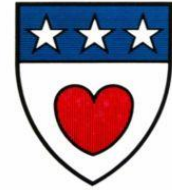


1672

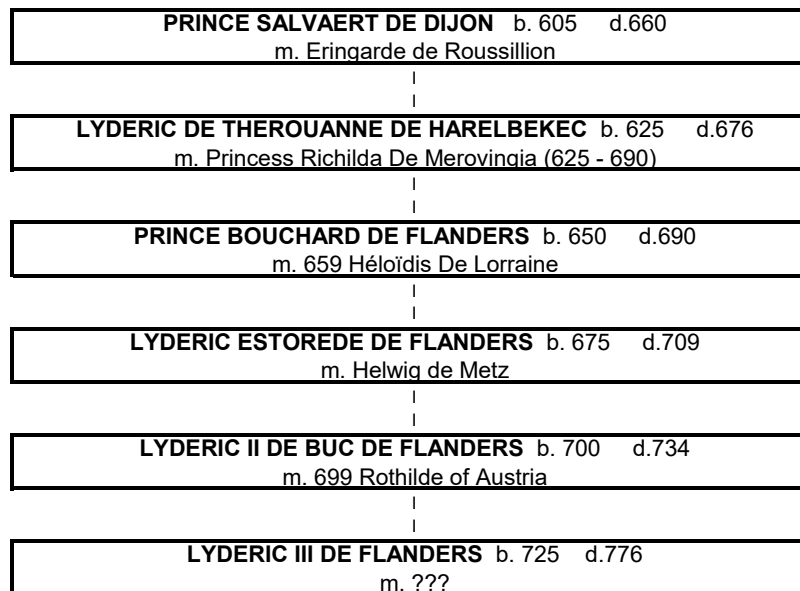
PALMER DOUGLAS OF CAVERS FAMILY TREE

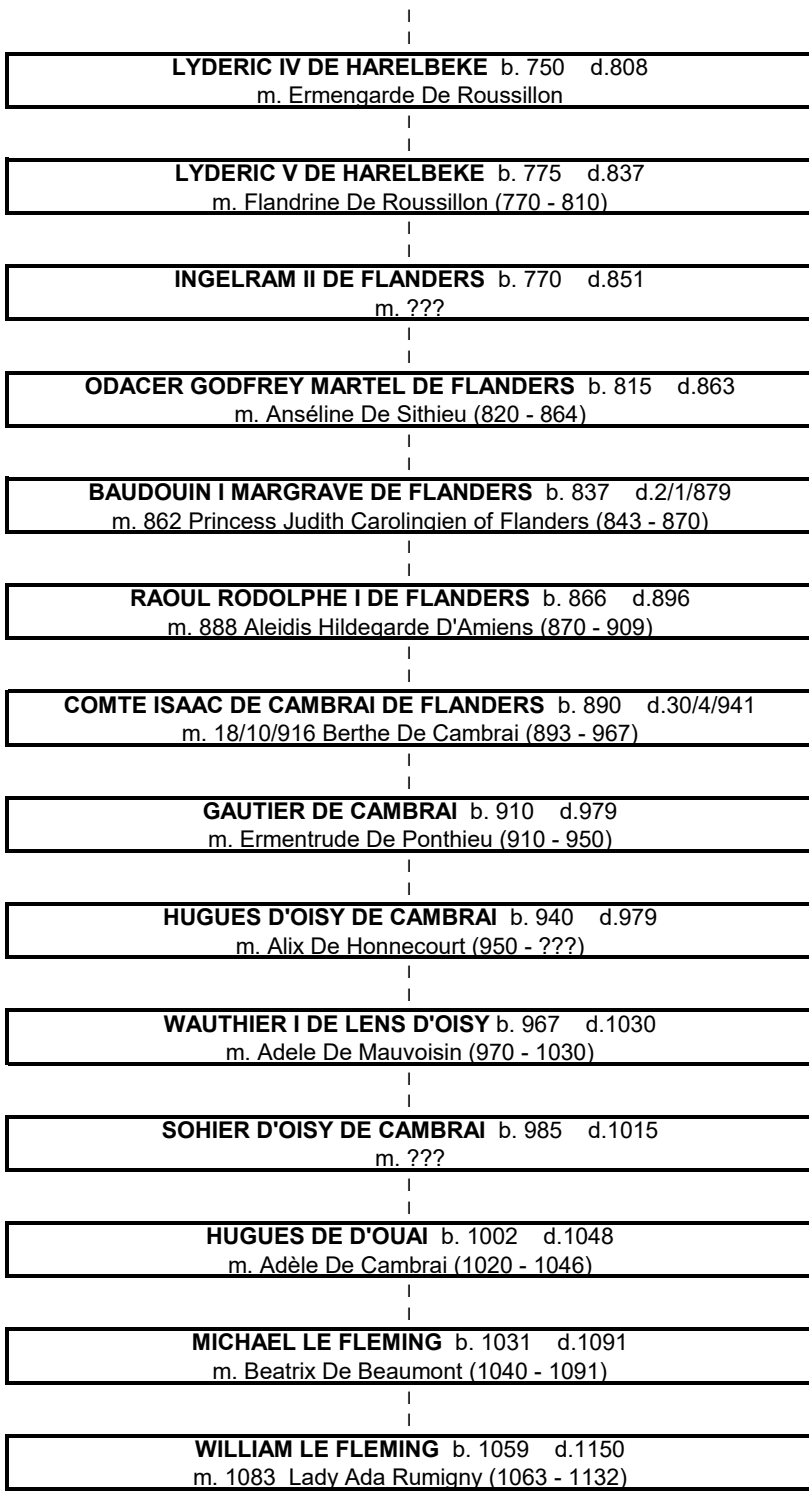
(Argent, a man's heart Gules imperially crowned Proper and on a chief Azure three mullets Argent all within a bordure Gules)



