

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

The Ancient line of the Irvings of Bonshaw

The Irvings of Bonshaw were originally vassals of the Johnstons of that Ilk and supported them in their feuds with the Maxwells and others during the 16th Century.

The first member of the family to be documented was:

William Irving of Bonshaw

1506 – Instrument of Sasine given to William Yrwyn of Boynschaw of the three pound land of Egilfechan (Ecclefechan), following on a precept by Andrew, Lord Heris of Terregulis, dated 29th August 1506.¹

Edward Irving

1506 – Charter to him, as apparent heir to his father, William Irving of Bonshaw of the three merk lands of Haregills by Robert Corsby of Ulcotts, 15th June 1506.

1508 – On 18th January 1508, he received a charter of the 40 penny lands of Ulcotts – the four merk land of Haregills and the three merk land of Clynt from Robert Corsby. Sasine was given to him on the last day of October 1510²

1522 – Deceased by this date (see below)

Christopher Irving

1522 – Notarial Instrument recording evidence given before the commissary of Nith by William Irving of Suthwud and others, concerning the giving of sasine to Christopher Irving of the lands of Boneschaw and Dunbratane on the 30th September 1522, following on a precept of clare constat by James Jonstoun of that Ilk in favour of the said Christopher as heir to the deceased Edward Irving of Boneschaw his father dated 6th August 1522 and therein recited – 5th August 1529.³

1536 – Received charter of the lands of Stabiltoun from William Johnston of Gretna, superior of the lands of Newby – 20th November 1536, under reversion for 13 score merks.
4

¹ *The Lag Charters, Sir Philip J Hamilton-Grierson's Calendar*, ed. Athol L Murray, no. (Scottish Record Society, 1958)

² National Archives of Scotland (NAS) - GD86/1003/25 - Inventory of Annandale Writs

³ National Register of Archives Survey, NRAS 121/2 – Irvings of Bonshaw

⁴ NRAS 2171 - Earls of Annandale and Hartfell, bundle 612; NAS/GD86/1003/25 - Inventory of Annandale Writs

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

1544 – Discharge by John Johnston of that Ilk to Christopher Irvine of Bonshaw of all debts, bonds etc John had against Christopher, especially concerning an obligation of late Sir William Mowsgray made by the late William Irvine to late Adam Johnston of that Ilk – 19th May 1544.⁵

1551 – Reversion by Cristal Irving of Bonshaw to John Johnston of that Ilk for the redemption of Shawrig on payment of £78 – Last April 1551.⁶

1552/3 – Listed in January 1552/3 as having 103 men under him, according to a bond recording supporters of Edward V1.⁷

He had:

(i) Edward Irving, his heir

(ii) Christopher Irving alias Black Christie. Charter of confirmation given to him of the lands of Northfield and Guildlands – 24th December 1566 and 29th October 1574.⁸

(ii) William Irving.⁹

Edward Irving

1534 – On the 6th August 1534, recorded as son and apparent heir to Christopher Irving of Bonshaw, when Michael, Lord Carlyle, the new superior of Ulcotts and Haregills issued a new instrument of sasine in his favour.¹⁰

1544 – Instrument of Sasine in favour of Edward Erving, son of Christopher Erving of Bonschaw of the lands of Bonschaw and Dunbrattane in the Stewartry of Annandale, following on a precept of sasine by James Johnnestoun of that Ilk with consent of John Johnnestoun, his father – 3rd June 1544.¹¹

1568 – Disposition under the forms of a notarial instrument (in Scots) by Ninian Bell, son of Gawain Bell in Yettis, to Edward Yrewen of Boishaw of the forty shilling lands of Newlands, parish of Pennersax, stewartry of Annandale, provided the said Edward assist

⁵NAS/RH2/2/14 – Graham of Mossknowe papers

⁶ NAS/GD86/1003/25

⁷ *Calendar of Scottish Documents* (1547-63), vol i. 191

⁸ *Register of the Privy Seal* – RSS v. 3153; *Register of the Great Seal* – RMS iv. 2316; RMS v. 1701; had a son Edward, who in turn, had a son, Francis (Murray of Murraythwaite papers – NAS/GD219/4; GD291/9; NAS/RS22/4 f. 231)

⁹ RSS v. 138 - Precept of remission to Edward Irving of Bonshaw and Christopher and William Irvings, his brothers, 24 May 1557

¹⁰ NAS/GD86/1003/25

¹¹ NRAS121/3

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

the children of the said Ninian and Betty Scott with a piece of land at the sight of Simon [Grame] of Petland – 24th May 1568. ¹²

1569 – Sir John Douglas of Drumlanrig obliged to enter Edward Irving of Bonshaw in Dumfries on the following Sunday for the whole of the Irvings of Bonshaw under pain of 1,100 merks – 25th October 1569. ¹³

1583 – Gift of the escheat of the teinds and duties of the parish church of Durnay to Arthur Grahame of Blawotwod which Edward Irving of Bonshaw had in tack but had been confiscated from him for not finding surety ‘for his tressonabill bringing within the realme of certane Englischemen and thifteous steling, reving and away taking of certane guidis and gear’ from the lands of Ross belonging to James Douglas of Drumlanrig – 17th September 1583. ¹⁴

