

## NOTES ON THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE KIDSTON FAMILY IN SCOTLAND

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### INTRODUCTION

This document is a summary of notes my wife and I have gathered about the early history of her Kidston family ancestry from Scotland. My wife, Elizabeth Kidston Davic (b. 1951, m. 1974) was born in the U.S.A. in western Pennsylvania, second child of Richard Kidston and Gladys Thomas. She always knew that both of her father's grandparents came from Scotland, but had few details. After retirement, and with more time to get involved with her Kidston ancestry, she obtained information about her grandfather's family and made a visit to his home town of Glasgow. She became aware of a remarkable document written by a distant cousin, John Kidston Tait (b. 1924, d. 2013), that gave a detailed record of her Scottish ancestry back to her 12<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, John Kydstoun of Logie parish, Stirlingshire (Tait, 1995: *The Kidstons' of Logie; 1995 edition, 20 Chapters, 4 Addendum*). Information provided by Mr. Tait revealed that the Kidston family name had a much older presence at the town of Peebles located in the lowland county of Peeblesshire. Seen today on road maps of Peebles are the place locations Upper Kidston, Nether Kidston, Kidston Mill, Kidston Burn (a stream), and Kidston Bank Woods. Expecting to find some Kidston relatives living at Peebles to contact for information about family history, you can imagine our surprise when we learned that no Kidstons' have lived at Peebles for more than 700 years. We initially thought that an ancient Kidston family moved from Peebles to Logie parish in Stirlingshire to begin a new life, but no evidence has been found that this historical event ever happened. How and why the modern day Kidston family appeared at Logie parish in the 16<sup>th</sup> century is undocumented, but a few possible explanations are presented.

Our genealogical research on the early history of the Kidston family has included use of ancestry.com; internet search of ancient documents; communication with Kidston relatives around the world with similar interest in family history; a May 2012 trip to Scotland to visit Logie parish, Logie Kirk (church) graveyard, the scenic town of Peebles to view the farm lands of Upper Kidston, Nether Kidston, Kidston Mill; and a delightful meeting with Mr. John Kidston Tait, not long before he passed. An appendix is included with a detailed chronology of owners of the Kidston lands near Peebles by other Scottish families dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> century to modern times. I welcome comments, corrections, and any additional information that can be used for future revisions.

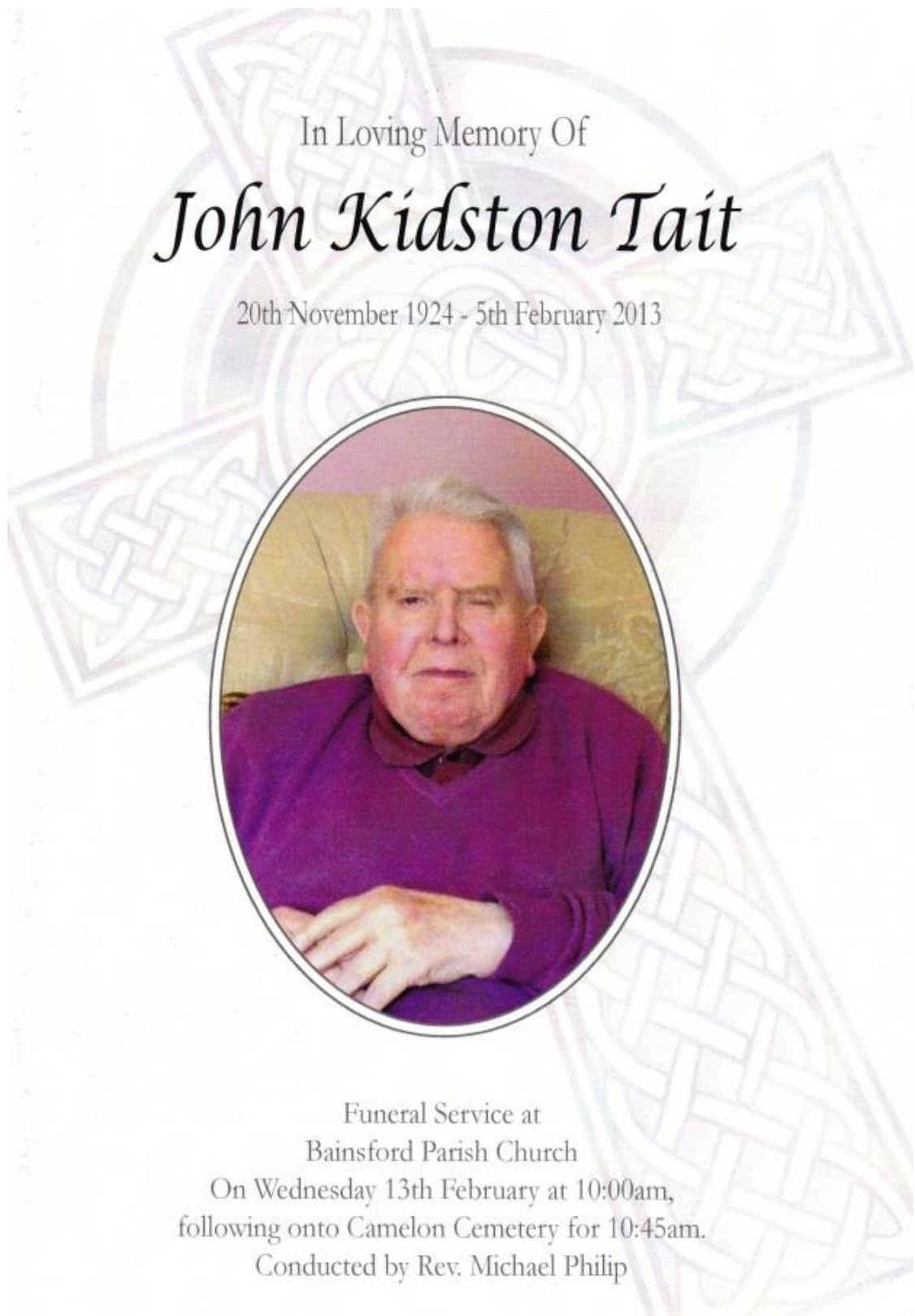


Figure 1. This picture of Mr. Tait was taken by my wife Elizabeth during our May 2012 visit with him at Harley Court. It was used for his funeral service memorial held 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 at Bainsford Parish Church, Scotland.

## KIDSTON FAMILY SURNAMES

There are many different spellings of the Kidston name found in documents of Scotland, known as surnames. The use of surnames was common in ancient Scotland and Kidston is a good example of the multitude of names that can develop over time for an extended family. It is thought that surnames became necessary after the 12th century as a way to distinguish among branches of the same family for tax collection as population size increased with influx of Normans and those of Anglo-Saxon origin (Black, 1962). For many Scottish names it is common to find an “e” added to the end of a surname (thus Kidstone for Kidston) or a “u” added to surnames that end with “on” (thus Kidstoun for Kidston). The letter “i” and “y” often were interchanged (thus Kydston for Kidston), as well as “e” and “i” (thus kedston for Kidston).

According to Black (1962), surnames of Kidston are formed by combining variants of a more ancestral family name Kide or Kyde (aka surnames: Kid, Kidd, Kyd, Kydd, Ked) with a place-location related to a settlement or town (e.g., ton, tun, tone, toun, toune). Nineteen surnames for Kidston associated with people or places have been identified, presented here with the year first recorded in ancient documents: Kydeston (1259), Kedistun (1262), Keddistun (1262), Kidston (1326), Kydestun (1327), Kydistoun (1327), Kydiston (1371), Kedistoun (1372), Kydston (1372), Kediston (1372), Kidstoun (pre-1452), Kedstoune (1465), Kidstoune (1483), Kydstone (1500), Kydstoun (1530), Kyddestoun (1533-4), Kidstone (1598), Kyddiston (1563), Kedston (1803). Present-day branches of the family use some of these ancient surnames. One of the first maps of Peeblesshire from 1654, the ‘Blaeu Atlas of Scotland’, shows two settlements and a mill near Peebles identified with the surname Kidstoun (Figure 2). The 1832 “Atlas of Scotland” of John Thomson refers to these settlements as Upper Kidstoun, Nether Kidstoun, and Kidstoun mill. Clearly the surname Kidstoun was once a common variation of the family name to identify place locations in Peeblesshire, however, modern maps of Peebles use the modern surname spelling Kidston.

R. Menzies Fergusson (1905) identified surnames used by early members of the Kidston family from Shropshire as recorded in the Logie Kirk (church) records. Information is available from 1686 to 1793, older records are lost. The Kidston surname does not appear in church records until 1745, although the family was known from Logie parish since the mid-1500s. Prior to 1700 the most common surnames used by family members were Kidstoun, Kidstoune, and Kidstone (Appendix A). The earliest identified use of the Kidston spelling in reference to a member of the family, as recorded in a primary

source document, is for Robert Kidston, a baxter (baker) living in Stirling in 1661 (*Extracts from the Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling*, p. 237). In the same document Katherine Kidston from Stirling is identified as spouse to James Morison in 1664 (note: Katherine Kidston is not listed in the family inventory of Tait, 1995). Robert Kidston, baxter from Stirling, is son of Richard Kidstoun and Janet Henderson from Craigton and moved to Stirling in the 1600s and apparently adopted the Kidston surname spelling.