1672

THE ORIGINS OF THE DOUGLAS FAMILY HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE MISTS OF TIME. SOME SUGGEST THE PROGENOTOR WAS SHOLTO DOUGLAS FROM 767AD, BUT HE WAS A MYTHICAL CHARACTER AND THUS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED. ANOTHER THEORY CLAIMS THAT THE REAL 1ST LORD OF DOUGLAS WAS WILLIAM DE DUGLAS WHO WAS CREATED SUCH BY KING MALCOM CANMORE IN 1057, BUT CRUCIALLY THERE IS NO PROVEN LINK LEADING TO WILLIAM DOUGLAS (1147-1214), WHO IS RECOGNISED AS THE FIRST HISTORICALLY AUTHENTICATED DOUGLAS. OTHERS ARGUE DESCENT FROM FRESKIN DE KERDALE WHOM BRICE DE DOUGLAS REFERS TO AS HIS 'UNCLE', AND INDEED THERE APPEARS TO BE DNA EVIDENCE WHICH SUPPORTS THAT THEORY. HOWEVER THE GENEALOGICAL LINK IS TENUOUS, SO INSTEAD WE TURN TO THEOBALD LE FLEMING (THEOBALDO FLAMATICO) WHOM IT IS DOCUMENTED WAS GIFTED THE LANDS OF DOUGLAS BY THE ABBOTS OF KELSO ON 24TH AUGUST 1147. THEOBALD MARRIED MISS KERSDALE OF MORAY IN 1150 (THE SAME YEAR THAT WILLIAM WAS BORN IN HERMISTON, AND AS WILLIAM (1ST LORD) MARRIED A MARGARET KERSDALE OF MORAY IN 1169, THEN YOU CAN EASILY SEE WHERE THE KERSDALE DNA LINK MIGHT COME FROM. WHILST THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A MATTER FOR DEBATE, IT'S GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT THE LINELY LINEAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:





SIR MICHAEL LE FLEMING b. 1085 d.1150
m. 1115 Alice Helawise De Stuteville (1088 - 1150)

THEOBALD LE FLEMING b. Aldingham Manor, Lancs 1120 d. Hermiston, Midlothian 1193 m. 1150 Miss Kersdale of Moray (1125 - 1196) daughter of Lord Freskin de Moravia (1110-1172) & Le De Duffus (b.1111)