1585 – Letter from Scrope to Walsingham – Bonshaw ‘the strongest house in the borders’ belonging to Edward Yrwen was besieged in June by Lord Maxwell. He asked for support to relieve the goodman of Bonshaw. On the 6th May, he reported that Bonshaw, Todholes and Dumbrettan had been burnt by Heries, Drumlanrig, Empsfield, Applegirth and Robert Maxwell, brother of Lord Maxwell. ¹⁵

1592, he and sons ‘Geordie, James and Jeffraye’ and his son-in-law Francis Grame of Cannonby were present at the Falkland Raid ¹⁶

1592 – 8th July – Irving of Bonshaw had left his house open to the King and on the 11th July Lowther wrote to John Scrope that Irving of Bonshaw hoped that he would be the 14th person included in the peace and that he had delivered the house at the King’s will ¹⁷

(In 1596, Edward Irving of Stabilton, Jaffary Irving of Coiff, James Irving of Cleughheads, Criste Irving of Allerbek and Willie Irving called Willie Dand signed a bond to serve Sir James Johnston of that Ilk when he supported the King). ¹⁸

¹² NRAS121/5

¹³ *Register of the Privy Council, RPC1*, ii. 48

¹⁴ *RSS* vii. 1509

¹⁵ *Calendar of Border Papers*, vol i, 321, 425

¹⁶ *Calendar of Scottish Papers (1589-93)*, vol x. 743

¹⁷ *Calendar of Border Papers*, vol i, 757, 759 and 760

¹⁸ NAS/GD86/1003/25. The Irvings were vassals of the Johnstons and so supported them in their feud with the Maxwells. In 1579, John Johnston of that Ilk was made Warden of the Western Marches which occasioned Lord Maxwell to send 300 to 400 men against him in 1582 and 1583. Ten years later, Maxwell was made Warden and in 1593, a ferocious battle took place at Dryfe Sands between the Maxwells and Johnstons and their supporters in which Maxwell was killed. This letter of service was perhaps the result of James VI’s efforts to put an end to the feuding (*A History of the Scottish People, 1560-1830*, T C Smout (Fontana Press, 1969))

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

1601 – 8th March, George Nicolson to Sir Robert Cecil – he reported that the King had gone to Bonshaw ¹⁹

He married ‘ould Riche the Grames daughter of Netherby’ ²⁰.

He had:

- (i) Christopher (Cristie) Irving, his heir²¹
- (ii) William Irving of Kirkconnell, known as ‘auld Will of Kirkconnel’ ²²
- (iii) James Irving of the Braes; of Cleuchheids ²³
- (iv) Edward Irving of Stabilton, recorded as 4th son in August 1605; uncle to William Irving of Bonshaw; had a son Christopher Irving married Helen Scott; sold Stabilton to Johnston of that ilk in 1626. ²⁴
- (v) George (Geordie) Irving of Woodhouse, ‘callit of Boneschaw’ ²⁵ He married Agnes Charleton and they had a son, Thomas Irving who, in turn had a son, Samuel Irving who married Agnes Charters. ²⁶
- (vi) Jeffrey Irving, had a son James who married Sarah Carlyle daughter of Alexander Carlyle of Seariggs, marriage contract 2nd November 1615 ²⁷
- (vii) A daughter who married Francis Graham of Cannonby

1605 – He was deceased by this date (see below)

Christopher Irving

1566 – He married in November 1566, Margaret Johnston, daughter of John Johnston of that ilk and Nicolas, daughter of Sir James Douglas of Drumlanrig. In the contract of marriage dated 11th September 1566, his father, Edward Irving of Bonshaw gave him and his future spouse the forty shilling lands of Shawrig; the three pound lands of Toddholes

¹⁹ *Calendar of Scottish Papers*, xiii, 778

²⁰ *Calendar of Border Papers, (1560-94)*, vol i, 123 – Thomas Musgrave to Burghley on the Border Riders

²¹ *ibid*; 1582 - John Johnston of that ilk ordered to bring him before the king, when required, under caution of £1,000 – *RPCI*, iii. 486

²² 1587/8 - *RPCI*, iv. 250; *Calendar of Border Papers*, vol i, no. 312; NAS/GD86/1003/25

²³ List of cautioners for persons named at next court, October 1611 – recorded as James Irving, brother of ‘the gudman’ of Boneshaw – *RPCI*. ix. 710, 712; NAS/GD1/403/10

²⁴ NAS/GD86/1003/25

²⁵ *Calendar of Border Papers*, vol i. 921; 3 November, 1595, Sir John Johnston of that ilk failed to present them before the council for burning houses of the tenants of Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburne etc – *RPCI*. v. 232; ix. 712

²⁶ NAS/GD86/1003/25

²⁷ 13 October 1602, he and his brother, James had destroyed William Grahame of Blahartwode’s corn in August – *RPCI*, vii. 470; also 27 December 1604 – Sir John Johnston of Dunsbellie stood cautioner for him not to harm John Murray, one of the king’s guard; *ibid*, vii. 580; Todhills and Christlandbog resigned to him by his father, 26 June 1595 – NAS/GD86/315; NAS/GD86/1003/25

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

and the five merks lands of Warambie. In addition, while reserving his liferent, he also granted them the lands of Bonshaw, two lots of three pound lands in Ecclefechan, a forty shilling lands there and the ten pound lands of Stableton. Her father gave as her dowry the non-entry and ward of the lands of Wysbie, Woodhouse and Brotes, as well as 24 bolls of rye, a bull, 10 oxen and a five merk land sown with corn and barley.