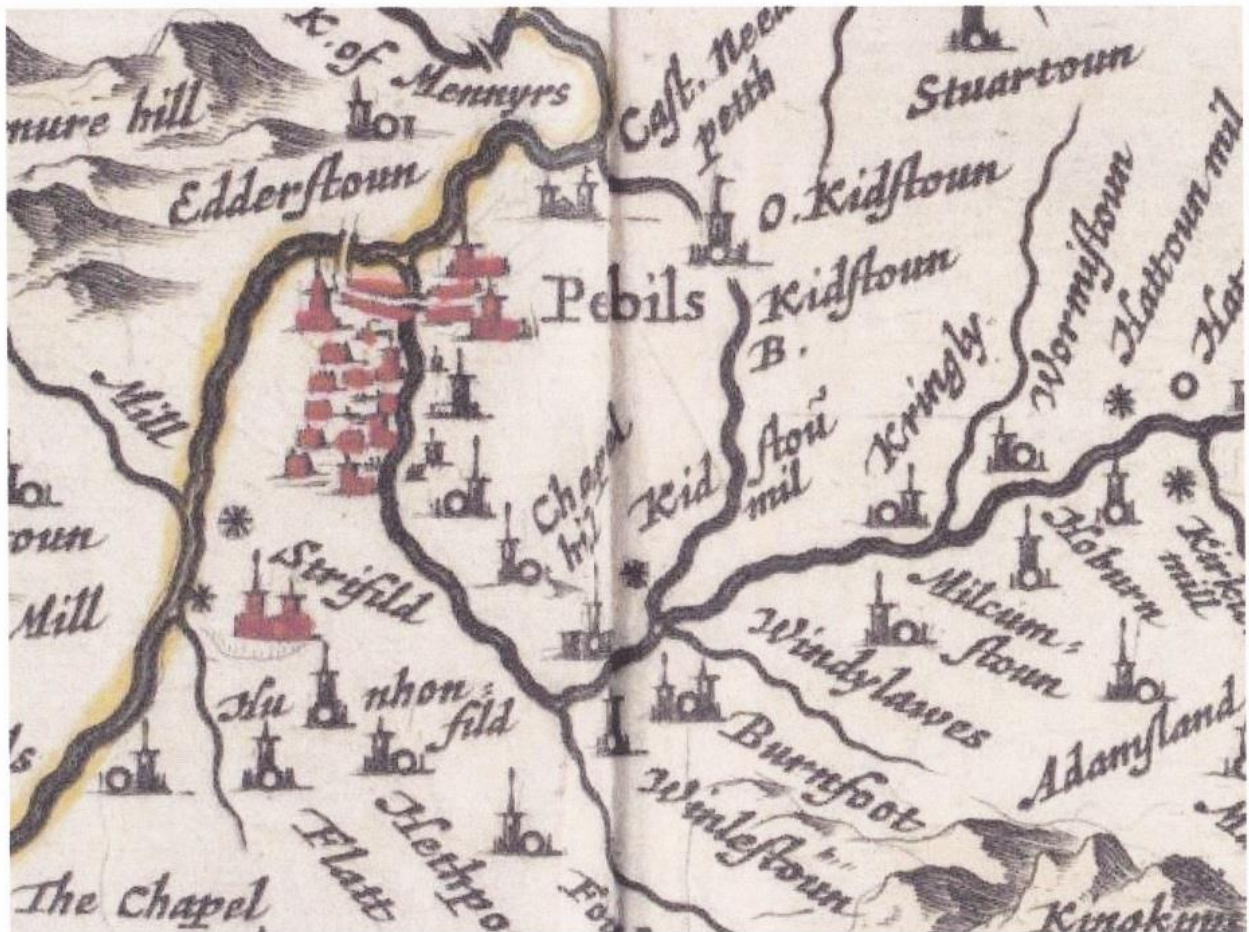


Figure 2. The 1654 Blaeu Atlas of Scotland. The settlements of O. Kidstoun (over or upper), B. Kidstoun (bottom or nether), and a Kidstoun mil (this mill is known from before 1452) are shown near the larger town of Pebils (today known as Peebles). Note that Kidstoun is spelled with the old English 't' letter in place of 's'. This is the oldest known map of Scotland showing all three ancient Kidston family locations near Peebles.

## ORIGIN OF THE KIDSTON NAME IN SCOTLAND

The origin of the Kidston surname in Scotland is from Peeblesshire as described by the historian George Black (1962):

**KIDSTON.** *From the lands of Kidston in the parish of Peebles. The "tun" of Kide or Kyde. Gilcrist Kide held land near the river Nethan, c. 1180-1203 (Kelso, 110). Roger de Kydeston was juror on an inquest touching the lands of Hopkelchoc in 1259 (Bain, 1 2162; APS., 1, pref. p.88). As Roger de Kedistun he was also juror on an inquest along with Michael of Kedistun regarding the moss of Walthamshope in 1262 (Peebles, p. 5; APS., pref. p. 91). Kidstone 1687, Kidstoun 1733, Kidstoune 1652. (Black, 1962).*

Veitch (1893) concludes that the Kidston name in Scotland is from Teutonic settlers who migrated north from the ancient Anglo-Saxon Northumbria district of modern day England:

*Looking first at the names of dwelling-places, we have very commonly in the Tweed and adjoining valleys indeed all over the Lowlands the generic affix ton, tun, toun, or town. Not only is a congeries of dwellings a town, but every farmstead is so called. It thus indicated originally both a family and a tribal settlement; and nine-tenths of the tuns are to be traced back to Teutonic settlers. There is no mistaking the origin and significance of **Kidston (Kydeston)**, Eddleston (Edulfistun), Milkiston (Molkistun), Wormiston, Winkston (Wynkistun),...and many others of the same type. They were, in fact, the family possessions of those early clearers of the land, and show the original numerous subdivisions of property. The term still remains as applied more than a thousand years ago. Tun means originally edge or fence; hence fenced place or enclosure, and thus yard, farm, dwelling; and Town is described as "a territory lying within the bounds of a tun." The term is, of course, unquestionably Anglo-Saxon; and it belongs, further, especially to the Anglo branch of that speech. Toun is perhaps the word in most common use in the Lowlands of Scotland. It points unmistakably to the Anglo element in the population, and to its connection with ancient Northumbria. As a place-name it is abundant in the plain of Cumberland and by the Roman Roads, thus along certain comparatively easy lines of march, showing how the Anglos came to occupy this district...(Veitch 1983).*

Chambers (1864) linked the Kidston name to an older family surname of Kyde (aka Kyd, Kide, Kid, Kidd, Ked):

*The affix 'ton', occurring in the name of a place, ordinarily marks its connection with a personage of Anglo-Saxon origin...settlers named Cruke, Greve, **Kyde**, Molk, Orme, Stephen, and Wynke, respectively originated the designations Crookston, Grieston, **Kidston**, Milkiston, Ormiston, Stevenston, and Winkston - the transitions to these latter forms of the words being recognized in deeds dated two centuries ago, when we see Milkiston written Molkiston; **Kidston, Kydiston**; and Grieston, Greviston. (Chambers, 1864).*

John Kidston Tait (1995) suggests the Kidston name in Scotland may be from a family that lived in Yorkshire, England, perhaps a family of Kyde or Kide with Anglo-Saxon origin as suggested above by Chamber (1864) and Black (1962):

*It would appear that the name **Kidston** may have come from an English family in Yorkshire. Three branches of this family are thought to have left Yorkshire in the 11th Century. One branch moved south to Hengrave in Sussex but the surname of this branch became Kitson. It is thought that the second branch emigrated from England to Ireland, where they took as their surname Kidson. The third branch moved to Peeblesshire in Scotland where the estate where they lived became known as Kidston (Tait, 1995).*

If this suggestion of Mr. Tait is correct, it would be expected that some members of the ancestral 11<sup>th</sup> century 'Kidston' family from Yorkshire, England would have remained in England while others migrated away. There is some evidence to support this view. Robert de Kediston is known from Norfolk, England in 1372 (Blomefield, 1805), which is not that far removed in time from the first mention of Roger de Kedistun at Peebles, Scotland in 1259. John Kydeston was an English ship captain who sailed the Bartholemew of Landelph in 1434 to Spain (*Rymer, 1741: Foedera, Conventiones, Literae, et Cujuscumque geberis acta...*; also *The Tablet, The International Catholic Weekly, Oct 10, 1874*). Robert Kydston was christened in Mexborough Yorkshire, England in 1572 (*ancestry.com.uk*). Ales [Alice] Kydston married Oliver Whip in 1574 in Nottingham County (*Records of parish of Eakring, England*). Susanna Kydston was buried 28 Jan 1683 at St. James, Haslingden, Lancashire (*Online burial records for St James church*). It is unlikely that the Scottish family names Kidson and Kitson directly gave rise to the Kidston family. Kidson, Kitson, Kidston are thought by Tait (1995) to be separate and unique branches of a more ancestral Anglo-Saxon family of Kyde or Kide with origin in England.

The Kidston name is known from Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but only associated with land. Figure 6 shows a document that identifies 'the Twa merkland of Kidstoune', known from the parish of Glencairn in 1671 (*The Annals of Glencairn*, see Figure 3 for source reference). It is unknown what branch of the Kidston family may have migrated to Glencairn from Scotland or England.

## THE KIDSTON NAME AT PEEBLESSHIRE

The Kidston family name first appears for an individual at Peeblesshire for Roger of Kydeston (aka Kedistun) who is known to have served as a juror in a legal proceeding in the parish of Peebles in 1259 (Renwick, 1903):

*An inquest was made of the land of 'Hopkelchoc' in the presence of Sirs Thomas de Normanville, and Stephen Fleming, justiciars of Lothian, at Peebles on Tuesday after the feast of St Martin, AD 1259, by the oaths of responsible, faithful and trustworthy men, namely, Sir Ness Fraser, Sir Henry of Caundle (de Candela), William of Melville, John Hunter, Roger of Bothwell, Adam of Merton, Robert Crok, William of Meldon, Archibald of 'Hundewulchopp' (Wauchope ?), Henry 'Stel', **Roger of 'Kydeston'** and John Wildsmith, all jurors, who said that the inquest that was made of the said land previously by Sir G[ilbert] Fraser, sheriff of Peebles, was faithfully and reasonably made by rational persons, and was in no way suspect, and they swore faithfully...* (<http://db.poms.ac.uk/record/source/4323/#>).