WILLIAM DE DOUGLAS (1st Lord of Douglas and first authenticated owner of Dougladale) b. Hermiston 1150 d.1214
m. 1169 in Forfar Margaret Kersdale De Moray (1152 - Feb. 1238) (daughter of Duncan Moray & Bethoc MacFergus)

SIR ARCHIBALD DE DOUGLAS
(2nd Lord of Douglas)
b.1166 d. 18/7/1240
m. July 1238 Margaret de Crawford (March 1187-1225)

Hugh De Douglas
Archdeacon of Moray
b.1171 d.1245

Margaret De Douglas
b. 1177 d. 1260
m. 1205 Lord Hervey De Keith

Freskin De Douglas,
Dean of Moray
b. 1181 d. Sept. 1232

Brice De Douglas
b. 1182 d. 1222 Prior of Lesmahagow then Bishop of Moray in 1203

Alexander De Douglas,
Vicar of Elgin
b. 1195 d. 1238

Henry De Douglas,
Canon of Spynie
b. 1195 d. 1245

Sir Andrew De Douglas of Hermiston (1225 - 1277) from whom Douglasses of Dalkeith & Morton descend



Douglas Clan crest - a green salamander on a chapeau all surrounded by fire

SIR WILLIAM "longleg" DE DOUGLAS (3rd Lord of Douglas) b.1207
d. 16/10/1274 m.1 1233 Martha Bruce of Carrick (1215-1255)
m.2 1234 Constance "Custancia" Batail of Fawdon (1210-1274)

(by Martha)

(by Martha)

(by Constance)

Willelma De Douglas b. 1240
d.Dec.1302
m.1 Gilbert of Hamilton
m.2 William of Galbraith

Hugh De Douglas
b.1243 d.1287
m. 6/4/1259 Marjory of Abernethy

SIR WILLIAM "le hardi" DE DOUGLAS (4th Lord) b.1255 d.24/1/1298
(fought with William Wallace against Edward I and died in Tower Of London) m1. Elizabeth Stewart of Crawford (1250 - Nov.1288) / m2.1287 Eleanor Ferrers de Louvaine (1267 - 3rd May 1326 {William abducted Eleanor, seizing her from Tranent Castle, forcing their marriage. Edward I later provided compensation for imprisoning her husband])

Historical note - it's suggested that William married a daughter of William de Keith in 1279, but she was born circa 1270 and William's first son was born in 1286 so that cannot be correct

(by Elizabeth)

(by Eleanor)

(by Eleanor)

BLACK DOUGLASES (main line by virtue of 1st marriage) Sir James Douglas (5th Lord) ("The Black" in England, "The Good" in Scotland) b.1286 d.25/8/1330
Fought alongside Robert The Bruce at

Sir Hugh "the dull" Douglas (7th Lord) (Canon of Glw. Cath.)
b.1294 d.1346

SIR ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS of Liddesdale 1st Regent of Scotland & "The Tyneman" b.1296 d. 19/7/1333 m. 1320 Beatrice Lindsay of Crawford (1302-1351) [Beatrice subsequently married Sir Robert Erskine]

James Douglas
(first-born who died as an infant, aged just six months)

(by mother unknown)
Sir William Douglas, 1st
Baron of Drumlanrig
bc.1350 d.16/8/1424
m.1 1397 Elizabeth
Stewart of Durisdeer m.2
Jean Murray b.1375 m.3
Janet 'Jacoba' Douglas
(Sir William the 9th Baron
was created Earl of
Queensberry in 1628 by
Charles 1st)

(by mother unknown)
Catherine Douglas



Archibald Douglas heraldic shield

(by mother unknown) **SIR ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS**
of Liddesdale and Cavers
(who sided with Red
Douglases) 1st Laird of
Cavers (not ratified until
30/11/1412) b. 1378
d.1435 m.1395 Margaret
Gray (1370-1456)
daughter of Duncan
Gray, Depute Sheriff



(by mother unknown)
Mary 'Eleanor'
Douglas b.1380 d.
1425 m.1400 Sir
William Fraser of
Philworth (1376-1441)

(by mother unknown)
Joan Douglas of Mar
b.1382
married William, 5th
Baron Of Dacre, son of
Hugh (4th Lord Dacre)
de Dacre and Elizabeth
(of Carlaverock) Maxwell
(1357-20/7/1398)

Historical note - the irony is that it was the Dacres who burned Townhead of Cavers in 1535



Douglas of Cavers crest - A dexter hand holding aloft a broken spear.

SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS, 2nd of Cavers
b. 1390 d.8/1/1464
m1.1419 Margaret Stewart of Lorne, daughter of Robert Stewart 1st Lord of Lorne, at Auchenbreck (1400-1/8/1432)
m2.Catherine Colville (1415-1484)

Eleanor Douglas

Elizabeth Douglas
(1403-1450)

James Douglas
(mentioned in 1452 Charter as "Jacobo Douglas de Cavers")

(by Margaret)
SIR ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS, 3rd of Cavers b. 1424 d.8/4/1486 (wife unknown)

(by Margaret)
Janet Douglas
b.1420
m.1467 John Ainslie of Dolphinton (d.1486) (John, David & Margery who married cousin Mark Kerr of Cessford)

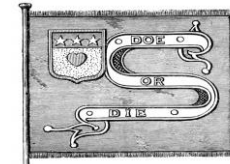
(by Margaret)
Margaret "Margery" Douglas b.1425 d.June 1484 m. Andrew Kerr of Aldtounburn & Cessford (1420-8/5/1481) (founders of the House of Roxburgh)

(by Margaret)
Adam Douglas
Douglas b.1425 d.June 1484 m. Andrew Kerr of Aldtounburn & Cessford (1420-8/5/1481) (founders of the House of Roxburgh)
(speculative, but he is said to have been alive in 1502)

Elizabeth Douglas
b.1445 d.1486
m.1459 Sir Alexander Stewart 3rd of Garlieston (1443-1501) (Earls of Galloway line)

SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS, 4th of Cavers b.1450 d.26/10/1506
m. 1464 Maragaret Ramsay of Dalhousie

Margaret was daughter of Sir Alexander Ramsay of Dalhousie (the great great grandson of George Douglas, 1st Earl of Angus) who died at Flodden in 1513



Douglas of Cavers Sherrif's banner (exhibited at Heraldic Exhibition 1891)

Margaret "Victoria" Douglas
(b.2/2/1470 d.16/4/1546)
m.15/3/1509 Gillis MacBean (2/2/1470-16/4/1546)

William Douglas
(b.1480 d.1505) given safe passage to Denmark with his father in 1502

SIR JAMES DOUGLAS
5th of Cavers b.1490 d.28/9/1545
m.1537 Elizabeth "Marie" Murray of Falahill (1500-Sept.1545)

Richard Douglas
(from Harleian manuscripts 1482)

Historical note - Cavers was burned or laid waste by the English in 1524, 1535, 1542, 1545, 1570 & 1596.

SIR JAMES DOUGLAS
6th of Cavers
b.1507 d.July 1558
m.1545 Christian Kerr of
Ferniehirst (b.1507
d.July 1558)

**William Douglas
(1st of Friarshaw)**
b.1538 d.29/11/1575
m. Euphame Davidson
(b.1542 d.8/2/1578) (had
John and James -
Springwood line)

Robert Douglas
b.1539 m. Helen of
Todhills and had a son
called James

**SIR WILLIAM
DOUGLAS**
7th of Cavers b.1540
d.1576 m. 1575
Euphemia Kerr of
Cessford (1540-1585)

James Douglas
(a reverend at Cavers)

Thomas Douglas
(said to be an under-
vassal of Walter Scott,
1st Lord Scott of
Buccleuch)

SIR JAMES DOUGLAS
8th of Cavers b. 1565
d.1612 m.1 1/6/1580
Margaret Cranstoun
(14/3/1552-1590) m2.
Anne McGill daughter of
Sir James McGill

