served heir to his father Neil in 1780, sold Arichonan to John McNeill of Ardelay in 1782, who promptly wadsetted it back to him for £1100.
      - 2/ William McNeill
      - 3/ Mary McNeill, married Robert Fullarton, minister at Glassary
      - 4/ Elizabeth McNeill; the last 3 apparently had Malcolm McNeill of Colonsay as tutor.]
- A claim by Neil of Arichonan to be tutor to his neices & nephews in 1724 & a counter-claim by Malcolm McNeill of Colonsay show the following children of Mr Daniel:-
- 1/ Archibald McNeill of Arichonan, curator appointed 1735
  - 2/ Neil McNeill,
  - 3/ Mary McNeill,
  - 4/ Elizabeth McNeill
  - 5/ Marjorie McNeill,

## **CARSKEY McNeills**

Hector McNeill in Gerskeich, appears Exchequer Rolls 1505, also named Hector McLain McGillechallum in rolls; i.e. probably Hector son of John son of Malcolm.  
 Neill McNeill, quoted as brother of Hector in the Mull (of Kintyre) ER 1505.

SEE <http://www.kintyremag.co.uk/1998/22/page7.html>

Malcolm McNeill of Carskayth, witness to 1572 deed.

Hector McNeill of Carskey, witness in 1596 (RPC), possibly same as below

Hector McNeill of Carskey, one of the barons of Argyll compeared to keep the peace 1618, said to harbour Franciscan priests 1624

### **A tombstone is said to have the following Carskey McNeills:-**

“Malcolm McNeill of Carskey, obit 1647

John his son

Malcolm son to John

Archibald his son”...”this is intended for Lieut.Colonel Malcolm, son to said Archibald May 1820”

Neill McNeill in Carskey, appears alongside Malcolm in Darachan in 1649 (APS vol VI, pt 2, p. 425)

SHS Synod of Argyll has:-

Neil McNeill, son to late Archibald, student c. 1650

John McNeill, son to late Malcolm of Carskey, student c. 1650

Archibald, son of Neil of Carskey, student c. 1650, possibly the same Archibald to whom payment was made in 1661 for “poor scholars in Argyle” (APS, VII, p. 131)

Nigel McNeill of Carskey, 1663 sasine, father of:-

Annabell McNeill, daughter of Nigel & spouse of Colin McEcharne of Killellane

(Donald McNeil of Carschew, attorney in 1672 for Ardglass/Craignantagich deal)

Hector McNeil in Carskey, said to be head of Carskey branch, appears RPC 1683 with Lachlan below  
Lachlan McNeill in Auchensavil by 1680, when member of assize at Justice Ayre, brother to Hector in  
Carskey, uncle to John of Carskey below, married Margaret Campbell & died 1722

Malcolm McNeill of Carskey, dead by 1683 deed (Dal 62/378), father of:- (the 1683 marriage contract  
also mentions Lauchlan, son of Neil Oig McNeill in Carskey as a cautioner & Lachlan McNeil of  
Teirargie – modern Tirfergus – as a witness)

John McNeill of Carskey, also in 1683 deed as son of late Malcolm, married Janet Campbell, daughter of  
Major John Campbell in Cleongart by 1683, father of:- (possibly same as John in Carskey, d. Nov  
1688, his executor being Hendrie McNeill in Campbeltown & Archibald McNeill in Baligreggan  
being a creditor of his children:-

Malcolm McNeill

Hector McNeill, witness to 1699 Glenmakill sasine

Archibald McNeill

? McNeill)

Hector McNeill of Carskey, baillie in 1699 sasine for Glenmakill

Malcolm McNeill of Carskey (by 1702—SC54) in 1704 sasine, son of John in Carskey, 1702 sasine

Hector McNeil of Carskey submitted his estate rental in 1687.