1582 – A note was added dated 25th September 1582 in which Edward Irving of Bonshaw had granted a procuratory of resignation of the lands of Bonshaw in favour of the couple and their son, William Irving²⁸. The marriage had obviously taken place, despite John Johnston of that ilk being ordered by the Privy Council in December 1564 not ‘to allayit his dochter’ with Edward Irving’s son.²⁹

1582 – Procuratory of resignation by Edward Irving of Boynschaw to Thomas Cranston, son of Mr William Cranston, commissary clerk of Lauder to resign the 10 merkland of Boynschaw and Dunbrattan in to the hands of John Johnestoun of that ilk, in favour of Crisbill Irving his son and Margaret Johnestoun, his spouse in liferent and William Irving their son in fee – 25th September 1582³⁰

He appears to have predeceased his father³¹.

They had:

- (i) William Irving, heir
- (ii) Edward Irving, heir to his father in lands of Stableton.³²
- (iii) David Irving of Mowesknowe married Jean Irving³³ Mowesknowe had been wadset to him for 1800 merks by James, Lord Johnston in 1634.³⁴

William Irving

According to Colonel Irving in his book, *The Book of the Irvings*, a genealogical history of the family dated 1751 was in his possession. This is not listed in the National Register of Archives Survey. In it, it was recorded that William Irving had been married twice. His first wife’s name was unknown, but they had a son, Edward. Both appear to have died

²⁸ NAS/RH2/2/14 – Cosmo Innes Transcripts

²⁹ *RPCI*, i. 306

³⁰ NRAS 121/7

³¹ *Index to Inquisitionem ad Capellam Regis Retornatarum Abbreviatio*, Dumfries, no.29

³² *ibid*; he had a son and heir, Christopher –NAS/RS22/1/35 – 13 June 1618 – Register of Sasines for Dumfries etc (first series)

³³ NAS/GD1/403/6, in which he is described as brother of William Irving of Bonshaw

³⁴ NAS/GD86/1003/25

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

by 1610.³⁵ The author of the book states that William Irving's first wife was a daughter of the 5th Lord Carlyle, but unfortunately, there was no 5th Lord. The 4th lord was succeeded by his daughter, Elizabeth Carlyle. She married Sir James Douglas of Parkhead, son of Sir George Douglas of Parkhead, natural brother of the Earl of Morton.³⁶

1610 – William Irving married Margaret Kirkpatrick (possibly his second wife) and by 1610 is recorded as having three sons, when he and his wife were granted the feu of the forty shilling lands of Sarkscheillis in conjunct fee and to William Irving, their eldest son, whom failing to their son, Harbert Irving, whom failing to their third son, Adam Irving in fee. The land had been held by William's grandfather, Edward Irving and his predecessors.³⁷

In the same year, he received the wadset of the lands of Rokelhead and Carthat from William Crichton of Ryehill and his spouse, Euphame Seton redeemable for 2650 merks. William Crichton and his wife had actually received the wadset from James, Lord Carlyle, a few months before. On the 20th November 1611, William Irving was given sasine of the properties. In 1630, he exchanged these properties as well as Haregills for Belorchard and Allerbeck with James, Lord Johnston of Lochwood.³⁸

1618 – On the 2nd April 1618, he was given sasine of Braes, Kirkilbrig, Quhythill and Preistisclose by William Douglas of Drumlanrig.³⁹

1626 – Heir to his grandfather, Edward Irving of Bonshaw in the ten pound lands of Stabilton, 6th November 1626. On the same day, with consent of his uncle, Edward Irving and Edward's son, Christopher Irving and Christopher's wife, Helen Scott, he disposed Stabilton to James Johnston of that ilk.⁴⁰

William Irving and Margaret Kirkpatrick had:

(i) William Irving, eldest son

1627 – He had the wadset of the forty shilling lands of Robgill from James Johnston of that ilk which the latter redeemed for 2,000 merks on the 15th June 1627. William Irving was then styled as eldest son of William Irving of Bonshaw and 'of Rokelhead'⁴¹

³⁵ *RMS* vii. 267 – 17 March 1610

³⁶ *The Scots Peerage*, ii, 388; NAS/RD1/28/355 – Register of Deeds of the Court of Session, (First Series) involves her and her husband

³⁷ *RMS* vii. 267 – 17 March 1610 record William Irving as then laird of Bonshaw

³⁸ NAS/GD86/1003/25

³⁹ NAS/RS22/1/65

⁴⁰ NAS/GD86/1003/25

⁴¹ *ibid*

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

1631 – A contract of marriage was drawn up on the 25th July 1631 between him, as eldest son of William Irving of Bonshaw and Janet Jardine, sister of John Jardine of Applegarth in which his father gave the couple the £10 lands of Rokkelheid and Carthat in the parish of Lochmaben.⁴²

1633 – On the 23rd March 1633, his father, William Irving elder of Bonshaw, with consent of his son, William Irving granted the Templar lands in the parish of Kirkpatrick Fleming to James Irving of Wysbie and his wife, Sara Irving.⁴³ On the same day, Edward Irving of Wysbie, with consent of his son, James, granted the lands of Wysbie to William Irving of Woodhouse. Harbert Irving, designed brother of William Irving of Woodhouse, acted as attorney for him and one of the witnesses was William Irving of Bonshaw.⁴⁴ It therefore appears that William Irving, son of William Irving of Bonshaw was known by then as ‘of Woodhouse’.