William Douglas

Thomas Douglas
bc.1580 had a son
Robert b.26/11/1605 who
had lands of Kirkton

Beatrice Douglas
married Lord Fleming, 1st
Earl of Wigtown (d. April
1619)

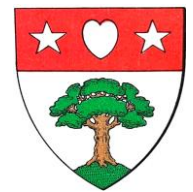
**SIR WILLIAM
DOUGLAS** (Sheriff of
Teviotdale) 9th of
Cavers b.1581 d.1658
m.2/2/1606 Agnes "Ann"
Douglas of
Whittinghame

Elizabeth Ellen Douglas
b.1600 d.Apr.1656
m.1.28/11/1621 Sir
William Elliot of Stobs
(1600 - July 1654 and an
MP in 1640) m2. Sir
William Douglas of
Kelhead

Lucy Douglas b.1602
d.1699 m.1621 John
Maxwell

**James Douglas
McGill** b. 1602 d.1634
Minister of Cavers &
Master of Cranstoun

**Thomas Douglas
McGill** b.1612
d. 9/8/1686 - 2nd baillie
of Edinburgh in 1679
who is buried in
Greyfriars Churchyard
(had a 'cousin' Richard
who was an advocate
but most likely his
nephew)



1661

**SIR ARCHIBALD
DOUGLAS**
10th of Cavers
b.1612 d.1669
m.2/2/1629 Rachel
Skene of Halyards
(daughter of Sir James
Skene and built
Westgate Hall shortly
before she died)
(b.16/2/1612 d.1663)

Helen Douglas
b.1610 m.Sir William
Bruce of Stenhouse 2nd
Baronet (19/8/1621 -
August 1682) - sons
William, who succeeded,
and Charles, from whom
the Russian General
Romulus Bruce and
Prussian Peter Bruce are
descended.

John Douglas
purchased the lands of
Garvald from James
Douglas of
Whittinghame (his
mother's young brother)
in 1631

**Colonel Richard
Douglas** - wrongly
thought to have been
killed at the 'Storm of
Dundee' 1651 (an
advocate, who had a
son John who married
Elspeth in 1666)

<p>SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS 11th of Cavers b.1630 d.Dec.1676 m. 3/2/1659 Katharine Rigg of Aithernie "Good Lady Cavers" (1640-28/11/1686)</p>	<p>Thomas 'Collonall' Douglas b.1630 (either William's younger twin, otherwise he would have become 11th Laird, or his younger brother)</p>	<p>James Douglas b 1777/1633 d. 9/7/1674 when he was murdered by Andrew Rutherford m.2/11/1664 Christian Douglas (only daughter of George, 11th of Bonjedward)</p>	<p>Anna Douglas b 1777/1633 d.17/2/1688 m.19/4/1652 Robert Bennet of Chesters (1630 - 1704) and had daughter Christian and son Archibald</p>	<p>Archibald Douglas b. 1634</p>	<p>Elizabeth Douglas b 1637 d.1668 m. 26/8/1654 Sir John Murray, 1st Knight of Philphaugh d.1676</p>	<p>Margaret Douglas m.3/11/1664 William Erskine of Dryburgh</p>	<p>Janet Douglas m.18/8/1664 George Langlands</p>
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Anna Douglas
b. 1662 m. Sir John Murray, 3rd of Philiphaugh (1650-1676)

SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS
12th of Cavers
b.1665 d.28/2/1698 (appointed Captain of a dragoon in the Scots Greys in 1689 by William III)
m1.unknown French lady by whom he had a son before 1684 m.2 1690 Elizabeth Douglas of Riddley, Newcastle (10/9/1676 - 25/3/1730) at Kelso

ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS
13th of Cavers
b.1668 d.1741
Receiver General (1705-1718) & Postmaster General (1725)
m.5/1/1693 Anna Scott of Gorrenberry (b.1678 d.March 1744)

(by unknown mother)
John Douglas
b.1672 d.6/2/1719

Euphemia Douglas
b.1673 m.1693 Sir James Scott 4th of Gala (1664-1721) (their eldest son Hugh, 5th of Gala, had daughters who married two of Euphemia's nephews below)