	Mks.	s.	d.
of Auchenfedrig, The Fourtie shillingland of Dardarroch, The halfe merkland of Clanstoune, The Twa merkland of Castlefairne, The Milne, The merkland of Little Laggan, The merkland of Meikle Laggan, The Twa merkland of Gordiestoune	3,400	0	0
The Lands pertaining to Robert Fergusson of Craigdarroch, The Four merkland of Jedburghe, Lochanbennet, and Damacullen, Craigdarroch Milne and Lagdow, The Twa merkland of Moss and Graynes and Coatmantack, The land called the Twentie shillingland, The Three merk halfe merkland of Chapelmark and Corrodow, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Cornbie, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Conrike, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Blairoh, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Benbowie, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Barnbowrie, The Threttie-twa shillingland of Craigdarroch, The Twentie shillingland of Neise, The Fyve merkland of Barndarroche, Over Caitloch, Camanell, and merkland of Dungalstoune	1,500	0	0
The Lands pertaining to John M'Gachan, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Dalwhat head, The merkland of The Mayns of Dalwhat, The Twa merk halfe merkland of Mairwhairne	562	0	0
The Lands pertaining to Inglestoune, The merkland of Kirkland, The merklands of Gilmourstoune, The Twa merkland of Mid Inglestoune, The halfe merkland pertaining to him, The Milne of Twa merkland	657	6	8
The Over merkland of Kirkland	90	0	0
The Twa merkland of Birkshaw	122	6	8
The Fourtie shilling land of Freuchlarg...	200	0	0
The Twa Merkland of Nether Inglestoune	300	0	0
The land pertaining to James Craik, The Threttie shilling land of Compstoune, The Milne of Snaid, The Twa merkland of Coatstoune, The Twa merkland of Keulstun, The merkland of Gaitsyd and merkland of Mossettstoun, The merkland of the Twa merkland and merkland of Stuartoune	775	0	0
The Twa merkland of Cleughsyd and Lairmore, The Twa Merkland of Claak, Kidstoune, and Brattlestoune	250	0	0
The merkland of Netherclaak, pertaining to Bogrie	20	0	0
The Laird of Crawfordtoun's haill lands besyd his lands purchased from Stuartoun	600	0	0

Figure 3. A 1671 reference of lands of Kidstoune from Glencairn parish in Dumfriesshire, Scotland. It is unknown which branch of the Kidston family migrated to Glencairn in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. (online reference, [http://www.archive.org/stream/glencairndumfrie00corriala/glencairndumfrie00corriala\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/glencairndumfrie00corriala/glencairndumfrie00corriala_djvu.txt))

The parish of Peebles is located in the border zone between England and Scotland in the county of Peeblesshire at the confluence of the River Tweed and the Eddleston Water. Sometime before 1327 it is known that Roger of Kydeston owned a 'bovate' of land and house near Peebles (Buchan, 1926). Bovate is an old English word for a plot of land that could be plowed or subdivided, normally between 15-20 acres:

*In 1327 Gilbert called Hunter acquired the **lands of Meldoun and Kydistoun** from William Bysset of Mertoun, but under reservation of a bovate with house thereon which had belonged to **the late Roger de Kydeston**. (Buchan, 1926).*

In 1262, it also is known that Michael de Kedistun was present in Peeblesshire to serve as a juror with Roger de Kedistun for a second trial held at Peebles (see Figure 4). It is thought this is the same Roger from 1259 in Peebles only recorded with a different surname. Chambers (1864) discusses how the Kidston name represents an early record of Scottish families associated with the town of Peebles:

*At the distance of two miles south from Peebles, within the bosom of the Newby Hills, lies Walthamshope, the name of which has been corrupted into Waddinshope. Here, formerly, the burgesses of Peebles owned a right of common with the privilege of digging peats, which in 1262 became the subject of dispute with Robert Cruik, possibly a descendant of the Anglo-Saxon settler who imparted his name to Crookston. As seen by the Acts of the Scots Parliament, this dispute was of sufficient importance to call for a precept of inquiry from Alexander III, and was finally determined in favour of the burgesses. Of no general interest, the case is curious from the names of the persons composing the "jury": Archibald of Hopkeiloc, Alexander of Winkistun, Richard Fermer, Clement of Hopkeiloc, **Roger of Kedistun, Michael of Kedistun**, Roger Gardener, Archibald of Hundwaluchishope, Adam of Stobhou, Thomas Smith, Richard the son of Godard, Gauri Pluchan, William Shepherd, Walter Shepherd, John Modi, Robert Gladhoc, Cokin Smith, and Adam Hacsmall. Such is the earliest record of names connected with Peebles (Chambers, 1864).*

Evidence exists that the Michael de Kedistun who served as juror in 1262 also owned land near Peebles. A reference to the 'towne of Mykkel Kydston', a surname of Michael Kedistun, is found in the letters of the English King Henry 8<sup>th</sup>. This event is mentioned with more detail in the notes of Armstrong (1902). In 1544 troops loyal to English King Henry 8<sup>th</sup> raided and burned many settlements in the border counties of Scotland, including the area near Peebles. One group of attackers was led by an Armstrong. On two consecutive days, it is recorded that Armstrong and others attacked and burned four settlements near Peebles:

*March 20, 1544. The Armstrongis per mandatum. The towne of Mynchame of the larde of Mynchames landis brent [burnt]... March 21, 1544. The Armstrongis and others per mandatum predictum. The townes of **Mykkel Kydston**, Maislandis, and Eshellis brent [burnt]: nine prysoniers with muche goodis (Armstrong, 1902).*



## III.

DELIVERANCE made by the Inquest appointed under Breve by the King regarding the Moss of Waltamshope. Peebles 15th October 1262.

APUD PEBBLYS die Sancti Leonardi anni gratie millesimi ducentissimi sexagesimi secundi, Archebaldus de Hopkelioc, Alexander de Winkistun, Ricardus Fermarius, Clemens de Hopkelioc, Rogerus le Kedistun, Michael de Kedistun, Rogerus Ortolanus, Archebaldus de Hundwaluchishope, Adam de Stobhou, Thomas Faber, Ricardus filius Godardi, Gauri Pluchan, Willelmus Pastor, Walterus Pastor, Johannes Modi, Robertus Gladhoc, Cokinus Faber, Adam Hacsmall, Jurati dixerunt quod burgenses de Pebblys foderunt petas suas in petaria de Waltamshope, et quod Robertus Croke dictas petas violavit secuit et fregit et petas ducere inpediuit, et quod unum equum cepit cum brueria, et precium equi quod est quatuor solidi et precium bruerie quod est unus denarius, detinet adhuc tanquam suam escaetam, dicens quod est sua escaeta, eo quod dictam brueriam in communia sua eradicarunt: dieti autem burgenses precium dicti equi et bruerie cum servantibus domini Regis et baroniis pecierunt ad vadium et ad plegium quod non potuerunt habere quia dixit quod sit sua escaeta. Dicti autem jurati dixerunt quod dictus

AT PEBBLYS on the day of Saint Leonard in the year of grace one thousand two hundred and sixty two, Archibald de Hopkelioc, Alexander de Winkistun, Richard Farmer, Clement of Hopkelioc, Roger Keddistan, Michael of Kedistun, Roger Gardiner, Archibald of Hundwaluchishope, Adam of Stobhou, Thomas Smith, Richard the son of Goddard, Gauri Pluchan, William Shepherd, Walter Shepherd, John Modi, Robert Gladhoc, Cokin Smith, Adam Hacsmall, being sworn said that the burgesses of Pebblys dug their peats in the moss of Waltamshope, and that Robert Croke spoiled cut up and broke the said peats and prevented them from being led, and that he seized a horse with heath, and still detains the price of the horse which is four shillings, and the price of the heath, which is a penny, as his escheat, saying that it is his escheat because the said heath was plucked in his common. The said burgesses likewise asked from the servants of our lord the king and the barons the price of the said horse and heath in pledge, which they could not receive because he said that it was his escheat. The said jurors likewise said that the said

Figure 4. Reference for the 1262 trail held at Peebles that identifies Roger of Kedistun and Michael of Kedistun as jurors. (*Scottish Records Society*; <http://archive.org/stream/chartersdocument00peeb#page/n5/mode/2up>)

The 1832 'Atlas of Scotland' (Thomson) shows the towns of "Nether Kidstoun, Melinslands, and Eshields" to be within five miles of each other near a branch of the old Drove Road that follows the valley of the River Tweed. The names on this 1832 map of Peebles, with different spelling, are clearly the same towns raided and burned on March 21, 1544 by the men of Armstrong. These three towns are close enough to each other for all three to have been attacked by horse raid in a single day. This historical reference suggests that the 'town of Mykkel Kydston' is today known as Nether Kidston given its location in the Tweed River valley near Peebles. Assuming this is a correct interpretation of the facts reported for the 1544 attack, the land Buchan (1926) claims was owned by Roger Kydeston prior to 1326 near Peebles would be what today is known as Upper Kidston given its hilltop location. It is known that in 1544 Nether Kidstoun was under ownership of Alexander Lauder, the 8th Laird of Haltoun, with his wife Janet Borthwick (see Appendix B). Details of the March 21, 1544 attack on the 'town of Mykkel Kydston' near Peebles may exist in ancient surviving letters of the Lauder and Borthwick families.

It is unknown how Roger and Michael Kydeston (Kedistun) came to live at Peeblesshire in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. None of the known Kidston surnames have been found in Scottish documents before 1259. Black (1962) suggests that Roger de Kydeston may have been related to an ancient branch of a Kide or Kyde family that settled in Scotland. Gilchrist Kide is known to have held land near Lesmahagow monastery along the River Nethan before 1203, not far from Peebles, prior to the dates Roger and Michael are known to have been in Peebles (records from Kelso Abbey). If Roger was a relative from a settlement of the Gilchrist Kide (Kyde) family living at Lesmahagow it is possible that he migrated to Peeblesshire sometime prior to the 1259 trial and took a surname Kydeston to identify himself as being from the settlement owned by Gilchrist. The same reasoning would apply to Michael who is known by the surname Kydston. However, another possible explanation is that Roger and Michael migrated together to Peebles Scotland from England from an ancestral branch of the family already using a Kidston surname.

Wherever they came from, it is unlikely that either Roger or Michael had family members who survived them in Peebles, no birth or death records are known for any Kidston from Peebles. Ownership of the 'lands of Meldoun and Kydistoun' are known to have been transferred to the Bysset family:

*In 1327 Gilbert called Hunter acquired the **lands of Meldoun and Kydistoun** from William Bysset of Mertoun, but under reservation of a bovat with house thereon which had belonged to **the late Roger de Kydeston**. (Buchan, 1926).*

Another reference for this land transfer by William Bysset is under the surname Byseth, with different facts reported in the historical document, *Origines Parochiales Scotiae*:

*Ratification by Henry de Sinclair to Gilbert de Hunter of an alienation made to him by William de Byseth, pupil to the said Henry de Sinclair, of his **lands of Meldon and Kidston**. 1326. MSS. of the Earl of Lauderdale at Thirlestane Castle. Historical MSS. Commission, Report V., p. 611.*

Sir William Bysset (aka Byseth), knight, was a Scotsman who with many others signed a document called the Ragman Rolls supporting English King Edward I during the chaotic political events in the war of independence with England. When King Edward I of England invaded Scotland and defeated William Wallace at Falkirk in 1298 he made claim to ownership of all lands in Scotland. It is known that King Edward I granted land charters to Scotsman that signed the Ragman Rolls, as did King Edward II who preceded him in 1306. Apparently this was the fate of the lands of the Kidston in Peeblesshire after the death of Roger and Michael. It is unknown when Roger and Michael died, but it is reported that sometime between 1262 and 1326 the lands owned by Roger Kydistun at Peebles were granted to the Bysset family, who in turn quickly transferred ownership to the Hunter family in 1327. Whether or not the Bysset family also took ownership of the lands of Michael Kedistun is unknown. However, as discussed in more detail in Appendix B, it is possible that Sir William Bysset was granted all the Kidston lands at Peebles by Aymer de Valence, commander of the English army in Scotland for King Edward I, sometime after 1306 for his long military service to the English King.



