

Attachment B: The Douglasses at Blythswood, Inchinnan and Loch Awe  
The Blythswood Estate

The Estate now known as Blythswood was originally chartered to Andrew Hay in 1568, as the RANFIELD ESTATE. This extensive plantation is located at the confluence of the River Cart and the River Clyde now at the western end of the city of Renfrew. In 1592, it passed to his son, John Hay, who died 1627. It passed to his son, Sir John Hay 2nd and he sold to Colin Campbell in 1654. In addition to Ranfield, Campbell also owned property in the City of Glasgow known as Blythswood Square which he purchased in 1647 from the creditors of Sir George ELPHINSTON. It was from these holdings that the name of Blythswood was taken for the estate at Renfrew in 1821. Upon his death in 1671, this estates passed to his eldest son, Colin Campbell 2nd.

In 1710, the estate was described by the writer, George Crawford, as "adorned with pleasant orchards and gardens, beautified with very much planting and regular avenues from both Rivers to the manor house." According to Houses in Renfrewshire, in 1821 its proprietor erected a much more lavish "mansion in the Grecian style with imposing portico, elegant Ionic Columns and entablature." Today we find the site still separated from the highway by a high stone wall and being used as Council Housing for low-income residents of the area. It has retained much of the lovely parks and gardens which are cared for by the District Park Service.

The next occupant was Mary Campbell and her husband Colin Campbell. Mary was the only child of Colin Campbell 2nd. Her husband, and hence her first cousin, was the son of John, her father's brother. In 1739 the property was inherited by their second son James Campbell who died without issue in 1767.

At this point the estate was inherited by JAMES DOUGLAS THE SECOND OF MAINS who ASSUMED THE NAME of CAMPBELL to complete the requirements of inheritance. James was married to Henrietta Dunlop, daughter of James Dunlop of Garnkirk. He died in 1772. (We need here to step back for an explanation of why Douglas of Mains inherited the estate: Colin Campbell, husband of Mary and the third aforementioned of that same name, was the son of John, son of the first Colin Campbell. He was married to MARY DOUGLAS, daughter of JOHN DOUGLAS OF MAINS. It was through this alliance that he was entitled to inherit. JOHN DOUGLAS was of Furgeston until 1701 when he inherited at MAINS and combined his holdings and moved his residence to Mains. Upon his death in 1705, the first son of John Campbell and Mary Douglas, inherited her fathers estate at MAINS. He moved there from Ranfield, CHANGED HIS NAME FROM CAMPBELL TO DOUGLAS and became known as JAMES DOUGLAS THE FIRST OF MAINS. He married 1st: ISOBEL, daughter of Hugh Corbet of Hardgray, and 2nd: Rebecca, daughter of Wallace of Ellerslie.) grove

(One of the children of James Douglas the first of Mains, Margaret Douglas of Mains, married the Duke of Douglas from Douglas Castle and became known as the Duchess of Douglas. Herin lies an explanation of the gravest error that has been perpetuated in the research of the progenitors of Isobel Douglas Fortner. Archibald, The Duke of Douglas before he came to that title in 1703, was the Third Marquis of Douglas. Born in 1691 at Bothwell Castle, he was the son of James, the second Marquis of Douglas who was the son of William the first Marquis of Douglas, raised to that title by Charles I in 1633 while bearing the title of Eleventh EARL OF ANGUS. It was he who left Tantallon Castle after the destruction and came down to Douglas to live in

1651. Literature on Tantallon suggests his heirs resided at Bothwell Castle after it was purchased from the government in 1669 by the First Earl of Forfar, which explains why his grandson (the Duke) was born there. The principal residence of the Duke and Duchess after their marriage was Douglas Castle where he died in 1761 and she in 1774. They had no children and hence no direct heirs. This Archibald, Duke of Douglas, is NOT the father of Isobel Douglas Fortner.)

Additional research needs to be done to determine who the OTHER CHILDREN OF JAMES THE FIRST OF MAINS WERE, besides Margaret and a SON JAMES who predeceased his father.

Back to Blythswood: after James Campbell's death in 1767, the property was taken up by his SECOND COUSIN, JAMES DOUGLAS THE SECOND OF MAINS. He married Henrietta Dunlop. Before his death in 1772, HE ADOPTED THE SURNAME CAMPBELL. This James the Second of Mains was the grandson of James the First of Mains, but the name of his father is PRESENTLY UNKNOWN TO US. We previously stated that James 1st was born a Campbell and adopted the DOUGLAS name during his lifetime.

In 1772 the estate passed to his eldest son, John Campbell (born a Douglas but whose Great Grandfather was born a Campbell) John died without issue in the Battle at Martinique in 1794 while serving at the head of his regiment as a Lieut. Colonel in the 9th Regiment of Foot.

In 1794 Blythswood passed to John's brother ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL (born Douglas) He built the lovely Manor House referred to earlier and he who changed the name of the estate from Renfield/Ranfield to Blythswood, taking the name from the early and more prominent holdings of its first Campbell owner. He died 1838, without issue.