1637 – He had died by the 4th June 1637.⁴⁵ On that day, a sasine was registered which recorded that William Irving of Bonshaw had given the fee of the £10 lands of Rokkelheid and Carthat in the parish of Lochmaben to his grandson, James Irving, eldest son of his eldest son, the deceased William Irving, reserving his own liferent. A month later he included Hairgills, Ulcoittis, Rockelheid and Carthat, Allerbeck and Belorcharde⁴⁶ So, James Irving, son of his deceased son, William was his heir apparent to these properties.

(ii) Harbert Irving (see below)

(iii) Adam Irving

(iv) John Irving to whom he gave the lands of Jockstoun (part of Bonshaw) in 1646. It was part of the Bonshaw estate.⁴⁷ He was later tutor to his brother, Harbert’s son, William and was then styled as ‘of Belorcharde’

(v) Sarah Irving who married William Irving, son of Jeffery Irving of Robgill⁴⁸

(vi) Blanche Irving who married John Irving, son of Jeffery Irving of Brootts in 1632.⁴⁹

1647 – William Irving of Bonshaw died in 1647. In 1648, his son, Harbert Irving, designed ‘of Bonshaw’ was one of those appointed to be a commissioner to Parliament. It seems likely that he may have been acting in that capacity, because his nephew, James Irving was still a minor.⁵⁰

⁴² NAS/RS22/3/148 – 4 August 1631

⁴³ NAS/RS22/3/225 – 1 June 1633

⁴⁴ *ibid*

⁴⁵ NAS/RS22/4/263 – 4 June 1637

⁴⁶ *ibid* – 6 July 1637

⁴⁷ NAS/RS22/5/160 – 13 June 1646, both his brother Harbert and Adam were witnesses

⁴⁸ Index to Dumfries-shire Sasines

⁴⁹ NAS/RS22/3/173

⁵⁰ *Acts of Parliament of Scotland (1643-51)*, vi, p. 298

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

James Irving

1655 – James Irving received sasine of Bonshaw and Dunbrettanrige, on the 28th April 1655, having been recognised as heir to his grandfather, the deceased William Irving of Bonshaw by James, Earl of Hartfield, the superior.⁵¹ At Bonshaw, on the 14th August, he signed over these lands to his uncle, Harbert Irving and on the 26th May 1658, Harbert was recognised as the new owner by the Earl of Hartfield.⁵² On the 3rd May 1659, Harbert Irving handed over the lands to his son, William Irving, reserving his own liferent.⁵³

On the 25th May 1655, James Irving was served heir to his grandfather's grandfather, Edward Irving in the £3 land of Ecclefechan.⁵⁴

Harbert Irving

He married Margaret Alexander, daughter of the Reverend John Alexander, minister of Hoddom and Isabella, daughter of William Barclay of Invergellie.⁵⁵

1647 – He was seised in the 4 merklands of Hairgills and Seafield on the August 1655, following on a precept of clare constat by James, Earl of Hartfield, Harbert having received a charter of alienation of the lands on the 12th January 1647, by James, Earl of Hartfield's father and having never taken sasine during the late Earl's lifetime. He was then designed as lawful son of the deceased William Irving of Bonshaw. The property was redeemable for 2,000 merks⁵⁶

1660 – Harbert Irving died in debt. He made his will on the 22nd February 1660, leaving a son, William who was a minor. In his will, he left everything to his son and appointed the Earl of Hartfell to oversee the settling of his estate. He also named four men to act as tutors to his son – James Johnston of Corheid, Mr John Alexander, minister of Hoddom (his father-in-law), Mr James Alexander and John Irving, his brother, although nothing was to be concluded without the consent of Mr John Alexander. If the boy died, John Irving of Woodhouse was to get the lands of Bonshaw and 2,000 merks out of the lands of Hairgills. The actual wadset of Hairgills was to go to his 'three' brother, John.

