Buildings & Graves in Scotland

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We have found and photographed many items with Davidson armorial detail. However, we may never know how many historic buildings with Davidson armorial inscriptions have been lost over the years.

This growing collection is particularly useful for further family research as many of the grave stones contain family details.

By starting this collection we believe we are creating an important record for future generations as some items are bound to suffer from erosion and damage.

Armorial Image at Tulloch Castle

From a personal point of view, the research work has been a voyage of discovery to parts of Britain I had never visited before. The quality of some of the work has been a surprise.

St Mary's Church, Auchindoir, Aberdeenshire

The remote and beautiful site of St Mary's Church at Auchindoir near Rhynie in Western Aberdeenshire has an inscribed gable end with the minister's initials, his arms, and the date…1638. This date probably records the year of a major repair to the church.

St Mary's Church, Auchindoir

The Howff Graveyard, Dundee

This graveyard is located in the centre of Dundee and holds many historic graves with armorial detail. We have managed to obtain photos of two of the Davidson items which date from the 1640s. Both show the ***Old Davidson*** design with the arrow depicted through the neck/body of a deer or stag.

Grave of Isobel Davidson, wife of George Gaire, 1641

Grave of William Davidson, 1649

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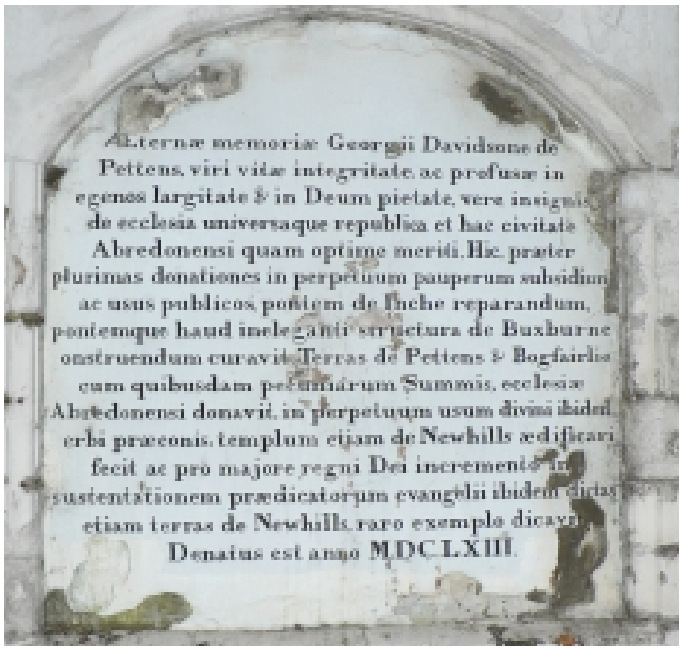
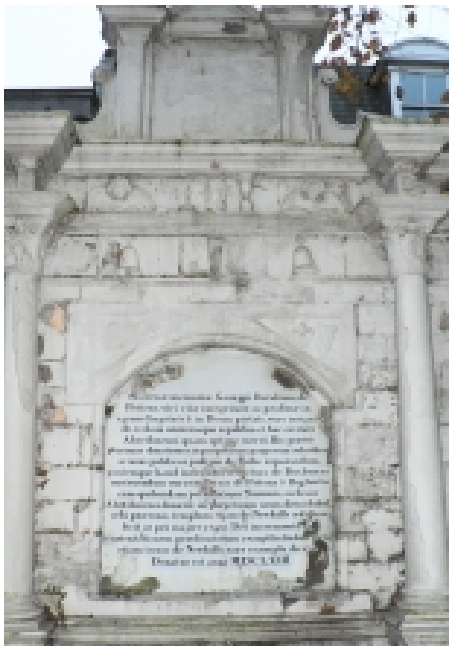
George Davidson's Grave at St Nicholas, Aberdeen

As already mentioned by Charles Davidson in his paper, George Davidson of Pettens left his "arms" in an armorial in the kirkyard wall at St Clement's, Footdee, Aberdeen, and decorated his pew at Newhills church.

Surprisingly, his large decorated grave located in the west wall of the kirkwall at St Nicholas, Aberdeen, includes no Davidson armorial references.

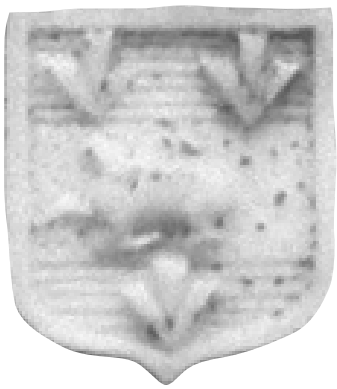




George Davidson's grave at St Nicholas, Aberdeen

Logie-Durno Kirkyard, The Garioch, Aberdeenshire

We found this item by pure chance inside the Elphinstone enclosure at Logie-Durno kirkyard located just north of Inverurie. The large Elphinstone shield has the small Davidson shield of the widow superimposed on the centre. The Elphinstone in question died in 1798, his widow Margaret Davidson of Midmar died in 1841.



Davidson Armorial item at Logie-Durno Kirkyard

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Elphinstone Enclosure at Logie-Durno Kirkyard

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Cramond Church, Edinburgh

The Davidson of Muirhouse family enclosure at Cramond Church, just the West of Edinburgh. The arms are those of William Davidson, Merchant of Rotterdam and of nearby Muirhouse who died in 1794.

Davidson Enclosure at Cramond

Davidson Memorials at Cramond Church

Muirhouse Mansion, Edinburgh

Ancestral home of the Davidsons of Muirhouse

Since it was sold by the Davidson family, this building has suffered a mixed history. It is now back in private ownership and it is hoped the building will be fully restored. There is considerable external armorial decoration which is shown here. There should also be some internal decoration according to survey records made some years ago.

The mansion has an extraordinary view looking north over the Firth of Forth.

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Davidson shield on chimney

Muirhouse Mansion, south elevation

Davidson Arms located above the front door

Tulloch Castle, Dingwall, Ross & Cromarty

Ancestral Home of the Chiefly Family

Tulloch Castle was substantially remodelled by the Scottish architect Lorimer in 1919/20 for the Vickers family who inherited the property after the death of the last Davidson laird of Tulloch. Most of the armorial decoration we see today dates from this period.

Tulloch Castle is now a Hotel. It is also the site of the Clan Davidson Room where the Clan Davidson Association display artifacts.

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Davidson Arms on the south face

Davidson Crest carved in fireplace

Davidson armorial shields set in a fireplace

Armorial Marker outside the Clan Davidson Room at Tulloch Castle

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Cantray House & Croy Kirk, Inverness

Ancestral Home of the Davidsons of Cantray

Cantray is located a few miles to the east of Inverness close to the City Airport.
The male line of this Davidson family has ceased and the family no longer has any local interests; however, the family memorials and arms can be seen in the Croy kirkyard and inside the kirk. Cantray House, still so named, is a 20th century house built on the site of an earlier mansion which was destroyed.

Croy Kirk

Davidson Family Memorial in the Croy kirkyard

Davidson Arms on the Memorial, located inside Croy kirk, for Col Cuthbert Davidson of Cantray who died in India in 1862

Armorial Detail on the Davidson of Cantray memorial in the graveyard at Croy kirk

We still do not know the origin of this shield. Can Anyone Help?

Armorial Wall Plaque on the present Cantray House near to Croy kirk

This was taken from Victorian mansion destroyed in the 1930s.

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