Figure 5. Pictures taken May 2012 of my wife, Elizabeth Kidston Davic, at Upper Kidston farm, Peebles, Scotland; Nether Kidston and Kidston Mill. A stream called Kidston Burn drains Upper Kidston farm and flows through Nether Kidston before it enters the Eddleston Waters tributary of the Tweed River. Kidston Bank Woods is on the hill to the right of Nether Kidston sign. These Kidston family name locations in Peebles date to the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

### EARLY KIDSTON FAMILY AT STIRLINGSHIRE

The Kidston family history in Stirlingshire, Scotland, begins with John Kydstoun who mysteriously appears at Logie parish in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Of historical interest is that for a period of about 200 years prior to 1500 no evidence exists that any person with a Kidston surname was born, died or married anywhere in Scotland. The Kidston family name essentially disappears from Scotland for many generations, with surnames mentioned only in documents in reference to the transfer of the original lands of Roger and Michael in Peebles. Chambers (1864) explains that it was not uncommon for ancient Scottish family names to disappear, leaving few traces or details of ancestors:

*The Tweedies of Drummelzier, admittedly of great antiquity, whatever may be their origin, disappeared in the seventeenth century; and how many other families of note have also vanished from the county, will*

*become apparent in our topographical department. Of the Vermels or Uermels of Romanno ... there is now as little trace as of the Eadulfs, Cruikes, Ormes, Molks, **Kydes**, and others who have bequeathed names to places in the county. (Chambers, 1864).*

Given the fact that the Kidston family name went missing from records in Scotland for many generations, the question of interest is how John Kydstoun came to live at Logie parish in Stirlingshire in the early 1500s bearing the vanished surname of Kidston? Little is known about John Kydstoun except that he held a feu (tenent) at Huddisfield in Logie and perhaps had five children to an unknown wife or wives (Tait, 1995). His place of birth and the names of his parents are unknown. The first known mention of John (Johannes) Kydstoun is from the Scottish document *Registrum Secreti Sigille Regum Scoturum, Apud Dunfermline, 1530, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept*, which is presented below as transcribed by Tait (1995):

*... 'preceptum carte, confirmation Jacobi Cunyngham de Polmaise of Margaret Lutoun, euis spouse super carte alienations et integris terris Cherymurelands cum piscaria earunden super aqua de Forth aednon de totis et integris terries Huddisfield, quas **Johannes Kydstoun**, Robertus Galloway et Andreas Galloway, nunc occupant et in Striviling. Tenend de dicto Roberti heredibus suis et assignatis et per signetium.'*

The exact location of Huddisfeld near Logie is not known, but a note from the *Stirling Antiquary* (p.171) indicates it was held by Robert Bisset and sold to James Cunyngham of Polmaise in 1534, during the time that John Kydstoun held a feu there:

*Robert Bisset sold to James Cunyngham of Polmaise and Margaret Aytoun his spouse, the whole of Bissetlandis, also Easter Thretty Akeris, called Bisset-Akeris, the **lands of Huddisfield**, the fourth part of Levilandis, and the lands of Torbrex...Huddisfield we have not as yet been able to identify...in 1559-1560 daughters of Cunyinghame sold half of Huddisfield...*

Concerning the mysterious appearance of John Kydstoun at Logie parish, one interesting possibility has been put forward by Tait (1995) that is summarized below with my comments in brackets added for clarity:

*Prior to 1451 the superiority of the lands of Kidston in Peeblesshire was held by the 'Black' Douglas's [granted in 1372 to the 1st Earl of Douglas by King Robert II]. A Douglas was farming at the Kidston estate in Peeblesshire when the 'Black' Douglasses were outlawed following the murder of the Earl of Douglas in 1451. It was then that the family sought refuge in the caves of the Ochil Hills. It is known that there has been 'Black' Douglasses in the parish of Logie before 1451 [James, Lord of Douglas, was granted land in Logie-Airthrey in 1354]. It is now thought that John Kidston [aka John Kydstoun] was a grandson of the family of Douglas's who lived in the caves of the Orhil Hills, but whether his family lived in Logie before is uncertain. This family is thought to have changed their name from Douglas to Kidston after they had a family (John Kidston Tait, 1995).*



Although no record exists of a Douglas family living at the Kidston lands near Peebles in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, if the above claim of Mr. Tait is correct that John Kydstoun was from a Douglas family who took a Kidston surname to escape identification, there should be a close genetic match for y-chromosome DNA markers between: (1) Kidston males that can trace their ancestry to one of three sons of John Kydstoun from Logie parish, and (2) Douglas males that can trace their ancestry to the 'Black' Douglas lineage led by Earls of Douglas in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. James, the 9<sup>th</sup> Earl of Douglas, died in 1488 and was the last Earl of the 'Black' Douglas lineage.

It is highly unlikely that John Kydstoun, or his parents before him, migrated to Logie parish from Peebles. There are no records of any Kidston living in Peebles, or anywhere in Scotland, for 200 years before John Kydstoun appears at Logie parish in the early 1500s. From 1452 to 1533 the 'Kidston lands' at Peebles were owned by other Scottish families, as documented by Renwick (1903):

**1452.** Charter by King James II. to William of Cranston of Cralyne of the lands of **Nether Kidstoun**, with mill thereof, and half of town of **Over Kidstoun**, and the lands of the said town commonly called Flokrayk, belonging to the King through the forfeiture of the late William of Lauder of Haltoun. 12 April, 1452. R.M.S. II., No. 534.

**1452.** Charter by King James II. to John of Anyse of Dolfyngstoun of the lands of Overwormotstoun and half of town of **Over Kidstoun**, belonging to the King through said forfeiture. 12 April, 1452. R.M.S. II., No. 536.

**1472.** Charter by King James III. to William Lauder, son and apparent heir of Alexander Lauder of Haltoun, knight, of the £10 land of Eister Wormotetoun, £8 16s. land of **Nether Kidstoun**, £6 5s. land of **Ovir-Kidstoun**, and 33s. 4d. land of Wester-Wormotstoun; which lands the said Alexander resigned. 29 August, 1472. R.M.S. II., No. 1069.

**1508.** Charter by King James IV. to Mr. Alexander Schaw, rector of Taunades, of the 9 merk land of **Over Kidstoun**, and 3 merk 6s. 8d. land of **Nethir Kidstoun**, apprised from George Lauder, knight, for debt, but redeemable on payment. 12 May, 1508. R.M.S. II., No. 3224.

**1512-13.** Charter by King James IV. to William Lawdere (son and apparent heir of George Lawdere of Haltoun, knight), and Agnes Henderson, spouses, of the lands of **Over Kidstoun**, **Nether Kidstoun**, Estir Wormestoun, Westir Wormestoun, and the hill called Grene-Meldoun, with the mills thereof; all which George Lauder resigned, but reserving his liferent. 29 January, 1512-3. R.M.S. II., No. 3807.

**1533-34.** Charter by King James V. confirming a charter dated 24 February, 1533-4, whereby William Lauder of Haltoun granted to his son and apparent heir, Alexander Lauder and Jonet Borthuik, his spouse, daughter of lord Borthuik, various lands including **Nethir Kyddestoun**. 24 February, 1533-4. R.M.S. III., No. 1367.

Another possible explanation how John Kydstoun came to live at Logie parish is that he migrated to Scotland from an ancient branch of the Kidston family already living in England as mentioned by Tait (1995). It is known that a Robert Kydston was born in 1572 in Yorkshire, England. The near identical surname spelling of John Kydstoun (1530 in Scotland) and Robert Kydston (1572 in England), at roughly the same time in history, suggest the two men were related. Also, a John Kydeston is known from England in 1434 as a ship captain. Thus it is possible that John Kydstoun of Logie parish

was a member of a 'Kidston' family line from England and migrated to Scotland as a young man. This would help to explain why no Scottish records exist of his birth, marriage, and identity of his parents.

Three of the adult sons of John Kydstoun (Andro [Andrew], James, Richard) married and had children, and a fourth son, John, died soon after birth; all are believed by Tait (1995) to have been born at Logie parish. A family tree of the immediate offspring of John Kydstoun is shown in Table 1. Of genealogical interest is the fact that the lineage of one of his sons, James Kidstone (b.~1530), dies out after one generation because none of the children of James (Jonet, Andro, James) are known to have had children.

Tait (1995) indicates that John Kydstoun had one daughter, Agnes, but there appears to be an error in the information he provides for Agnes Kidston in his family inventory:

**3-1D. Agnes Kidston** (Est. b. 1530) was probably the daughter of John Kidston (Est.b.1500). In 1581, she married John Brown of Tullibody. She was supposed to have been married before and she had not obtained a divorce from her first husband who was minister at Tullibody stating that he was not aware of Agnes ever having married. It is also strange that the Presbytery's minutes do not record her married name, and only a blank without this ever having been inserted. The outcome of this is unknown but it is thought that there were no children to either marriage (John Kidston Tait, 1995).

