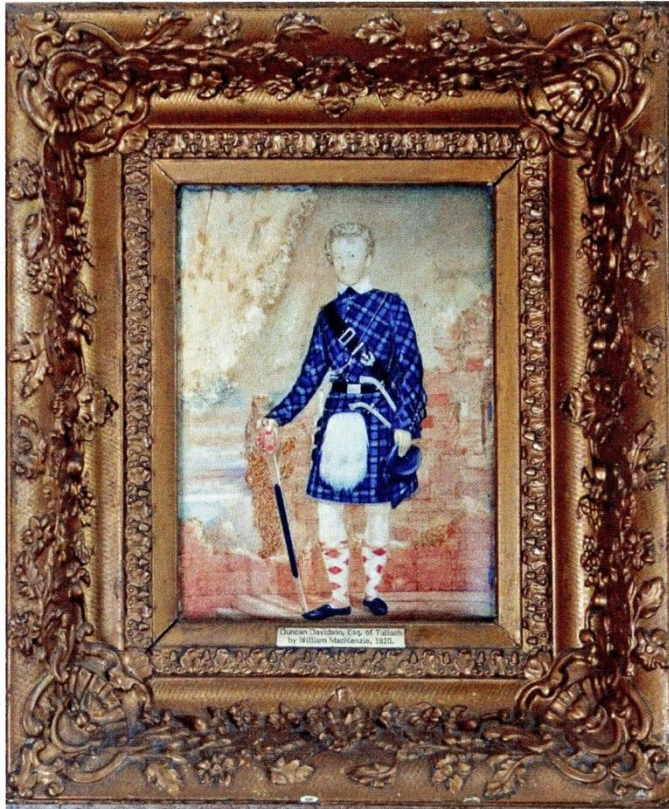


Duncan Davidson of Tulloch (1800-1881), an Early Portrait



Duncan Davidson Esq.
of Tulloch
water colour portrait on ivory
by
William Mackenzie
1820.

The Clan Davidson Portrait Collection holds several different portrait images of Duncan Davidson, the famous 4th Laird of Tulloch (1800-1881). Most of the images show him in middle age, or later as an old man; some are paintings, some are prints of etchings, and some are copies of early photographs.

Recently another image has come to us. It is a small portrait (160mm x 220mm) showing a youthful Duncan Davidson aged 20, painted in 1820. Duncan is dressed in an unrecognisable tartan, predominately blue in colour, holding a sword and with a pair of pistols at his waist. The background looks like a studio.

The portrait is painted on ivory, which was commonly used for miniature portraits, but it's size is larger than we normally associate with miniatures. The artist is named as William Mackenzie on a typescript label attached to the ornate frame [almost certainly added at a later date], and also on a hand written note attached to the rear of the portrait. So far, we have not been able to identify this William Mackenzie in any of the well-known listings of portrait painters. The provenance of this portrait is not known. It was brought to our attention by the family of a private collector who has no connection to the Davidson of Tulloch family. Apparently, the collector had bid for the item some years ago at a country house sale because it had caught his eye.