Malcom McNeil of Carskey alive 1730

Malcolm McNeill of Carskey, 1752 sasine

Archibald McNeill of Carskey, 1752 sasine, died by 1759, married Penelope, (later?) Mrs MacDonald,  
parents of:-

Malcolm MacNeil of Carskey, a minor in 1759 when tutors in place, also in 1770, when his curators  
Lachlan McNeil of Kilchrist & John Campbell of Killdaloig grant a discharge in his name. (SC54)

Malcolm McNeill of Carskey, Captain in Col. Reid's regt, 1780 sasine

John MacMillan Mcneal of Carskey, military records 1846 (GD112)

Macolm MacMillan Macneal of Carskey, tenant of Argyll in 1860 (SC50)

## **CREAR & COLONSAY McNeills**

Torquil McNeill in Crear, 1669 sasine, father of:-

Malcolm McNeill, son of Torquill in 1669 sasine

Donald below was 2<sup>nd</sup> son to Neill Oig McNeill of Arichonan

Donald McNeill of Crear, Drumdrishaig, Kilmaluag, (1688 rental) later of Colonsay, father of:-

Hector McNeill, described as son of Donald of Crear in 1698 sasine

John McNeil, described as brother to Colonsay in 1718 sasine

Neill McNeill, described as brother to Malcolm of Colonsay in 1721 sasine

Malcolm McNeil of Colonsay, father of:-

Donald McNeil of Colonsay, served heir to his father in 1735

1739 Angus McNeill in Colonsay, petition to court re £100 owed by his father's brother Archibald McNeill, tacksman of Garvard, Colonsay, who'd sold his effects to go to America SC54/2/53/1739

John McNeill of Colonsay, father of:  
Archibald McNeill 1803-1870, WS 1829

Lots more on Colonsay, not yet noted

## **DALINLONGART McNeills (Dunoon)**

John McGellaspick McNeill, witness at Dunoon, 1546 (SHS Highland papers vol 4)

Nigel Oig McNeill of Dalinlongart, alive 1621, dead by 1629, succeeded by:-

Archibald McNeill, served heir to his father Nigel Oig in 1629 of lands in Cowal, described in 1663 deed as father of:-

Nigel/Neil McNeill of Dalinlongart, described as grandson of Neil Oig of Dalinlongart in 1663 sasine & retoured heir to him in 1662

Archibald McNeill of Dalinlongart, served heir to his grandfather Nigel Oig in 1666, dead by 1677, succeeded by:-

Archibald McNeill, great-nephew of Nigel Oig above, infert in Dalinlongart 1677, possibly son of one of the Johns below?

John McNeill in Dalinlongart, Dunoon, died June 1674, his executor being his relict Isobell McNeill

John Oig McNeill in Dalinlongart, owed money to John above in 1674

## **DARLOCHAN McNeills** (near Campbeltown)

Malcolm McNeill, tenant of 'Darrachan', 1636 Kintyre rental, appears synod records 1649-51 & APS vol VI (1649), alongside Neill McNeill in Carskey.

Hector McNeill in Darrachin 1667, receives tack (deeds)

Torquil McNeill in Darlaquhan, 1673, witnessing a deed involving Neill, son of Lachlan of Tirfergus

Malcolm McNeill, tacksman of Darlachane 1683 (RPC)

Hector McNeill of Darlochan, father of:-

Hector McNeill, made will in 1729 (GD328) in favour of many relations below; he quotes his father as Hector of Darlochan and names his siblings & respective nephews & neices

Neil McNeill, father of:-

Hector McNeill

Mary McNeill

Charles McNeill

Alexander McNeill in Skeroblin, brother of Malcolm below, borrowed from Torquil of Ugadale in 1712 (GD328/12/26), died by 1729, father of:-

Isobell McNeill

Geils McNeill

Ann McNeill

Hector McNeill

Margaret McNeill, married ?, mother of:-

Mary

Margaret

Ann McNeill, married ?, mother of:-

Margaret

Barbara

Elsbeth McNeill, married Thomas Thomson, and had issue:-

Archibald Thomson

Margaret Thomson

Mary Thomson

Malcolm McNeill of Darlochan, cautioner for his brother's bond to Ugadale, died by 1729, father of:-

Isabell McNeill

Bridget McNeill

Cathrine McNeill

Donald McNeill

Hector McNeill, evicted from Darlachan whitsunday 1748 & imprisoned for debt (NLS MS17679). His 'near relation' Archibald McNeill, surgeon in Belfast, offered to pay his rent arrears if he was granted the tack of Darlochan, which he entered in 1749, but died by 1753, succeeded by:-