He stated that he chose his brother to be 'uplifter of all becaus he knowes the way best'. If John wanted a part of the land to live on, then he was to have it.⁵⁷

⁵¹ NAS/RS22/6/68 – 3 August 1655

⁵² NAS/RS22/7/58 – 26 May 1658

⁵³ NAS/RS22/7/152 – 22 June 1659

⁵⁴ *Index to Inquisitionem ad Capellam Regis Retornatarum Abbreviatio*, Dumfries no.224

⁵⁵ *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae*, 2, p, 248; NAS/RS22/6/70 – 16 August 1655

⁵⁶ NAS/RS22/6/70 – 16 August 1655; NAS/GD86/1003/25

⁵⁷ CC5/6/4/18 registered 31 July 1661 - Dumfries Commissary Court Testaments

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

William Irving of Bonshaw

1659 – He was a minor when his father died. By the 3rd May 1659, Harbert had already signed over Bonshaw to his son, William, reserving his liferent. ⁵⁸

1672 – William married Jean Graham, eldest daughter of Mr William Graham, minister of Kirkpatrick Fleming, their contract of marriage being drawn up in October 1672. ⁵⁹ A month later, he drew up a Discharge recording that his uncle, John Irving, his late tutor had settled his father's estate and paid him all that was due out of his late father, Harbert Irving's estate. ⁶⁰

Ten years later, he was forced to borrow money from William Graham of Mossknowe and his brother, David. As security, he granted them the lands of Bonshaw. ⁶¹ This loan was later to contribute to his losing the estate. In August 1690, he borrowed more money from Thomas Bell, former merchant in England, then living in Dumbrettan, granting him an annualrent of £67/10/-. ⁶² Meanwhile, he was being pursued by the widow John Irving of Woodhouse who had expended money on the Bonshaw estate for many years. The result was that he was forced to resign Bonshaw to her.

He had two sons, William and James Irving. ⁶³

John Irving of Woodhouse

1661 – He was a son of William Irving of Woodhouse and Janet Jardine of Applegarth. ⁶⁴ He married Sara Douglas, daughter of Sir William Douglas of Kellhead. Their contract of marriage was made at Kellhead on the 8th October 1661, her father having given 2,000 merks with her. ⁶⁵

He had:

(i) William heir

⁵⁸ NAS/RS22/7/152 – 22 June 1659

⁵⁹ NAS/RS23/1/144 – 5 June 1672 – Particular Register of Sasines for Dumfries etc (Second Series)

⁶⁰ RD3/33/667 – dated 26 November 1672, recorded 7 January 1673 – Register of Deeds of the Court of Session (Second Series)

⁶¹ NAS/RS23/3/230 – 14 September 1682

⁶² NAS/RS23/6/24 – 12 August 1690

⁶³ NAS/RS23/6/90 – 26 April 1699

⁶⁴ NAS/GD472/88 – Papers of the Jardine Family of Appilgirth – legal papers concerning William Irving of Woodhouse; NAS/GD90/1/277 – Yule Collection - Brieve of Inquest for serving William Irving of Woodhouse as heir to his grandfather, William Irving of Woodhouse, 15 Dec 1687

⁶⁵ NAS/RD3/52/12 – 1 March 1682, Discharge for tocher of 2,000 merks; NAS/GD472/88

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

(ii) John who was living with his brother, William and their grandmother, Jonet Jardine at Woodhouse in 1684.⁶⁶

1669 – John Irving died in May 1669. His earlier testament has not survived, but an eik (extra) made on the 23rd March 1683 by his widow (whom he had appointed as his executor) records that he was owed £5,180 Scots for his intrusions with the lands of Bonshaw plus interest.⁶⁷ She appears to have been zealous in attempting to gather in money owed to her husband on behalf of her son. This included money which was still owing on the marriage contract between William Irving of Woodhouse and Janet Jardine. In September 1673, she brought an action against Sir Alexander Jardine of Applegarth, as heir to his father Alexander Jardine.⁶⁸

In July 1679, Sara Douglas married, for the second time, to William Irving of Cove.⁶⁹ She then set about bringing actions in the court against Harbert Irving's heir. On the 29th December 1691, she obtained a Decree of Adjudication against him and then in 1693 came to an agreement with the Grahams who still had a claim on the estate, in order that she could take possession of it. Then on the 16th March 1699, with consent of her husband, she assigned the lands of Bonshaw to her son, William Irving.⁷⁰

William Irving of Woodhouse, then of Bonshaw

1687 – A Brieve of Inquest was drawn up on the 15th December 1687 in his favour, as heir to his grandfather, William Irvine of Woodhouse.⁷¹

1699 – Bonshaw had been assigned to him by his mother in March 1699. On the 22nd December 1699, he, styled William Irving of Woodhouse, executed a mutual discharge together with William Earl of Annandale ratifying the Contract of Excambion which his great grandfather and great uncle had drawn up in 1630.⁷²

1703 – On the 14th August 1703, following on a precept of clare constat granted by the Earl of Hartfell, superior of Bonshaw, William Irving was infeft as the new laird of Bonshaw.⁷³

⁶⁶ *RPC3*, ix. 621

⁶⁷ NAS/CC5/6/6/311 - Dumfries Commissary Court Testaments – eik

⁶⁸ NAS/GD90/1/277

⁶⁹ NAS/CC8/6/70 – Edinburgh Commissary Court Consistorial Processes - Action of Adherence brought by William Irving of Cove against his wife Sara who had left him in July 1696. She and her husband were living at Cove in 1684 (*RPC3* ix. 621)

⁷⁰ NAS/RS3/83/303 – 14 August 1703 – General Register of Sasines

⁷¹ NAS/GD472/88

⁷² NAS/GD86/1003/25

⁷³ NAS/RS3/83/303

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

1698 – He married Amelia (Aemilia) Rollo, daughter of Andrew, Lord Rollo of Duncrub and Margaret, daughter of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Friday 2nd September 1698⁷⁴