Next the Estate of Blythswood passed to his cousin ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS OF MAINS (b. 1810 son of Colin Douglas of Mains) - HE CHANGED HIS NAME TO CAMPBELL and died in 1868. It is his marble memorial tablet that was on the wall of the parish church of Inchinnan and would have been viewed by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ in 1914. A copy of the picture and inscription are attached hereto. More will be said about Inchinnan Parish Church presently. As a Major in the army he was at the time of his brother's death, a prisoner in Toulon. He was a member for the Glasgow Burghs from 1806-1809, Elgin Burghs 1812-1818 and Perth Burghs 1818-1820 and again Glasgow 1820-1831. His Parliamentary career was one of distinction.

In 1868 the estate at Renfrew passed to ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL (born Douglas in 1837). He was created a Baronet in 1880 and took the title Lord Blythswood, 1st Baron of Blythswood. He died in 1908. His brother and successor in the estate had a stained glass window installed in the Inchinnan church to his memory and this was possibly viewed by Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ during his visit in 1914. The inscription on the window reads as follows: "In Memory of Archibald Campbell, 1st Baron Blythswood, who rebuilt this church. This window is erected by his brother, Sholto Douglas as 2nd Baron of Blythswood." It would have been this Second Lord Blythswood who possessed the key to the family vault when Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ visited there in 1914. This Second Lord Blythswood, Rev. SHOLTO Douglas Campbell, died in 1916 and was succeeded by his brother Major General Sir Barrington Buckley Douglas Campbell who died in 1918.

The original Pre-Reformation Church was built in the 1500's and much later AN ADDITION WAS BUILT ONTO THE CHURCH TO THE REAR covering some of the tombstones in the cemetery behind the church. This site which is now AT THE END OF THE RUNWAY OF THE GLASGOW AIRPORT is reached by taking the main road out of Renfrew from the Town Hall heading west towards the village of Inchinnan. After passing the former Blythwood Estate and crossing the River Cart, one continues on, going around a sharp bend to the right. Shortly thereafter, it is necessary to turn left onto an UNMARKED service road, and travelling approximately one-half mile to its dead end at a 1 foot chain link fence. The entrance gate is padlocked. I learned the site is now in the care of the District Council whose offices are located almost directly across the street from the former Blythwood Estate. A member of the Council Park Service unlocked the gate and permitted me to walk at leisure around the area. I found only remnants of the foundation of the original church and its later addition. Behind the foundation, towards the airport runway and within the walled enclosure, are numerous tombstones. Many are now covered with moss and fungus and are badly eroded by time and weather making the majority of them undecipherable. It is my understanding that no one made a record of the inscriptions while they were still legible and therefore there is no means by which we can verify the burial of Isobel's parents and/or siblings at this location.

The largest and most significant item in the cemetery is a vault near the back wall closest to the runway. It is approximately 8 foot square and perhaps 5 foot high at its peak. The inscription on its side reads:

Here are interred the remains  
of  
Archibald Campbell, Esquire of Blythwood  
Lord Lieutenant and Convener  
of the County of Renfrew  
who died in London  
on the 13th day of June 1838  
Aged (NOT LEGIBLE)

This is the monument of the son of JAMES DOUGLAS THE SECOND OF MAINS who changed his name from Douglas to Campbell to inherit the estate at Blythwood.

From here I went to the Village of Inchinnan to visit the parish church built there in 1966, replacing the one at the airport location which was demolished when the airport was built. The minister, whose manse is located next to the church, gave me a tour of the church. In the churchyard, I saw several tombstones thought to be from the 1600's including one with elephant in its mosaic work and attributed to a member of the ELEPHANSTON family. These had been moved from the airport site.

Inside the church, I saw the stained glass window inscribed to Archibald Campbell (d. 1908) by his brother Rev. Sholto Douglas Campbell. It had been moved from the airport site along with the communion table and the marble pulpit containing exquisite mosaic work. In the hallway of the church is located a large memorial plaque containing the Douglas and Campbell Coats of Arms and names of the family members at the Blythwood Estate.

In 1881 a country chapel was built by Walter Douglas Campbell, son of Archibald Douglas of Mains later Campbell of Blythwood who died in 1868. It was dedicated to his mother and his sister Helen. This is west of Inchinnan towards Lock Awe where their home was located and where the this Second Lord Blythwood is buried. Known as St. Conan's Kirk, it contains a chapel dedicated to St. Conval who, according to local legend, landed at Loch Awe at a very early date when he came from Ireland to introduce Christianity to the pagan inhabitants of Scotland. Located at this site are two "mort-safes"-iron grids used to protect graves from body snatchers during the reformation period. These came from the airport site as did some of the arcading and stonework in the body of the church building. There is also to be found here a chapel called ST. BRIDES containing the tomb of the 4th Lord Blythwood, Major General Archibald Douglas Campbell who died in 1929. (This should NOT be confused with St. Bride's Chapel in to town of Douglas where Archibald, Duke of Douglas, is buried.)