Mr McNeill of Colonsay, tenant in 1756

## **GALLOCHALLIE McNeills (Knapdale, N of Tainish)**

ROOT:- Tainish

**John Oig McNeill vic Achne of Gallochallie**, son of Neill McNeill vic Achyn of **Tainish**, was jointly infeft in the lands with his uncle Archibald in 1576 & was father of:-

?a/ ?Other sons, not named in 1643 infeftment, but probably including the John described as 'of' Gallochallie in 1630, when he borrowed 200 merks from his son (recorded 1663 with a later bond to Neil Oig, by that time 'of' Arichonan):-

1b/ Neil Oig McNeill, accused of the attempted murder of John Campbell of Barnlochane in the kirkyard at Kilmichocharmick in 1628 (RPC), alongside his brothers below, was the lender in 1630, the deed also mentioning Neil Oig's daughter:-

1c/ Agnes McNeill, daughter mentioned in 1630-63 deeds

2b/ Donald McNeill, described as son of John of Calchylie in 1628

3b/ Malcolm McNeill, another son accused of the assault on John Campbell

1a/ **Donald McNeill** (of Gallachaille), eldest son, died by 1643, father of:-

1b/ **Hector McNeill of Gallochallie**, eldest son, infeft in Archibald's lands of **Galdchailzie** in 1643 as his nearest heir (GD437/20). Married Elizabeth Campbell in 1649 (sasine). Poss alive 1661 (Dal3/348). **See Below**

2b/ John Oig McNeill, witnessed the 1643 infeftment above & 1649 marriage contract/sasine as brother to Hector.

3b/ Archibald McNeill, mentioned in 1680 sasine as uncle to Donald of Gallochallie; probably youngest son.....and very old in 1680!

Either John Oig or Archibald may possibly be father of Malcolm, Neill & Flory McNeills, cousins to Donald of Gallechalie below. **See Ardtalla McNeills**

**Hector McNeill of Gallochallie**, inherited from his g-uncle Archibald in 1643, married Elizabeth Campbell in 1649 (sasine) & was father of:-

**Donald McNeill of Gallochallie**, served heir to his father Hector in 1670, bought parts of Gigha 1673, Crear, Drumdrissaig, Kilmaluag Glenshiach in 1678, appears variously described as nephew & son-in-law of John of Taynish, son of Hector of Galochallie, cousin-german to Malcolm & Capt Hector McNeills (see Taynish), married (2ndly?) his cousin Elspeth McNeill, daughter of **John of Taynish** by 1673, died by 1710, father of:-

- 1/ Neil McNeill of Gallochallie, appears in 1702 sasine with that designation, possibly dead by 1710, father of:-
  - 1/ Ann McNeill, daughter of Neil of Gallochallie & spouse of Neil of Arichonan by 1702 (see **Arichonan**)
  - 2/ **Hector McNeill of Gallochallie**, served heir to his father in 1710/14, married (1) Mary Butler by 1724 (sasine), (2) Geills Mclach or McMillan by 1733, father of:-
    - 1/ Elizabeth McNeill, described as spouse to Lauchlan McNeill of Tarbert in 1752 sasine (see **Tarbert**)
  - 3/ Isobell McNeill, described as daughter to Donald in 1702 sasine, when relict of Donald McLauchlan, fiar of Douand, then was spouse of Duncan Campbell of Knap by 1742 sasine
  - 4/? Anon McNeill, grandfather of Daniel below?

Daniel McNeill of Gallochallie, precept 1796, (NLS Ch. 977) had sasine as heir to his great-uncle Hector in 1784, married Esther McNeill by 1788, father of:-

Daniel McNeill of Gallochallie, Lt in 86<sup>th</sup> regt foot, had sasine as heir of his father Daniel in 1797, and of his g-g-g-father Donald in 1796, died by 1803, succeeded by:-

Hector Frederick McNeill of Gallochallie, had sasine as heir to his brother Daniel in 1803, wadsetted Gallochallie to Lt-Gen Daniel McNeile, EIC in 1822, which was redeemed by his brother & successor:-

Capt. Malcolm McNeill of Gallochallie, 17<sup>th</sup> Regt. Lancers, inherited Gallochallie from his brother Hector in 1826, gets renunciation of 1822 bond by John McNeile of Parkmount, banker in Belfast, in 1838 sasine.