They had 14 children of whom 9 survived.⁷⁵

They were:

- (i) John Irving, baptised 26th August 1699,⁷⁶ heir of Bonshaw
- (ii) Andrew Irving born 1st October 1700 at Bonshaw. Named as second son in his father's Bond of Provision. He left him 2,200 merks.⁷⁷
- (iii) Margaret Irving, eldest daughter, born 5th February 1703. She was left 3,500 merks.
- (iv) Robert Irving born 26th June 1704, Writer to the Signet, married, 1st January 1764, Mary (died 1st December 1765), daughter of William Veitch of Eliock, Writer to the Signet⁷⁸. He died 17th November 1772.⁷⁹ His father named him as his third son and made a separate Bond of Provision in his favour in which he left him 2,000 merks as 'he has been very serviceable to me in the management of my affairs.'⁸⁰

He left two illegitimate children:

- (i) John Irving by Margaret Smith
- (ii) Christian Irving by the widow of (*blank*) Cron⁸¹

- (v) William Irving, born 22nd July 1705 – died 2nd January 1724 – not named in his father's Bond of Provision and so must have died
- (vi) Emelibella Irving, born 18th May 1707 – died 10th September 1708
- (vii) Christopher Irving, born 19th October 1708. As 4th son, he was left 1,000 merks by his father. He died abroad in the 1740s.⁸²
- (viii) James Irving born 21st December 1709 – died 26th December 1709
- (ix) Sarah Irving born 28th December 1710, married 28th December 1735 Edward Irving of Wysbie. She is described as 2nd daughter in the Bond of Provision and was left 3,000 merks
- (x) Roland Irving baptised 20th March 1711⁸³ He is not mentioned in father's Bond of Provision and so must have died.

⁷⁴ Edinburgh Old Parish Register 685/1

⁷⁵ All their baptisms have been transcribed in *The Book of the Irvings* by John Beaufin Irving and also appear in *James Irving of Ironshore and his descendants, 1713-1918* by Aemilius Irving. They appear to have come from an original source

⁷⁶ Perth OPR 387, although the entry records his father's christian name as John!

⁷⁷ NAS/RD3/210/438 recorded 1 August 1750, made at Bonshaw, 30 May 1739

⁷⁸ Edinburgh OPR 685/1 - Marriage proclamation 8 January 1764

⁷⁹ *Register of the Society of Writers to HM Signet*, p. 159

⁸⁰ NAS/RD3/210/438 recorded 1 August 1750, made at Bonshaw, 27 October 1736

⁸¹ NAS/RD4/212/2/731

⁸² NAS/CC8/8/123/1148 - Edinburgh Commissary Court Testaments – Testament dative recorded 22 February 1776

⁸³ Annan OPR 812

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

(xi) Dr James Irving born 19th April 1713, married Elizabeth Motte, died in 1775 (see below). He is listed as 5th son and was left 1,000 merks

(xii) Paulus Emelius Irving, baptised 29th September 1714.⁸⁴ He was the 6th son and was left 1,200 merks. He married Judith Westfield, daughter of William Westfield of Kent. She died in 1793 aged 72 and is buried in St Michael's Old Parish churchyard, Dumfries. Paulus Amelius became governor of Upnor Castle. He died in England in April 1796.⁸⁵ His heir was his son, Sir Paulus Aemilius Irving of Woodhouse and Robgill was born at Waterford on the 30th August 1751. The title became extinct on his death in 1852.⁸⁶

(xiii) Jean Irving born 12th May 1716. She was the youngest daughter and was left 3,000 merks

(xiv) Stuart Irving, born 17th May 1718 – died 22nd May 1718

1750 – He made his Bonds of Provision to his children in 1739. He had died by 1750 when it was registered.

John Irving of Bonshaw

He married Sophia Clapperet.⁸⁷ The baptisms of their other children have not been found.

They were:

(i) William Irving, heir.

(ii) Henry Irving. He was mentioned in the settlement of his uncle, Robert Irving WS and in his brother's entail of Bonshaw in 1765, as being deceased.⁸⁸ According to *The Book of the Irvings*, he had an only son, Lieutenant Colonel John Irving (1757-1808) who married Judith, daughter of Colonel Paulus Aemilius Irving and had:

(i) Paulus Aemilius Irving died 1816 without issue

(ii) Rev John Irving (born 1797 – died 1870, heir to Bonshaw after death of John Robert Irving in 1839.