(by unknown mother)
James Douglas
b.1675 d.before 1741 m.Margaret Langlands and they had a son William



1687

Thomas Douglas
b. May 1677 d. before 1741
m.31/10/1706 Jean Pringle of Haining, Selkirk (b.1685 d.1739)

WILLIAM DOUGLAS
14th of Cavers
b.Oct.1693
d.18/1/1748 (MP for Roxburghshire in 1715,1727 & 1742)

ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS
15th of Cavers
b.1697 d.18/1/1774
m.30/11/1749 Elizabeth Scott (eldest daughter of Hugh, 5th of Gala) (1728-1776)

REV. JAMES DOUGLAS
16th of Cavers
b.1699 d.29/7/1780
Prebendary of Durham Cathedral
m.29/5/1750 Jean Halyburton of Pitcur (b.1710)

Ann Douglas
b.30/11/1700
m.1721 William Campbell, a tutor at Cavers, whom she eloped to Gretna Green with at the great displeasure of her parents

JOHN DOUGLAS
17th of Cavers
b.4/6/1703 d.30/5/1786 (Capt. in Royal Navy - HMS Greyhound in 1745, and subsequently HMS Unicorn)
m. 20/2/1728 Ann Scott (4th daughter of Hugh, 5th of Gala) (1673-1744)

Euphanie Douglas (b. 30/11/1700 d. after Sept.1776) + **Katharine Douglas** b.1701 d.11/9/1777 + **Dr. Thomas Douglas** (b.4/9/1704 d.1780 m.28/8/1737 Grizel Dick) + his twin **Robert Douglas** (d. Nov 1783)

Francis Douglas b.10/2/1706 + **Walter Douglas** b.12/10/1707 d.smallpox + **Richard Douglas** b.13/5/1709 d.11/7/1710 + **Alexander Douglas** b.5/9/1710 d. Apr.1780 + **David Douglas** b.13/2/1713 d.smallpox

William (Jedburgh Dr.), **Archibald** (Capt. 25th Reg.) d. 1785, **Robert** (Planter in Jamaica m. Elizabeth, b. 1728 d. Taunton Nov. 1783), **John** (a surgeon), **James, Jean, Euphemia, Barbara** (these first three daughters lived together in Jedburgh and had annuities per revised entailment of James 16th), **Katharine & Marcina 'Marc'** after her uncle Consul Mark Pringle (m. William McEwan of Dungart Hill)

Violet Douglas
b.1716 d.1761
m. Jedburgh 17/12/1734
John Oliver of Dinlabyre in Liddesdale (1712-1775) - had son William (1738-1830) Sheriff of Selkirk and later Roxburgh (m. Edin. 31/3/1771) + a daughter Jean who married Samuel Michelson

Andrew Douglas
(Paymaster in Navy, then a merchant in Suffolk Street, London)
b.1705
d.18/12/1785
m. 25/10/1752
Mary Mercer (13/5/1732 - 1813)

(one of their sons called Archibald married Violet Pringle, he also succeeded his father in the lands of Adderstone, Midshiel and Deanbrae)

Archibald Douglas
b.Feb 1755 d.1825
(inherited Adderstone & Midshiels in 1786 upon the death of John 17th)
m.2/10/1786 Jane Gale of St. Bees near Arkleby (b.2/8/1765 d.10/7/1840 (they had 10 children)

Jean "Jane" Rachel Douglas
b.1756 d.after 4/9/1834 (another daughter to benefit from the annuities created by James 16th)

Violet Mary Douglas
b.1759 d.1828 unmarried but left a legacy to Mrs Pringle Pattison of Haining

GEORGE DOUGLAS
18th of Cavers
b.21/1/1754
d.14/11/1814
m. 10/7/1789
Lady Grace Stuart of Moray (b.10/2/1770 d.23/3/1846)

JAMES DOUGLAS 19th of Cavers b. 9/8/1790 d.17/8/1861 - frequent author & philanthropist (established school for the arts in Hawick in 1824 & paid for a 1849 printing of the New Testament (in Rome) m. Dreghorn 7/9/1820 Emma Carnegie of Pitarrow b.29/5/1794 d.25/9/1882 (Emma, a talented artist in her own right, moved to newly-built Midgard in 1863 following the death of her husband)