## **GIGHA McNeills**

Neill, father of?:-

Torquil, father of?:-

Donald, father of?:-

**Nigello Oig McDonell vc Torquil vc Neill** in Gigha, witness to 1648 sasine alongside Hector of Gallochallie & John Keir McNeill in Carno?

## **CRAIGNANTGICH McNeills**

Neil Oig McNeill of Craignantagich, married (1) Agnes McIlvennage?, (2) Aleis Campbell by 1672, by which time he had sons infert in lands of Ardachie, part of Ardgammie:-

Torquill McNeill  
Hector McNeill  
Malcolme McNeill  
Guarie McNeill



## JURA McNeills

Hector Ouir McNeill, tenant of Chancekaioire, Keill & Tarbert, Jura, rental for 1687 given in by his son:  
Donald McNeill, with Donald McNeill of Gallochallie named as superior (SC54/20/8//4)

## KILMALUAG McNeills (West Kintyre, Glenbarr)

Hector McNeill, Kilmaluag, wife Finnuale NicKeir d. Feb 1693, leaving only daughter:-  
Mary MacNeil

Anon McNeill, father of:-

Dr Neil McNeill, surgeon in Glasgow, died by 1748, when his nephews were retoured his heirs in a bond secured on Ardgammie, Gigha:-

Malcolm McNeill in Skerobline, dead by 1748, father of:-

Nigel McNeill in Skerobline, co- heir to uncle Neil in 1748

Donald McNeill in Kilmaluag, died by 1748, father of:-

Archibald McNeill, surgeon in Belfast, co-heir in 1748, died by 1753, succeeded by his daughter:-

Grizel McNeill, served heir 1753, married Donald McNeill of Colonsay

CC2/12/1/3 Copy of latter will and testament of Dr Neill McNeill of Belfast, inter alia bequeathing £8 to be divided between the poor of the parishes of Kilchenzie and Campbeltown, and the remainder of his effects to be divided between his brothers Daniel McNeill of Kilmaluag and Malcom McNeill of Skereblin 12 Dec 1733 Open

## KILMORY & Bute McNeills

**Nigel of Bute**, said to be father of:-

**Duncan, brother of Ferchard**

**Ferchard of Bute**, said to attest documents relating to Paisley monastery late 13<sup>th</sup> century.

**Robert Neilsoun** was confirmed in the Crownship of Bute in 1534, his family having held the post for c. 200 years, but the original charter had been destroyed.

**Ferquhar McNeill of Leupenchail**, Bute, also possessed ½ Clakinbey & Kilmechell in 1506 (RMS2/2987), assigned his land to his son in 1512 (RMS3/1083):-

**Donald McNeill of Leupenchail**, infest 1512, alive 1541, likely father of Ferquhard below  
Andrew McNeill, son of Ferquhar, witnessed 1512 charter

Ferquhair Makneill, witness to Bute lands Great Seal charter in 1540

**Ferquhard McNeill of Lencaule**, died by 1574, father of:-

**Robert McNeill of Lencaull**, served heir to his father Ferquard 27/4/1574, might be same as, or father of, Robert below.

**Robert McNeill in Lenacheill**, Bute 1602, when he and John of Kilmory are mentioned in RPC as not to harm (a) Marie McCloyd, relict of Duncan Campbell, Captain of Castle Sune (Sween), (b) Malcolme McChattan, a blind man & (c) Lauchlane Ouer McNeill

Ferquhard McNeill in Kilbryd, quoted as brother to Robert of Lenichail in 1645 sasine  
**Master Robert McNeill**, minister at Killelauch in Ireland, served heir to his grandfather Robert of Lenichall, 30/7/1633 – might be either Robert above. Father of:-

Janet McNeill, quoted in 1645 sasine as daughter of Robert & spouse of Robert, son of John McIlherane of Ardcapsie

**John McNeill of Levanchaill**, served heir to his father Mr Robert McNeill, 17/1/1673

Ferquhard McNeill in Lentchaell, will proved 31/5/1667, died Nov 1666, survived by relict Elizabeth Stewart & children:-

Donald McNeill, eldest son & executor to his father for himself & siblings  
Hector McNeill  
Robert McNeill  
Margaret McNeill

**In 1541, Nether Kilmoir** was granted by Ninian Stewart to his cousin William Stewart, (RMS3/2489) the witnesses including:-