However, one historical problem with the information provided for Agnes is that these same factual events are known from the *Stirling Presbytery Minutes* to apply to a Jonet Kidstoun, who was married to Johnne Broun soon before October 31, 1581 by James Dalmahoy, minister of Tullibody, while she was still married to William Ewing (see Figure 6). Tait (1995) does not mention a Jonet Kidstoun being married to Johnne Broun, which indicates that Agnes Kidston identified as [3-1D] in the family inventory never existed and most likely has been confused with Jonet Kidstoun. Given the facts presented in Figure 6, it is suggested that Jonet Kidstoun is the only daughter of John Kydstoun of Huddsifield from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and not Agnes Kidston. If John Kydstoun had a second daughter Agnes as suggested by Tait (1995), there is currently nothing known about her.

as "Minister at Cambuskenneth," but in the Presbytery Minutes of that date he is only once so designated. In all subsequent procedure he is called simply "Minister." It also appears that he had officiated at Cambuskenneth and Tullibody in common, but the former is never referred to in the Presbytery Minutes as a regular parochial charge, and after James Dalmahoy's deposition no one was appointed to succeed him.

Complaints were made against this reformed priest at a meeting of Presbytery held on 31st October 1581, and "the brethir ordains ye said James to be summoned to ye vii of November nixt to ansor to sic things as salbe layit unto his chairge." The accusations against James Dalmahoy are fully recorded in the minute of the next meeting at which he himself was present. He "being accusit for mareing of Mr Jo<sup>ns</sup> forbes & Isobell miln parochunnars of ye kirk of Striuling w<sup>out</sup> testimoniall of ye minister or redar y<sup>of</sup>, confessit ye samin. Secundlie being accusit for mareing of henrie Strachane & Jonet moir parochunnars of tullibody notw<sup>standing</sup> there was chalenging made of ye matir be ane vyir woman and als w<sup>out</sup> testimoniall of or lycence of ye eldership agains ye act of ye generall assemblie seing yat nane of ye parteis was parochunnars to him: The said James confessit ye marriage and also ye opposition made agains ye persone of ye mane, Bot allegit yat ye opponar refarrit ye matir to ye mans aithe quha purgit him self y<sup>by</sup>. Secundlie ye said James allegit him self to be minister at ye kirk of tullibody and ye parteis to have been Lau<sup>ds</sup> proclaimit be him and sua needit na testimoniall nor lycence of ye eldership. Thirdlie being accusit for mareing of Jonet Kidstoun (her husband William Ewing on lyf and na divorcement passit betwix yame) w<sup>ane</sup> Johnne broun, The said James confessit ye marriage bot denyit yat he knew hir first gudman to be on lyfe. fferdlie being accusit for baptesing of ane bairne of Jo<sup>ns</sup> huttoun gotten in adultrie and incest vpone ane Ellein maleice in Striuling. Confessit samin bot alledgit he did it at command of Mr Robert Montgomerie minister at Striuling, The brethir continuis ye avysment of James Dalmahoyis accusations and his answers gevin in y<sup>unto</sup> to ane fuller Sessione."

Figure 6. Reference dated October 31, 1581 from *The Stirling Antiquary*, p.28. List of complaints against minister James Dalmahoy, Kirk at Tullibody. Confessed to conducting marriage of Jonet Kidstoun with Johnne Broun at Tullibody claiming he did not know her first husband was alive. Given the date of this 1581 marriage, it is possible this Jonet Kidstoun is daughter of John Kydstoun of Huddisfield (see Table 1).

Within the first several generations of the Kidston family at Sterlingshire many marriages resulted in genetic relationships of Kidston with other Scottish families. The following Scottish families are known to have married with Kidston family members prior to 1700 (Tait, 1995 and other sources): Alexander, Balfour, Bennett, Black, Brown (Broun), Chalmers, Chrystie, Coull, Cowan, Cummins, Dawson, Dickson, Donaldson, Duncan, Ewing, Falconer, Galloway, Garvie, Gilmour, Hall, Harlaw, Henderson, Horn, Jamieson, Kerr, Lawrence, McCulloch, Miller, Morrison, Nuccoll, Pearson, Phillips, Porteous, Rainy (Raney), Scobie, Smith, Thomson, Turnbull, Walker, Wilson. The possibility exists that details about the early history of the Kidston family from Sterlingshire exists in letters written by members of these Scottish families, a project for future research.

Table 1. Family tree for the first three generations of the Kidston family from Logie parish, Sterlinshire. Information from Tait (1995) except for Jonet Kidstoun (b.~1530), which is from *The Stirling Antiquary* and not recorded by Tait (1995). Surnames are in bold as recorded in primary source references, otherwise listed as unknown surname spelling of Kidston. (b=born, d=died, s=spouse, m=date married, unk=unknown, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> = family generations beginning with John Kydstoun and wife unknown).

=====

1<sup>st</sup> ..... John [**Kydstoun**] (b.~1500, d. unk, s. unk, m. unk). Tenet at Huddisfield, exact location unknown. Wife unknown. (*John Kydstoun is the recognized patriarch of the Kidston family from Logie parish. He had four sons, one or two daughters, nine grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren; from Tait, 1995*)

2<sup>nd</sup> ..... John [Kidston surname unk] (died young).

..... Agnes [Kidston surname unk] (b. ~1530, d. unk, s. unk). Most likely Jonet Kidstoun below.

..... Jonet [**Kidstoun**] (b. ~1530, d. unk, s. 1<sup>st</sup>-William Ewing, 2<sup>nd</sup>-Johnne Broun, m. second, before Oct 1581). Mentioned in *Stiring Antiquary* as being married to Broun at Kirk of Tullibody by minister James Dalmahoy.

#### FIRST ADULT SON OF JOHN KYDSTOUN and grandchildren

..... Andro (Andrew) [**Kidstoun**] (b. ~1525, d. unk, s. unk, m. unk). Farmed at West Cambus.

3<sup>rd</sup> ..... John [Kidston surname unk] (b.~1550, d. unk, s. unk, m. ~1580). Farmed at West Cambus. Had three children, Andrew, Thomas, John.

..... Andro [**Kidstone**] (b. ~1555, d. 1623, s. Jonet Chrystie, m. ~1580) Surname of Kidstone and date of death on tombstone at old Logie Kirk graveyard, lair # 16. Farmed at West Cambus. Had four children, Andrew, William, John, James.

#### SECOND ADULT SON OF JOHN KYDSTOUN and grandchildren (this branch dies out after one generation)

..... James [**Kidstone**] (b. ~1530, d. 1598, s. Margaret Alexander, m. ~1560). Name and date of death on tombstone at old Logie Kirk graveyard, lair # 18. Farmed at Abbey Craig.

..... John [Kidston surname unk] (died young)

..... Jonet (Janet) [**Kidstoun**] (b.~1560, d. 1620-21, s. James Porteous, m. unk). No children known.

..... Andro [Kidston surname unk] (b. ~1560, d. unk, s. Margaret Donaldson, m. unk). No children known.

..... James [Kidston surname unk] (b. ~1560, d. unk, s. unk, m. unk). No children known.

#### THIRD ADULT SON OF JOHN KYDSTOUN and grandchildren

..... Richard [**Kidstoun**, aka **Kedstoun**] (b. ~1535, d. before 1589, s. unk, m. ~1560). Farmed at Craigton at Cambuskenneth, also Craigmiln.

..... John [Kidston surname unknown] (died young)

..... Andro [**Kidstoun**] (b. ~1560, d. unk, s. Jonet Raney, m. 1589). Marriage date and name recorded in records of Sterling, also that his father Richard Kidstoun was deceased by 1589. Had three children, Richard, Andrew, Grissall, however, none of them had children, thus this branch dies out by ~1625.

..... Richard [**Kidstoun**] (b. ~1565, d. 1618, s. Janet Henderson, m. ~1590). Had seven children, two males died young, Richard I and John. Adult children are James, Robert, David, Richard II, and daughter with unknown name. Death 29 Sept 1618 (*Commissariat of Dunblane, 1539-1800*).



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## APPENDIX A

Surnames used by early members of the Kidston family from Scotland and England prior to 1700. Listed in order by date of occurrence in a primary source document. Kidston surname spelling for family members shown in bold text. Select source documents are included.

=====	
Date	Surname/Location/Comments
1259	Roger de Kydeston, Peeblesshire, Scotland; held land and house near Peebles (Buchan, 1926)
1262	Roger de Kedistun, same person as 1259 record
1262	Michael de Kedistun, Peeblesshire, Scotland (Buchan, 1926); Also known as Mykkel Kydston ( <i>Armstrong, 1902 and notes of English King Henry 8<sup>th</sup></i> )
1327	Robert de Kediston, Norfolk, England (Blomefield, 1805)
1434	John Kydeston, ship captain from England, sailed the ship Bartholemew of Landelph , perhaps from Cornwell or Norfolk England to Spain ( <i>Rymer, 1741: Foedera, Conventiones, Literae, et Cujuscumque geberis acta...also The Tablet, The International Catholic Weekly, Oct 10, 1874</i> )
1530	John Kydstoun, Huddisfield at Logie parish, Stirlingshire, Scotland; patriarch of extended Kidston family from Logie parish; first mentioned in a 1530 feu charter at Huddisfield (Tait, 1995)
1562	Rechert [Richard] Kidstoun, youngest son of John Kydston from 1530; mentioned in document from Stirling as shown in Figure 3. ( <i>Charters Related to Royal Burgh of Stirling, 10<sup>th</sup> Nov, 1884</i> ).
1562/63	Andrew Kidstoun; mentioned in a feu charter at Cambuskenneth ( <i>National Records Scotland, ref.# GD124/1/982</i> ). Believed to be the first son of John Kydstoun (b.~1500), given the date.
1572	Robert Kydston, Yorkshire, England, ( <i>christening date, ancestry.com.uk</i> )
1574	Ales (Alice) Kydston, Parish of Eakring, England ( <i>married Olive Whip on Nov 20, 1574, records from parish of Eakring, online reference</i> )
1579	Richard Kedstoun, Stirlingshire; youngest son of John Kydstoun from 1530; same person as 1562 and 1589 with surname Kidstoun ( <i>name as recorded in the Feb 26, 1591 will of John Mitchell, a farmer in Bandeath, Stirlingshire</i> ).
1581	Jonet Kidstoun, Stirlingshire. In <i>The Scottish Antiquary</i> she is said to have been illegally married to Johnne Broun before Oct, 1581 by minister James Dalmahoy at Kirk of Tullibody while still married to William Ewing (see Figure 6). Tait (1995) does not list this Jonet Kidstoun in his inventory, but assigns this marriage event incorrectly to Agnes Kidston (b.~1530). Given the date, this Jonet is a likely daughter of John Kydstoun (b. ~1500) unknown to Tait (1995).
1583	Jonet Kidstoun, Stirlingshire. Mentioned to have taken an unauthorized pilgrimage to Christ's Well for healing. (Fergusson, 1899). Tait (1995) suggests this may be Jonet Chrystie married to Andro Kidstone, however, she also could be the Jonet Kidstoun who married Johnne Broun prior to Oct, 1581 or the Jonet Kidstoun (b.~1560) who married James Porteous (see Tait, 1995).