(iii) Charles Irving, died 1752⁸⁹

(iv) Robert Irving baptised at Annan on the 20th July 1744⁹⁰ Lieutenant in 1772 when he was left £500 by his uncle, Robert Irving WS in his Settlement. He was left a legacy of £50 by his aunt, Jean Irving, residing at Robgill and his other Aunt, Margaret's share of the

⁸⁴ *ibid*

⁸⁵ NAS/CC8/8/130/1084 registered – 2 November 1796

⁸⁶ *The Irvings of Bonshaw* by Alastair M T Maxwell-Irving (1968) p. 15

⁸⁷ Her name appears in the Annan baptismal record of their son, Robert (OPR 812). Burke's *Colonial and Heraldic History of Colonial Gentry* gives her surname as von Claprod

⁸⁸ NAS/RT1/18 f.418 – Register of Tailzies, recorded 7 March 1775

⁸⁹ NAS/CC5/5/18/216 recorded 26 August 1800, his Testament Dative

⁹⁰ Annan OPR 812

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

bequest left to her by her father, William Irving of Bonshaw. In his will, he is described as Lieutenant Colonel. He died 5th October 1794 aged 50. A memorial stone in St Michael's Dumfries records that his death took place in the West Indies. He was survived by daughters:

- (i) Elizabeth Irving
- (ii) Margaret Irving
- (iii) Sophia Irving married to Lieutenant Colonel Henry Beckwith⁹¹

(v) Mary Emilia Irving married Mr Clement Rollo, youngest son of Robert, Lord Rollo (1720 – 1762).⁹² Her date of death was omitted in her Testament Dative, recorded 24th May 1786. She was left £10 by her uncle Robert Irving, W.S.

They had:

John Rollo, lieutenant in late 72 Regiment of Foot.⁹³

(vi) Catharine Irving. She was left £15 by her uncle, Robert Irving, W.S. She died in Edinburgh in August 1811.⁹⁴

(vii) Jane Irving married James Currie Carlyle

1740 – Signature of Woodhouse granted to him on the 12th February 1740.⁹⁵

1747 – He made a Bond of Provision to his children, 25th March 1747.⁹⁶

1750 – He had died by August 1750

William Irving

1747, he was an ensign in General Guise's Regiment of Foot.

1765 – He entailed Bonshaw, 19th December 1765 in which he named his younger brother, Lieutenant Robert Irving, whom failing the only son of his deceased brother, Henry, whom failing the sons, in turn, of his deceased grandfather, William Irving of Bonshaw, i.e. Robert Irving, WS, James Irving and Lieutenant Colonel Aemilius, whom failing to his sisters, May Emilia, widow of Clement Rollo, Katherine Irving and Jane Irving.⁹⁷

⁹¹ NAS/CC8/8/137/709 – 2 December 1809

⁹² *Scots Peerage vii*, 205

⁹³ NAS/CC20/4/25/314 – St Andrews Commissary Court Testaments

⁹⁴ *Edinburgh Advertiser* – 27 August 1811

⁹⁵ Index to Register of Signatures

⁹⁶ NAS/RD3/210 – 1 August 1750

⁹⁷ NAS/RT1/18/418

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

1767 – He married Janet, daughter of Sir John Douglas of Kellhead and Christian, 6th daughter of Sir William Cunningham of Caprington, at Prestonfield on the 13th November 1767.⁹⁸

He had:

- (i) John Robert Irving, heir
- (ii) Christian Irving. She was left £500 by her great-uncle, Robert Irving, W.S

1772 – died

John Robert Irving of Bonshaw

He was the only son of William Irving and became an advocate.

1803 – He married (i) Mary White, daughter of Robert White, residenter in Berwick on the 17th October 1803⁹⁹ and (ii) Jacobina Donaldson, daughter of the deceased John Donaldson, painter in Edinburgh.¹⁰⁰

1820 – They divorced¹⁰¹

By his first wife he had 2 sons and 2 daughters:

- (i) John Robert Irving, Lieutenant in the Royal Marines Artillery, baptised 30th May 1807¹⁰². He died in February 1829 at Portsmouth¹⁰³
- (ii) A son (name not known) who predeceased his father
- (iii) Johanna Maria Irving who married John Dickson, mathematics master at the Academy in Annan (their son, John George Dickson was baptised 7th May 1837).¹⁰⁴
- (iv) Janet Margaret Irving who married John Winter, butcher in Edinburgh on the 26th April 1825.¹⁰⁵

1839 – He died on 19th June 1839.¹⁰⁶

⁹⁸ *Scots Peerage*, vii, 150; Proclamation of banns, 8 November 1767 – Duddingston OPR 684

⁹⁹ Edinburgh OPR685/1

¹⁰⁰ Banns called in Canongate, 10 June 1816 - OPR 685/3

¹⁰¹ NAS/CC8/6/1820 - Edinburgh Commissary Court Consistorial Processes

¹⁰² St Cuthberts OPR 685/2

¹⁰³ *Edinburgh Advertiser*, 26 February 1829

¹⁰⁴ Annan OPR 812

¹⁰⁵ St Cuthberts OPR 685/2

¹⁰⁶ NAS/ SC70/1/59/343 – Edinburgh Sheriff Court Register of Inventories – inventory and will recorded 27 June 1840

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

Reverend John Irving

He was the grandson of Henry Irving, brother of John Robert Irving and succeeded his uncle as heir of entail

1824 – He married Margaretta Davies, daughter of Rev William Davies in 1824. He had:
Margaretta Emilia Irving married Rev Charles Irving, Rector of Donoughmore, Ireland ¹⁰⁷

1853 – He disentailed Bonshaw on the 3rd August 1853. ¹⁰⁸

At the same time, he came to an Agreement with those who would have been the heirs of entail who would have succeeded, in turn, to Bonshaw after his death. They were James Irving, formerly of Kensington Square, London and his two sons, Dr James Irving and Lieutenant Robert Nasmyth Irving of the 12th Regiment. He died in 1870. ¹⁰⁹ Both James Irving and his eldest son, Dr James Irving who had settled in Pisa in Tuscany died before the Reverend John Irving and so he was succeeded by Robert Nasmyth Irving, James Irving's second son. ¹¹⁰ Robert Nasmyth Irving died unmarried in 1894.