Jane Douglas
b.2/10/1793
d.13/12/1809 (d. Devonshire & buried near Lady Nelson)

Francis James Douglas (Lt. in Coldstream Guards, fought at Waterloo)
b.28/9/1796
d.29/5/1821

JAMES DOUGLAS 20th of Cavers and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquarians in Scotland
b.24/5/1822 d.29/7/1878 (first buried in new family plot) m. 23/6/1858 Mary Graham Agnew (23/11/1838 - 13/7/1885) daughter of Sir Andrew Agnew, 7th Baronet of Lochnaw

Agnes Douglas
b.2/5/1824 d.7/10/1867
m.27/3/1846 James Henderson b. 1824

Emma Douglas
b.10/1/1829
d.11/1/1870
m. 3/7/1860 Captain Robert Erskine Anderson (1869 - 25/9/1903) (parents of Christian Roberts b. 1869)

Ellen Douglas
b.1/10/1830
d.16/8/1911
m. 21/10/1859 Rear Admiral George Palmer (b.1829 d.1917)

Stuart Douglas (Lt. 82nd Regiment)
b.4/11/1833
d.19/11/1858

Lucy Douglas
b.29/9/1839
d.13/9/1878

Mary Douglas
b. 26/3/1826 d.12/5/1859

entered into marriage on 15/4/1857 with ----->

MALCOLMS OF ESKDALE (originally from Fife)

William Elphinstone Malcolm of Burnfoot
b.27/12/1817
d.30/12/1907

(William re-married after Mary's death in childbirth - Charlotte Elizabeth Leslie-Melville b.1827 on 2/5/1866)

Mary Douglas Malcolm
 b.3/5/1859 Edinburgh
 d.20/5/1949 Became
 heiress upon death of
 her uncle and became
**MARY DOUGLAS
 MALCOLM DOUGLAS**
 21st of Cavers on
 29/7/1878

Captain Edward Palmer
 (served with The Rifle
 Brigade and then
 became J.P. of
 Roxburgh) b.18/9/1836
 d.22/4/1933
**(had a notorious affair
 in the 1870s)**

son of REV.
**GEORGE
 PALMER** of
 Sullington, Sussex
 b.30/10/1781
 d.6/2/1859 m
 24/6/1828
 Charlotte Elizabeth
 Bonnor (14/5/1808-
 11/3/1901)

entered into marriage on
 12/11/1879 with ----->



crest on 18thC crockery

**ARCHIBALD
 PALMER DOUGLAS**
 22nd of Cavers
 b.21/8/1880
 d.7/4/1947
 (J.P. for Roxburgh)
 m.19/10/1920 Maria
 Anna Emily Kuehn of
 Hampstead
 b.5/7/1893
 d.22/5/1967

**Malcolm Palmer
 Douglas**
 b.28/3/1882
 d.12/3/1902

JAMES MALCOLM PALMER DOUGLAS 23rd Laird of Cavers b.25/8/1922
 d.6/4/2013 m1. Dorothy Margaret Campbell in East Calder (14/7/1926-
 3/6/1981) on 1/6/1946 (divorced 1959) m2. Dorothy Blakelock Smith
 (16/10/1928-29/11/1993) in Dundee on 28/8/1959
 (divorced 1975) m3. Lilian "Lynne" Isabel Mary Martin in Macclesfield Jan
 1978 (d.29/8/1993) m4. Anne Mearis Robinson née Higham (19/12/1955-
 24/11/2014) in Helmsdale on 14/10/1998 (divorced July 2006)

**Angela Mary Palmer
 Douglas**
 b.5/5/1924
 d.Feb 2012
 m. April 1965 Major
 Peter Kellie
 (25/7/1922 - 1976) in
 Newcastle upon Tyne

**John Aidan Palmer
 Douglas**, of Burnfoot
 b.13/3/1929
 d.18/11/2012
 m1. Oct. 1961 Anne
 Johnston m2. Oct. 1976
 Margaret Cherry