The counsall hes condiscendit that Thomas Carnis and William Gichaine haif Waist land the pece waist land in the Baikrow at the baksyd adiacent to their new foir lugeing <sup>given for</sup> annual rent. for xl s. yeirlie of annuall to be payit to the thesawrar equaly betuix thame, and sall lewe the passage on the hie kingis gaitt lik as it is now in the baksyd equaly with the gavell of David Bawegage and Andro Carnis.

10th November, 1562.

In presens of James Watsons and Williame Derroche, baillies, the settis <sup>Settis</sup> rowpit rowpit within the burgh of Striuling and sett them as followis:—

The small custumis sett to Gilbert Watsons for ane hundreth aughtene merkis and ane half. Souerte, Alexander Gowrlaye.

The geitt swoippingis sett to Alexander Gourlaye for fiftie twa merkis and half. Souirtie, Williame Derroche.

The Watter of Forthe sett to James Robertsons for xx li. Souirte, Alexander Schortt.

Kingis maill, gyrs maill and stallachan, sett to James Thome for v li. Souerte, Alexander Gourlaye.

The fische skemmyllis sett to Robert Scott for vij merkis.

The peckis sett to John Chalmer for xxv merkis and ane half. Souirteis, Rechert Kidstoun and John Richartsons, baxter, coniunctlie.

The hevane silver remanis in the thesauraris handis.

18th November, 1562.

The prouest, baillies and counsall, being avisit anent the selling of wyne within Taverneris, this toun and anent the bill gevin in be the taverneris thairof, the saidis prouest, wyne. baillies and counsall, ordanis nay wyne within this toun be sauld derrar nor xx d. the poynt of auld wyne, vnder the payne of confiscatioun and escheititng of the pece of wyne that salhappin to be sauld.

22nd December, 1562.

The counsall hes ordinit that the mynister and William Noruell, thesaurar, Conventioun pas to Edinburgh to the conventioun of the kyrk vpon the xxv day of December of kyrk. instant vpon the townis expensis.

9th January, 1562-3.

The prouest, baillies and counsall, except the dekinis, hes condiscendit to Prenting len x li. to Robert Lakpreuik, prentair, for prenting of new bukis concludit be bukis. the kirk, takand souerte in Edinburgh for repayment.

Figure 7. Reference (10 Nov 1562) for Rechert [Richard] Kidstoun, thought to be the youngest son of John Kydstoun (b. ~1500) of Huddisfield, given the date. Richard Kidstoun and John Richartsons are identified as legal sponsors 'souirteis' for John Chalmer and both as baxter (baker). This is one of the first known source documents from the 16<sup>th</sup> century that identifies an early member of the Kidston family from Sterlingshire. (*Charters Related to Royal Burgh of Stirling*, App. III, 1884).

Date	Surname/Location/Comments
1589-91	James Kidstone [Kidstoun]. A possible reference to the second son of John Kydstoun from 1530. Mentioned in <i>The Scottish Antiquary, Old Stirling Register (VII:XXX)</i> as being witness at three weddings; said to be from Abbots Craig. This also may be a reference to his son James born ~1560, who in 1589 would have been of age to serve as witness to a legal document.
1589	Richard Kidstoun, youngest son of John Kydston from 1530; same person as 1562 record; believed to be from Craigton farm; identified below as the deceased father of Andro Kidstoun in his 1589 marriage notice to Jonet Rany.
1589	Andro Kidstoun, Stirlingshire; son of Richard Kidstoun from 1562; notice of marriage to Jonet Rany [Rainy] at Gowen Hills, May 10, 1589; ( <i>The Scottish Antiquary or Northern Notes and Querries IV:XXIV</i> )
1591	Andro Kidstoun, Oct 17, 1591 marriage to Agnes Duncansone as noted in <i>The Scottish Antiquary</i> (perhaps also married Margaret Donaldson, Tait, 1995). Thought to be son of James Kidstone and Margaret Alexander. This Andro Kidstoun is not thought to have had children.
1598	James Kidstone, second son of John Kydstoun from 1530; Married Margaret Alexander. Farmed at Abbey Craig. Had at least three children according to Tait; ( <i>name recorded at old Logie Kirk graveyard throughstone marker</i> ).
1618	Richard Kidstoun, Stirlingshire, Craigtoun of Cambuskenneth. Believed to be the third son of Richard Kidstoun from 1562 and 1589; married Janet Henderson. Had seven children. Death recorded as 29 Sept 1618 ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1621	Janet [Jonet] Kidstoun, spouse of John Porteous, parish of Dunblane. Date of death is 1621. Did not have children ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1622	John Kidstoun, cited with Margaret as widow, date of death 1 Nov 1622; ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1625	Grissell Kidstoun(e), Menstrie, Stirlingshire; daughter of Andro Kidstoun and Jonet Rany [Rainy] of Craigton farm. Married but did not have children. ( <i>Fergusson, 1905, Vol 2</i> )
1629	Richard Kidstoun, of Powhouse in lordship of Cambuskenneth. Witness to a sasine (Laing, 1899)
1646	Robert Kidstoun, convener, Edinburgh. Appointed commissioner of Edinburgh ( <i>Extract from records of Royal Burgh of Stirling, 26 Oct</i> )
1647	James Kidstoun notice of marriage to Elspet Walker, 16 March, at Dunfermline, Fife. ( <i>Ref: Walkers of Scotland, online</i> )
1661	<b>Robert Kidston</b> , Stirling, baxter (baker), first known reference to an individual using the Kidston surname spelling. Born ~1600. Believed to be the third child of Richard Kidstoun and Janet Henderson from Craigton farm, Logie parish. Name of wife unknown, had one daughter Agnes. ( <i>Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling for 9 Dec 1661</i> )
1664	<b>Katherine Kidston</b> , Stirling; cited in <i>Records of the Royal Burgh of Stirling</i> as spouse to James Morison (not included in the inventory of Tate, 1995)



- to the lady Anabill Murray, Countess of Mar, and Elet, daur. to late Johne Auchmutty, burges.
- Jan. 8. Johne Ferriar, servant to James Erskine, son to Alexr. Erskine, of Gogar, and Agnes, daur. to James Stewart, officer to ye Commissrs of Stirling.
- " 17. Johne M'Condochie, servant to Margaret Narne, relict of late Wm. Smith, and Jonet, daur. to Thomas Richardson, mail-maker.
- Feb. 1. James, son to Henrie Richardsons, and Barbara Robertson.
- " 1. William Mathir, Cordiner, and Maise, daur. to late Donald Spittell.
- Mar. 2. Mr. James Pont, Commissr. of Dunblane, & Abigail Strang, in the parish of Edinburgh.
- " 9. Andrew Scharar, burges, and Hellein, daur. of late Michall Gairdner & Margaret Rae, his relict.
- " 21. Mr. James Elphinstone of Findnachtrie, one of the senators of the College of Justice, and Sara, daur. to late Johne Mentaith of Carse, and Hellein Mentaith, his relict.
- " 21. James Aissone, mairchand and burgess, and Hellein, daur. to late George Forester in Schiphawt.
- 1589.
- Mar. 30. Johne Moresone, zwnger, and Cristane, daur. to Alexr. Bwey, couper and burges.
- May 10. Andro, son to late Richard Kidstoun, in Gowan Hills, and Jonet Rany, servant to David Rany in Craigend.
- " 12. William Galbrayt, servant to Rot. Alexr. and Cathrein Crytesone.
- " 17. Duncan, sone to and appearand air to John Patersone, burges, and Marion, daur. to late Alexr. Alschunder of Menstrie, 'James Alschunder hir maist speciall friend alyve' is mentioned.
- " 24. William Burne, zownger, in Cambuskenneth, and Barbara, daur. to Rot. Johnsons, in ye Wallir, in the parish of St. Ninians.
- " 30. Johne Glen, Elder in Cambuskenneth, and Elet., daur. of James Andro in Sheok.
- June 7. Archebald Alexr., brother to the late Alexr. Alschunder of Menstrie, and Elizabeth, daur. to Rot. Alexr., burges.
- " 8. James, son to late Michall Garidner, Mr. Canonner to ye King's Matie, and Agnes, daur. to Andro Cowane, burges.
- " 21. Thomas Glen, zownger, & Bessie Abircumbie in West Grainge.
- July 2. Johne Gray, sometime servant to late Anna, Comptes of Mar, and Margaret, daur. to late William Patirsone, webster.
- " 6. Johne Bell in Cambuskenneth and Jonet Scobie in Keir, parish of Dunblane.
- " 19. William Glen in Cambuskenneth and Jonet Sibbald.
- " 24. Archibald Harlau in Tillicultrie and Marione Andirsone, servant to Mr. Johne Colvill, chantor of Glasgw in Sterling.
- Aug. 17. Alexr. Robertson, wright, and Jonet, daur. to late Wm. Forsyth.
- " 17. Johne Sinclair and Geillis Sinclair.
- July [sic] 31. Patrick McKeun and Issobell Raunald, servant to the laird of Craigengelt.

Figure 8. Reference to the marriage of Andro Kidstoun and Jonet Rany, May 10, 1589 in Gowen Hills near Stirling Castle. Andro is son of Richard Kidstoun (b.~1535) first mentioned 1562 and recorded in this document to be deceased by 1589.

and for remade y'of The brethrein ordans sum<sup>des</sup> to be direct chairging of sic of ye said personis quhais nams salbe gevin in wret to ye clark to compeir befoir ye brethrein to anser y'foir, To ye effect ordur may be tane w<sup>t</sup> yame y<sup>t</sup> hes bein y<sup>r</sup>, to ye glorie of god and execution of ye kings majesties lawis and in exampill of vyers to do ye lyk."

On 4th June, 1583, "Margaret wry<sup>t</sup> in Cambus Jonet kidstoun y<sup>r</sup> and thomas patersone in blak grainge" did not compear to answer "for passing in pilgrimage to chrysts well," and were summoned the second time under pain of excommunication. On 11th June, "Jonet tailzor spous to Ro<sup>t</sup> cowane in Touch Marione watsone yair Marjorie fergusson yair Marg<sup>t</sup> downy in polmais," also for the same "compeirit nocht."