Donald McNeill

Donald McNeill of Leffinuchaell

In 1546-7, William grants the lands back to Ninian, (RMS5/50), the witnesses including:-

Donald Maklespic (see Kilmory below)

Nigel McLespice

In 1547, Donald Makgillespic McNeill was a witness, (not yet of Kilmory – RMS4/166)

Donald Makneill, burgess of Rothesay 1575 (RSS)

??**Gillespie (=Archibald) McNeill**, possibly from Levanchaill branch, possibly father of:-

**Donald McGillespic McNeill of Kilmorie**, in Bute by 1541, buys lands 1552 (RMS), exchanged for Kilmory 1557 (RSS), alive 1562. Maybe a son of Gillespie McNeill vc Achyn (see Taynish), but local root more likely. Possibly ancestor of:-

1/? **John McNeill of Kilmory**, witness 1601 (RMS6/2052), father of:-

1/ **Nigel McNeill of Kilmory**, fiar in 1610 (RMS7/1206), served heir to his father John 4/10/1636, was appointed one of the Justices of the Peace for Bute in 1634, married Jeillis Kelso, alive 1662 (APSVIII, p.425, when fined £360 along with son David (sic)) and was father of:-

1/? **Donald McNeill, fiar of Kilmory** in 1650 (GD124/3/50), married Elizabeth, daughter of James Crawford of Flatterton in 1663 (Mar Cont, deeds). Alive 1678, (APS), father of:-

1/ Agnes McNeill, daughter of Donald of Kilmorie & spouse of Archibald McGibbone, nephew of Duncan McG of Auchingavin? (Dur 55/438)

likely also father of Hector & John below, but might be uncle:-

3/ Hector McNeill, mariner, brother of John of Kilmorie in 1686 deed

2/ **John McNeill of Kilmorie**, 1686 deed (Mack LVIII/270), described as fiar of Kilmorie in 1668, married Agnes Stewart (sasine), served heir to his grandfather Nigel 28/10/1686, alive 1704 (APS vol XI, p. 143). Father of:-

1/ **Robert McNeill of Kilmory**, married Elizabeth Boyd 15/6/1700, Rothesay, described as Robert of Kilmorie younger in 1703, died April 1726, succeeded by his eldest son:-

1/ Elizabeth McNeil, 6/5/1701, Rothesay

- 3/ Robert McNeil, 27/6/1704, Rothesay
- 4/ Agnes McNeil, 15/5/1706, Rothesay
- 5/ James McNeil, 12/8/1708, Rothesay
- [ likely unrecorded issue 1709-12]
- 6/ Anon McNeil, bapt Feb 1713, Rothesay
- 7/ Janet McNeil, 2/4/1714, Rothesay
- 8/ Thomas McNeil, 13/6/1716, Rothesay
- 9/ Archibald McNeil, 5/8/1718, Rothesay
- 10/ Christian McNeil, 30/9/1719, Rothesay
- 2/ **John McNeill of Kilmorie**, 1733 sasines, served heir to his father Robert McNeill in 1733. Baptised 2/11/1702, Rothesay.
- 1/ **James McNeill of Kilmory**, Comptroller of Customs at Rothesay, died 12/4/1781, succeeded by:-
  - 1/ **James McNeill of Kilmory**, Lt in EIC Artillery, served heir to his father James in 1782
  - 2/ Grace McNeill, executor to her father in 1781, whose clothes & linen were valued by Neill McNeill, tailor in Rothesay.

## **KINTYRE McNeills**

Dominus Negelli Makneill, perpetual vicar of Kilchuslane in Kyntyre, sold lands in the parish to Adam Makkay, 'servitori domini Kyntyre' in 1578 (RMS5/41)

## **LOSSIT McNeills**

Hector McNeill of Lossit, said to be 5<sup>th</sup> son of Lachlan McNeill Buie of Tirfergus

Lauchlan McNeill of Lossit, submitted rental 1687, father of:-

Torquill McNeill, described as son in 1689 sasine

Malcolm McNeill, described as son of Lachlan in 1697 deed

Succeeded by:-

Donald McNeill, described as brother of Hector of Losset, 1702 sasine, married Marion Montgomery by 1702

Hector McNeill of Losset, fiar in 1697 married Florence Campbell (alive 1730), died by 1730, succeeded by:-