(by Dorothy
 Campbell)
**Helen Ruth
 Palmer
 Douglas**
 b.30/6/1947

(by Dorothy Campbell)
**Nigel Stuart Palmer
 Douglas**
 b.21/5/1949

(by Dorothy Blakelock
 Smith*)
**James Ninian Douglas
 Blakelock**
 b.19/6/1959

(by Dorothy Blakelock)
**Frances Palmer
 Douglas** b.8/11/60

(by Dorothy Blakelock)
**Stephen James Palmer
 Douglas**
 b.24/7/1962 d.18/8/2024

(adopted)
 Serena Jane Kellie
 (bc. 1966) + Torquil
 Kellie (bc. 1971)

(by Ann Johnston)
 Peter Palmer Douglas b.
 Oct. 1962+ Andrew
 Palmer Douglas b. 1965

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The information in this family tree has been obtained from a wide range of sources; the major ones being detailed below. However the greatest debt of gratitude is owed to my great grandmother Mary Douglas Malcolm Palmer Douglas, who created extensive manuscripts on the ancestry of the Douglasses of Cavers at a time when there was no internet to aid her studies. Fortunately she was able to research well-maintained family archives, but hers was not an easy task as it would be quite easy to misinterpret whether (for example) a "James" or an "Elizabeth" was a sibling or cousin, thereby creating the potential to follow a wrong path; talking of which, Mary's notes include commentary to the effect that even the genealogical papers held at Bothwell Castle cannot always be relied upon! My elder sister Helen inherited Mary's enthusiasm for ancestral research, and as our father also did she further developed the tree making corrections along the way. By pure co-incidence (I didn't meet Helen until recent years) I'd been doing something similar using Burke's Peerage as a starting point, so this tree is very much a collaborative effort involving three generations of the family.

The modern world provides instant access to a wealth of genealogical data, but even that creates its own problems as well-intentioned sleuths have created conflicting entries, so it's possible to find that a particular individual might have three potential different dates of birth and/or three potential different dates of death (as I discovered when accessing the Ancestry, Find My Past & My Heritage websites). How then does a budding genealogist decipher the correct information?

This is where the tried and tested method of "best-guessing" comes in! In isolation that would be a very difficult thing to do, but when you already have a very detailed family tree to cross-refer to (thanks MDMPD!), then the overall picture can help guide you to the most likely correct result. For example, if two of the three available birth dates are later than the verified date of death of the mother, both can be quickly ruled out. Similarly, if the earliest date of date of death is more than nine months before the birth of an attributed child, then it can likewise be discarded. Thus, by process of elimination and reasonably sound judgement, it should be possible to create an overall picture which passes an initial sense-check.

So, this is how this particular family tree was created, but as will often be the case once you go beyond the ten-generation ancestry line, there will probably never be a 100% reliable tree by the time you have completed it. I say "completed" somewhat tongue-in-cheek, because it's unlikely it will ever be finished as new information is discovered all the time, meaning that you will find yourself regularly having to update it.

Not everyone will agree with your judgement either, which can lead to lengthy (and sometimes quite heated) debates with "more knowledgeable" scholars, or other family members. So, already knowing what I might be letting myself in for, I would welcome dialogue with anyone who feels they can help improve the accuracy of this particular tree, in which case you can contact me by e-mail at douglasofcavers@gmail.com.

In case you haven't quite worked out why some names are shaded, the ones in yellow provide a bloodline-pathway from my generation of the family all the way up to the 1st Laird of Cavers; prior to which the green shading takes you up to the original Douglas, with the Fleming origins beyond. There are brief notes about some of the main players, but if you would like to read a more complete story then you'll find it here: https://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/families/douglas_of_cavers.htm.

James Ninian Douglas - October 2025

MAJOR SOURCES

- A Hawick Word Book by Douglas Scott (original draft version - 22/11/2022)
- Burke's Landed Gentry 14th Edition (1925)
- Burke's Landed Gentry 15th Edition (1937 page 720)
- Caledonia by George Chalmers (1887)
- Hawick & Its Old Memories by James Wilson (1858)
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