The depositions given in excuse referred to some disease or ailment:—One, "confessit sche passit yair to get help for ane sairnes in hir syd and confessit sche passit about ye well and prayit to chrysts sonday and drank of ye well and wasche hir syd w<sup>t</sup> ye watir y'of and left behind hir ane sowein threid." Another, "passit . . . becaus sche was seik in hir hairt and in hir hed and lipnit y<sup>t</sup> ye well sould haive helpit hir seiknes . . . and sche passit about the well and cwst ye waltir owir hir schuldur and drank of it and left ane peice sillder behind hir."

Ten years later several cases of pilgrimage to Christ's well come before the Presbytery. On 22nd May, 1593, "The q<sup>lk</sup> day the brethrein ar

Figure 9. Reference to a Jonet Kidstoun, May 4, 1583. Mentioned to have taken an unauthorized pilgrimage to Christ's Well for healing (Fergusson, 1899). Tait (1995) suggest this Jonet Kidstone may be Jonet Chrystie, wife of Andro Kidstone, however, given the date, this also could be reference to Jonet Kidstoun who is known to have married Johnne Broun around 1581, or Jonet Kidstoun (b.~1560) daughter of James Kidstone and Margaret Alexander, who married John Porteous.

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Date	Surname/Location/Comments
1666	<b>James Kidston</b> (Kidstoun); marriage notice to Jean Callender in Kirk of Halyroodhous, 6 Feb. ( <i>Scottish Record Society, register of marriages, 1564-1800</i> ). Recorded as Kidston and Kidstoun in same document.
1668	James Kidstoun, Craigtowne of Cambuskenneth, Logie parish, Mar 19. ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1669	Richard Kidstoun, Spittall, Logie parish ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1673	<b>Agnes Kidston</b> , spouse to John Watson [Watson], merchant, burgess of Stirling. Agnes is the daughter of Robert Kidston, baxter from Stirling mentioned in 1661. ( <i>Rec. Royal Burgh of Stirling</i> )
1681	John Kidstoun, and spouse Grissall Coult, parish of Tullianllan ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1683	Susanna Kydston, notice of burial 28 Jan 1683, St. James, parish of Haslingden, Lancashire, England ( <i>burial records online for St. James, parish of Haslingden; identified as "fil of Georgij Kydston"</i> )
1686	John Kidstoune, Elder at Logie Kirk, Stirlingshire ( <i>Fergusson, 1905</i> )
1688	Thomas Kidstoun, Blackfaulds of Tullibody ( <i>Commissariat of Dunblane, Reg. of Testaments, 1539-1800</i> )
1690	James Kidstoune, Airthery, Stirlingshire ( <i>Fergusson, 1905</i> )
1691	Robert Kidstoune, Corntoune, Stirlingshire ( <i>Fergusson, 1905</i> )
1698	Richard Kidstoune, Craigtoune, Stirlingshire ( <i>Fergusson, 1905</i> )
1697	Marrion Kidstoune, Ashentrule, Stirlingshire ( <i>Fergusson, 1905</i> )

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## APPENDIX B

### CHROLOGICAL SUMMARY OF OWNERS OF KIDSTON LANDS FROM PEEBLESSHIRE, SCOTLAND

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1259     **Roger de Kydestun.** Served as juror for a trial held at Peebles in 1259; owned land with a house in 'Lands of Kydiston' near Peebles; is known to be deceased before 1326 (Chambers, 1864; Buchan, 1926)

1262     **Roger de Kedistun and Michael de Kedistun.** Served together as jurors for a trial held at Peebles in 1262 (Chambers, 1864)

*The parents of Roger and Michael Kedistun are unknown as well as their family origin. There is a 1544 reference to the 'town of Mykkel Kydston' along the old Drove Road near Peebles in the Tweed River valley. (Armstong, 1902). Assuming the town of Mykkel Kydston (surname of Michael Kedistun) was located at present-day Nether Kidston, then the lands owned by Roger Kedistun would be Upper Kidston. There is a 1372 reference to Robert de Kediston from Norfolk, England, but it is unknown if he is related to Roger and Michael Kedistun from Scotland. (ref. Curia honoris de Clare apud Bukenham tent. coram Robert de Kediston, Senl. ibm.; Blomefield, 1805).*

*1286    Death of King Alexander III of Scotland, King Edward I of England begins campaign in Scotland*

*1297    First war of independence against King Edward I by William Wallace, Battle of Stirling Bridge*

*1298    King Edward I of England defeats Wallace at Falkirk, claims ownership of Scottish lands*

1306     **Aymer (Aymar) de Valence** (Charter from English King Edward I to Aymer de Valence, commander of his army in Scotland, for, "the burgh and mills of Peebles"; Bain, 1880, Vol I: 672)

*Although the 'Lands of Kydsiton' near Peebles mentioned by Buchan (1926) are not specially mentioned in this October 1306 charter, it is possible the lands of Roger and Michael Kedistun, and mill, would have been included. It is known that English King Edward I made claim to all lands in Scotland after he defeated William Wallace in 1298, thus the Kidston lands near Peebles would have been owned by King Edward I from 1298 until 1314, when Scottish King Robert I defeated the English King at the Battle of Bannockburg and reclaimed Scottish lands. It is unknown if Roger and Michael Kedistun were still alive in 1306 when the "burgh and mills of Peebles" were granted to Aymer de Valence by King Edward I.*

1306 Scottish King Robert I (Robert de Bruce) crowned, 25 March 1306

1307 Death of English King Edward I, King Edward II, his son, becomes King of England

1314 Scottish King Robert I defeats Edward II at Battle of Bannockburn, claims Scottish independence

Pre-1326 **Sir William de Byset**, knight (Sometime prior to 1326 made claim to “lands of Kidston and Meldon”; Renwick, 1903, also known from Buchan, 1926 that William Bysset of Mertoun was granted “lands of Kydiston” near Peebles after the death of Roger de Kedistun).

*William de Byset (Byseth, Bysset) fought with the English during the Scottish wars of independence. The Ragman Roll name Sir William Byset, Knight, ut supra, among those who swore allegiance to Edward I, King of England, first at Montrose (July 7, 1296) then at Berwick-upon-Tweed, Aug 28, 1296. There is a 1302 reference for William Byset serving as man-of-arms in the English garrison at the castle of Linlithgow (Bain, Calendar of Documents Related to Scotland, Additions, Part II). It also is known that on June 10, 1297, “William Biset son and heir of the late Robert Byset, “swears on the seyntz to serve King Edward I with horse and arms in his war against King of France” (Bain, Calendar of Documents).*

*According to Buchan (1926), William Bysset of Mertoun was granted “lands of Kydiston” near Peebles after the death of Roger de Kedistun sometime prior to 1326. As mentioned above, it is very possible that Aymer de Valence transferred some of his lands in Peebles that were granted to him in 1306 to Sir William Byset, Knight, for his service to the English army. There is circumstantial evidence to support this conjecture. First, it is known that William Byset sent a letter to the English King Edward II in 1308 claiming that “Aymer de Valence had offered him land in Scotland for his service to King Edward I, and that these lands had been taken over by Scottish rebels” (Bain, p. 10, #49; also Parliamentary Petition #1274I). This letter concurs with the fact that Aymer de Valence was granted all lands of Peebles in 1306 by Edward I. It also is known that William Byset was granted a warrant, May 16, 1315, on the English treasury yearly because “Scottish rebels have seized his lands there (in Scotland) for his adherence of the King of England” (Bain, p. 82, #434; also Liberate, 8 Edw II.m.2). Taken together, the above facts suggest that sometime between 1306-1308 William Byset made legal claim to ownership of the “Lands of Kidston and Meldon” after they were granted to him by Aymer de Valence. This grant then allowed Byset to legally transfer these lands in 1326 to Gilbert de Hunter, a transaction ratified by the respected Henry de Sinclair.*

1326 **Gilbert de Hunter** [“lands of Kidston and Meldon”, received from William Byset, ratified by Henry de Sinclair (Renwick, 1903)]. It is known that the lands of Kidston and Meldon were transferred from Gilbert Hunter upon his death to his son James Hunter, who is recorded to have made



renunciation to his right to “lands of Kidston” in 1374 in deference to William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas (*Papers of Murray of Cringletie Estate*, also Buchan, 1926).

1329 King David II of Scotland crowned 7 June 1329, 5 years of age

1352 A treaty between England and Scotland is ratified by Scottish Parliament, Nov. 1352

- 1368 **Sir Duncan Walays (Wallace)**, knight, is granted a charter by King David II to “the land of Dalziel...” (*National Archives Scotland GD119/158*). Sir Duncan Walays (Wallace) is brother-in-law of William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas. Duncan Wallace also was related to William Wallace who led the war of independence against England. Duncan Wallace married Eleanor Douglas whose father Archibald Douglas II was the father of William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas.

- Pre-1371 **Sir Duncan Walays (Wallace) & John de Nesbitt** [recorded to own “lands of Kydiston lying in Barony of Dalziel”] (Hamilton, 1828; Buchan, 1926).

*It is unknown exactly how the “lands of Kydiston” in Peebles before 1371 became part of the Barony of Dalziel (Dalziel) as documented by the Memoirs of the House of Hamilton and Buchan (1928). Buchan states that Duncan Walays and John Nesbith, as Barons of Dalziel, transferred the lands of Kydiston lying in the Barony of Dalziel to Malcolm Fleming, Lord of Biggar, to be “held in heritage”.*

1371 King Robert II Scotland crowned 25 March 1371

- 1372 **Sir Malcolm Fleming**, Lord of Byggar (Biggar) [*received via King charter from Duncan Walays & John de Nesbith, “lands of Kydiston”, Buchan (1926)*]

*In the ‘Lives of the Lords’ (Crawford, 1726) it is mentioned that John Lyons, Lord Chamberlain for King Robert II, witnessed a charter dated April 7, 1372 where King Robert II “confirms the resignation and surrender which Duncanus Wallys and Joannes de Nesbyt from Baronie de Dalziel made of the Lands of Kydiston in favor of Sir Malcolm Fleming of Biggar, sealed at Edinburgh”. It is known that Sir Malcolm Fleming immediately sold his Lands of Kydiston to William, the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas, confirmed in a charter dated September 8, 1372.*

*It would appear that from the time of the Scottish wars of independence under King Robert I in 1306, until King Robert II was crowned in 1371, there were competing claims to the “lands of Kidston” in Peebles*

*among the families Valence, Bysett, and Hunter associated with the English Kings Edward I & II, and the families Fleming, Walays (Wallace) and Nesbitt associated with the Scottish Kings Robert I and his son King David II. This situation of competing land ownership changed after Robert II was crowned King of Scotland in 1371, the 'Kidston lands' were granted to Clan Douglas, a Clan loyal to both King Robert I and Robert II.*

1372 **William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas** [*"tenandrie de Kydiston"*, lands sold by Sir Malcolm Fleming, Earl of Biggar, to William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas. The first Earl of Douglas is granted ownership via a deed dated Sep. 8, 1372 from King Robert II, *Reg. Rob II, 113I*] (Hamilton, 1828).