Dugald McNeill of Losset, served heir to his father Hector in 1731, recorded 1734, said to emigrate to America in 1739, probably dead by 1745

Elizabeth McNeill, curators appointed 1740

Katherine McNeill, curators appointed 1740

Lachlan McNeill of Lossit, curators appointed 1740, served heir to his father Hector in 1748

John McNeill, Collector of Excise at Fort William in 1740, when described as brother of Dugald of Lossit & nearest of kin of Lachlan, Elizabeth & Katherine on their father's side. (SC54/6/2/2/1)

## **SKEROBLIN McNeills (N of Campbeltown)**

Malcolm McNeill, tacksman of Skerobline Gorrie, 1687 (rental)

Malcolm McNeill in Skerobline, dead by 1748, father of:-  
Nigel McNeill in Skerobline, co- heir to uncle Neil in 1748

Alexander McNeill in Skeroblin, died by 1729 (see Darlochan branch)

Alexander McNeill in Skeroblin, brother of Malcolm of Darlachan, borrowed from Torquil of Ugadale in 1712 (GD328/12/26), died by 1729, father of:-

Isobell McNeill  
Geils McNeill  
Ann McNeill  
Hector McNeill

Daniel McNeill in Skeroblin, witness to Ardgammie sasine in 1743 (GD328)

Donald McNeill in Skeroblingorrie 1756  
Neil McNeill in Skeroblingorrie 1756 (NLS MS17680)

## **TARBERT McNeills (Gigha)**

ROOT:- possibly related to other line from Islay who obtained **Ardaily** the same year as Donald below got Tarbert – 1667. See that line.

**Hector McNeill in Portnellan**, Islay, married Isobel McAllister (mentioned in 1683 deed), father of :-

**Donald McNeill of Tarbert**, eldest son of Hector, infeft in Tarbert lands 1667 sasine from John of Tavnish. Succeeded by:-

**Hector Oir McNeill of Tarbert**, 1691 sasine, married Barbara McNeill, died by 1710, father of:-

Neill McNeill, described as son of Hector of Tarbert in 1691 sasine, Hector of Ardbeg also appearing in document. Brother of Donald of Tarbert, 1701 sasine, whilst a 1698 sasine shows this Neill with a son:-

Malcolm McNeill, mentioned in 1698 sasine as 'Malcolm McNeill, son to Neill, fiar of Tarbert'

Hector McNeill, son of Hector Oir in 1710 sasine

**Donald McNeill of Tarbert** in 1707 sasine, father of:-

2/ Neil McNeill, described as brother to Malcolm of Tarbert in 1727 sasine, became tacksman of Cornabus, Islay & died by 1750, when described as uncle to Lachlan of Tarbert, who was appointed tutor to his children:-

1a/ Malcolm McNeill

2a/ Catherine McNeill, mentioned in their father's will.

3/ Mr Hector McNeill, described as brother to Tarbert in 1722, when they witness a 1714 bond of 1000 merks held on Ardgiamie

1/ **Malcolm McNeill of Tarbert**, described as fiar of Tarbert in 1697 sasine, 'of' Tarbert by 1727, when he witnessed the feuing of Ardelay to Neil McNeill, married (1) Mary McNeill, daughter of Donald of **Crear/Colonsay**, married (2) Janet Simson, daughter of Mr David Simson, minister of Killarow, by 1729 sasine, father of:-

1a/ Marion McNeill, described as daughter of Malcolm of Tarbert & relict of Kenneth McLauchlan of Dunad in 1776 sasine

2a/ **Lauchlan McNeill of Tarbert**, married Elizabeth, daughter of Hector of **Gallochallie**, sasines 1752-67, succeeded by:-

1b/ **Hector McNeill of Tarbert**, married Elizabeth Campbell by 1767 (sasine)

## **TIRFERGUS McNeills (SW of Campbeltown)**

SEE separate file for descent to 1748

Lauchlan McNeill Buide of Tirfergus, (by 1655?, there as tenant? in 1662 deed, said to be b. 1611, d. 1695) said to marry (1) Mary McNeill of Carskey branch, alive 1682, father of:-

- ?/ Archibald McNeill of Tirfergus, many refs as son of Lachlan, alive 1707
- ?/ Torquill McNeill, 1702 sasine
- ?/ Neil Buie McNeill, described as son of Lachlan in 1678 deed
- 1/ John McNeill of Tirfergus, married Margaret McNeill, sister of Donald McNeill of Gallochallie, who died July 1690 survived by the following children:-
  - 1/ Archibald McNeill
  - 2/ Donald McNeill
  - 3/ Torquill McNeill
  - 4/ Neill McNeill
  - 5/ Lauchlan McNeill
  - 6/ Mary McNeill
  - 7/ Finnuale McNeill
  - 8/ Elizabeth McNeill

Lachlan married (2) Margaret MacAlester (d. Nov 1692), survived by 2 sons:-

Hector McNeill  
Malcolm McNeill

Archibald McNeill of Tirfergus younger; 1706 sasine

Torquill McNeill of Tirfergus, 1735 sasine

Lauchlan McNeill, brother of Torquill in 1735 sasine, married Margaret McNeill

Archibald McNeill of Tirfergus, 1750 sasine

Torquill McNeill of Tirfergus, sasines 1750-79

Masses more .....awaiting copies of trees

## **UGADALE McNeills (E Kintyre)**

GD328/17 includes:-

Marriage contract, Donald McKay of Ugadell and Margaret Campbell, 1671.

Marriage contract, Torquil McNeill of Tirefergus and Barbara McKay of Ugadil, 1695.

Torquil McNeill of Ugadale, died 12/11/1728, married Barbara Mackay, father of:-

Charles McNeill, described as brother to Neil in 1756 sasines

Daniel McNeill, described as son of Torquill in 1706 sasine

Neil McNeill (Baron) of Ugadale, served heir to his father in 1729, married Hon Margaret Cawford, sister of Viscount Garnock (b.c. 1702, m. 1726, d. 1789), died 27/5/1787, father of:-

Captain John McNeill of Ugadale, 1777 sasine, described as younger of Ugadale 1770, presumed dead by 1787

Capt Hector MacNeal, served heir to his father in 1787

Neal MacNeal of Ugadale, died by 1810 (test)

Hector MacNeal of Ugadale, died by 1818 (test)

George McNeal of Ugadale & Kilchrist, 1819 plan.

George MacNeal of Ugadale, military records 1846 (GD112)

George MacNeal of Ugadale, died Edinburgh by 1861

Mary Eliza MacNeal or Loring, relict of George of Ugadale, died by 1862

GD328/11	McNeall of Ugadale: Miscellaneous notes and fragments, 1765 and n.d. in parchment cover	[18th century]		Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/12	McNeall of Ugadale: Bonds and discharges, dispositions, tacks and miscellaneous legal papers	1701-1798	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/13	McNeall of Ugadale: Papers in causa, McNeal of Ugadale against J.M. McNeale of Ballymascanlon	1838-1841	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/14	McNeall of Ugadale: Papers in causa, McNeal of Ugadale against J.M. McNeale of Ballymascanlon	1838-1841	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/15	McNeall of Ugadale: Miscellaneous legal papers, mainly related to the same case as in GD328/13, but with particular reference to the estate of Tirefergus	1723-1839	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/16	McNeall of Ugadale: Legal papers (including writs) 'as to Tirefergus'	1765-1786	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/17	McNeall of Ugadale: Miscellaneous legal and financial papers (including bonds and dispositions)	1611-1704	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/18	McNeall of Ugadale: Miscellaneous legal and financial papers (including bonds and dispositions)	1611-1704	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/19	McNeall of Ugadale: Legal papers relating to 'Barbreck Case' a claim by representatives of Macdonald of Finlarig against McNeal of Ugadil	1802-1823	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/20	McNeall of Ugadale: Legal papers relating to 'Barbreck Case' a claim by representatives of Macdonald of Finlarig against McNeal of Ugadil	1824-1846	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/21	McNeall of Ugadale: Legal papers relating to 'Barbreck Case' a claim by representatives of Macdonald of Finlarig against McNeal of Ugadil	1749-1842	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/22	McNeall of Ugadale: Family letters, vouchers and accounts	1725-1765	Open
<a href="#">Details</a>	GD328/23	McNeall of Ugadale: Vouchers, accounts and letters, mainly on financial subjects	1705-1772	Open