The wording of this important charter is: ...superioritatem, sive superiut, dominium tenandrie de Kydiston, lying in the Barony of Dalyell...

*This charter is the first time the Kidston lands are referred to as a "tenandrie", which means they had grown in size and were sub-divided into distinct properties for tenants to rent. This charter granting superioritatem legal ownership of the "Kidston lands" in Peeblesshire to the 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas may be one reason why some branches of Clan Douglas today claim Kidston as an ancient Sept or family. As overlord with superioritatem rights, each subsequent Earl of Douglas would be required to protect any family living on the Kidston lands he owned.*

*Clan Douglas maintained superioritatem rights to tenandrie de Kydiston from 1372 until 1451 when William, the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Douglas, was killed by King David II at Stirling Castle. It is possible that during this period of time the Kidston family name became recognized as a Sept of Clan Douglas. Elenanor Douglas, daughter of Archibald, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Douglas, married Sir Duncan Wallace, knight, who was granted ownership of the Kidston lands prior to 1371. Lady Helen Douglas, daughter of Archibald, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Douglas, married Sir Alexander Lauder of Haltoun, who was granted ownership of the Kidston lands in 1465. Thus the Earls of the 'Black' Douglas' Clan would have been aware of the Kidston lands based on the fact that daughters of two Earls had husbands that owned Kidston lands. Often a family is granted Sept status if the family marries into a Clan, but such was not possible for the surname Kidston because no Kidston were known to be living in Scotland at that time in history when the Black Douglas Earls held power (1371-1465). It appears that the Kidston-Douglas surname connection only was associated with ownership by Clan Douglas of Kidston lands at Peebles. Given the fact the Kidston lands became a larger estate with distinct properties by 1372 it is possible that relatives of Elenanor Douglas or Lady Helen Douglas lived there as tenants, although no records have been found in historical documents of a Douglas family ever living at the 'lands of Kidston' in Peeblesshire.*

## BEGIN OWNERSHIP BY LAUDER FAMILY (1372 to 1633)

The Lauder (Lawedre) family was granted and owned Kidston Lands in Peeblesshire for about 261 years via many King charters. Many of these land transfers by the Lauder family are recorded by Renwick (1903)

- 1372 **Alan de Lawedre (Lauder) and wife Elizabeth** [granted “*tenement of Kedistoun*” in a charter from William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas (*National Archives Scotland GD436/1/8, Papers of Murray Family of Cringletle*).

*This charter has many witnesses and states: “tenement of Kedistoun is granted to Alan de Lawedre (Lauder) and Elizabeth and the survivor of them and their heirs and assignees.” The 1372 date of this charter indicates that William, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Douglas, immediately transferred his Kidston lands that were given to him by Malcolm Fleming to the Lauder family the same year. However, it is likely that the Earl of Douglas would have maintained “superioritatem” legal rights to the Kidston lands after the transfer to the Lauder family so as to collect rent fees. These superiority rights would have remained with the Clan Douglas until 1452 when the 8<sup>th</sup> Earl of Douglas, William, was killed by Scottish King David II at Stirling Castle and all ‘Black’ Douglas lands were seized by the King. It is known that Alan de Lawedre was a loyal knight who supported Earl William Douglas for many years and this may be the reason for the grant of Kidston lands at Peebles to him. Alan de Lawedre had five sons and died ~1407 near the age of 90.*

- pre-1452 **Sir William Lauder, 3<sup>rd</sup> Laird of Haltoun (Hatton)** [*Nether Kidstoun & Town of Over Kidstoun*]; (Smith, 1898).

*William Lauder received the Kidston lands from George, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Laird of Haltoun, date unknown, but sometime after the death of Sir Alan Lauder about 1407. This is the first recorded mention that the Kidston lands at Peebles had been divided into two Areas, an Upper and Lower (Nether) settlement. This reference also confirms that Upper Kidston had grown large enough that the tenement was recognized to be a ‘town’ by 1452. In 1544 a ‘town of Mykkel Kydston’ is mentioned near Peebles, most likely Nether Kidston located along the Tweed River valley (Armstrong, 1902).*

- 1452 **John Anyse and William Cranston** [After the death of Sir William Lauder, the Kidston lands were for a short period of time transferred to King David II because Clan Douglas lost superior ownership after 1451. The King granted the lands to John Anyse of Dolfyngstoun (half Over Kidstoun, forfeiture after death of William Lauder, ref. Smith, 1898) and William Cranston of Cralyne (Nether Kidstoun & mill and half Town of Over Kidstoun, forfeiture). This is the first mention of the Kidston Mill in historical records, which must have been built before 1452 based on information in the charter to William Cranston. The Kidston lands were quickly regranted to the Lauder family via a King charter.]
- 1452 **Sir John Lauder, 4<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*regrant of lands from his father Sir William, 3<sup>rd</sup> Laird of Haltoun*](*Register of Great Seal, 1424-1503*).
- 1465 **Sir Alexander Lauder, 5<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*Over and Nether Kedstoune*]
- 1472 **William Lauder and wife Mariota** [*Over and Nether Kedstoune, from King James III*]
- 1483 **Sir George Lauder, 6<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*Over and Nether Kidstoune & mill*]
- 1508 **Alexander Schaw** [*Over and Nether Kidstoune*]
- 1512-13 **Sir William Lauder, 7<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun, and wife Agnes Henerson**, [*Over and Nether Kidstoun & mill*]
- 1513 Battle of Flodden*
- 1515 **Sir William Lauder, 7<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*regrant "all lands in Peebles" by John, Duke of Albany, Regent of Scotland, deed signed at Stirling Castle*]
- 1533 **Alexander Lauder, 8<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun and wife Janet Borthwick** (Jonet Borthuik) [*Nether Kidstoun*]
- 1547 **Sir William Lauder, 9<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*Over & Nether Kidstone & mill*]
- 1549-51 Andrew Melrose [claim made by his father, Thomas Melrose, to "goods in Upper Kidstoun"]
- 1563 **Thomas Moffet** [ref., NAS GD1436/1/26; Letter of reversion by Thomas Moffet of Glerikirk for 'Lands of Kyddiston & Ormeston' to William Lauder of Haltoun, May, 1563]
- 1581 **William Lauder, son of Gilbert Lauder of Balberdeis** [*Over and Nethir Kidstoun, & mill*]
- 1586 **Alexander Lauder, 10<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun & future wife Mary Maitland** [*Nethir Kidstoun*]
- 1607 James Chalmer (lived in Xether-Kidstoun, parish of Peebles, 22 Apr. 1607)
- 1610 **Alexander Lauder and future wife Susanna Cunynghame** [*Over Kidstoun, Nether Kidstoun, & mill*]
- 1618 **Andro Cuninghame** [*half merkland of Kidstone*]

- 1625 **Richard Lauder, 11<sup>th</sup> Laird of Haltoun** [*Over and Nethir Kidstoun & mill*]
- 1631 Richard Lauder mortgaged Nether Kidston to **Bryce Sempill of Cathcart**, husband of Jean Lauder, and in 1633 the lands were disposed to Robert Burnet and his spouse Margaret Heriot (*Papers of Murray of Cringletie Estates*).

#### END OWNERSHIP BY LAUDER FAMILY

- 1633 **Robert Burnet and wife Maraget Heriott** [*Ovir and Nather Kidstoune & mill* with common pasture for Nather Kidstoune in common of Glentress]
- 1633 **William Burnet of Cringletie** [*Ovir and Nather Kidstoune & mill*]
- 1644 Adam Brotherstanes [*reported to live in Over Kidstoun*]
- 1662 **Henry Dennistoun and Anna Murray, wife.** Signature of lands of Over and nether Kidstoune. [National Records Scotland # SIG1/38/48]
- 1664 **James Maitland of Auchinhampers** [*Upper and Nether Kidstoun and Kidstoun mill*]

#### BEGIN OWNERSHIP BY MURRAY FAMILY (1666 to 1950s)

The Murray family claimed ownership of the Kidston lands in Peeblesshire for a period of about 284 years.

- 1666 **Sir Alexander Murray of Blackbarony** [*Upper and Nether Kidston*] (ref, Chambers)
- 1667 **John Murray**, son of Sir Alexander Murray [*Upper and Nether Kidston*];
- 1671 Kidston lands are transferred into the Barony of Cringletie owned by Murray family. (ref. Chambers, 1864).

1671-1950s

The Murray family maintained ownership of Kidston lands until the death of Captain George Wolfe Murray in the mid-1950s. In all, nine different Murray families were owner of Kidston lands over a period of 284 years (ref. National Archives of Scotland).

Note: The Govan family is associated with “Kidston lands” in Peebles during the ownership of the Murray family. Patrick Govan was born 1676 in *Kidstoun, Peebles*; married Lillias Nottman in Manor, Peebles in 1701, and was buried in *Kidstoun, Peebles* in 1739 (internet info), but it is unknown if the grave was in Upper or Nether Kidston lands. William Goven is recorded to have lived in *Nether Kidston* in 1684 (ref. Book of Crosskirk), thus it is possible that Patrick Goven was buried there, but this would need to be confirmed.

#### OWNERSHIP FROM MID-1950’s to PRESENT

In the mid-1950s the Kidston lands owned by the Murray family of Cringletie were transferred to other families living at Upper Kidston, Nether Kidston, and Kidston Mill. The names of these owners would be available in the land deed records for the town of Peebles and are not presented here.