After his death, Colonel John Beaufin Irving, a cousin, applied to the Sheriff of Dumfries to be recognised as heir to Bonshaw. Both men were descended from Dr James Irving (born 1713), 5th son of William Irving of Bonshaw and Aemilia Rollo.

Dr James Irving

1713 – He had been born on the 19th April 1713.

1746 – he married Elizabeth Motte in Charleston, South Carolina on the 22nd February 1746 ¹¹¹

Their children ¹¹²

(i) James Irving who succeeded to Ironshore, Jamaica and married Mary O'Connor in 1798. They had:

James Irving who married Judith Bowen Nasmyth in 1817 and they had:

(i) Dr James Irving

¹⁰⁷ Both named in deed by Rev John Irving – NAS/RD5/1853/934, p. 386 recorded 19 July 1853 – Register of Deeds of the Court of Session (third series)

¹⁰⁸ NAS/RT131 f 267 – 3 August 1853

¹⁰⁹ *The Glasgow Herald*, 23 February 1871

¹¹⁰ NAS/RD5/1853/935, p. 513 made on the 3 August 1853

¹¹¹ *Register of St Philip's Parish, Charles Town, South Carolina* transcribed by A S Salley (Charleston 1904)

¹¹² *James Irving of Ironshore and his descendants* by Aemilius Irving (Toronto, 1918)

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

(ii) Robert Nasmyth Irving

(ii) Robert Aemilius Irving, born c. 1756 – died 22nd January 1794, aged 38, buried at Ironshore.¹¹³

(iii) John Beaufin Irving born on the 30th October 1765, married Susannah, youngest daughter of Richard Prince of Faversham on the 10th March 1796 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. She was born 31st October 1773.¹¹⁴ He died at Frankford, Philadelphia on the 6 March 1813 and was buried in village churchyard.¹¹⁵ Susannah Prince died at 4 Suffolk Square, Cheltenham aged 79 on the 16th December 1852.¹¹⁶ They had:

(i) Lucy Ann Irving

(ii) John Beaufin Irving born 26th January 1810 in Philadelphia¹¹⁷ (see below)

(iv) Jacob Aemilius Irving born 1767 married 1796, Hannah Margaret, daughter of Thomas Corbett of Charlestown, South Carolina

(v) Paulus Aemilius Irving – born 5th September 1769 – died 18th June 1769.¹¹⁸

(vi) Elizabeth Motte Irving born c. 1772 – died 1st July 1792; married Dr Alexander Mudie; infant daughter died 24th July 1792

1775 – Elizabeth Motte died at sea on the 10th September 1775 and was buried on the 17th October 1775 in St Martin's-in-the-Fields, London. James Irving was buried in the same vault on the 10th November 1775.¹¹⁹

John Beaufin Irving

He was born on the 26th October 1810 at 220 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. He married (i) Diana Charlotte Williamson on the 6th April 1843, the third surviving daughter of Jonathan Williamson of Lakelands, Dublin County. She was born on the 12th January 1821 and died at Cheltenham on the 13th December 1850. He married (ii) Susan, eldest daughter of the deceased Reverend Edmund Cronyn of Odogh Glebe, County Kilkenny on the 12th July 1852. She died on the 30th December 1855. John Beaufin Irving died on the 6th October 1876 at 24 Suffolk Square, Cheltenham¹²⁰. He had (all born in Cheltenham)¹²¹:

(i) 14th February 1844 – John Beaufin Irving (see below)

¹¹³ *M.Is of Jamaica*, compiled by Philip Wright (Society of Genealogists, 1966)

¹¹⁴ Faversham Parish Register

¹¹⁵ *The Book of the Irvings and James Irving of Ironshore and his Descendants*

¹¹⁶ Death certificate

¹¹⁷ 1851 census of Cheltenham, HO 107/1973

¹¹⁸ *M.Is of Jamaica*, compiled by Philip Wright (Society of Genealogists, 1966)

¹¹⁹ Parish register of St Martin-in-the-Field, vol 115

¹²⁰ Supplied by Rupert Irving

¹²¹ 1851 census of Cheltenham

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

- (ii) 1845 – Henrietta Irving
- (iii) 1847 – Paulus Irving
- (iv) 1849 – Diana Irving
- (v) 1850 – Mary Irving

Colonel John Beaufin Irving

He went to law to claim ownership of Bonshaw, after the death of Robert Nasmyth Irving. He was born on the 14th February 1844 and was baptised at St Mary's Cheltenham. He married Sarah Ann Corke in 1865. She died on the 13th March 1926. He died on the 8th April 1925 at Bonshaw.

He had:

- (i) John Beaufin Irving, born on the 22nd March 1875 at Aldershot. He was disinherited by his father in his Will of 1916; his subsequent history and whereabouts is unknown.
- (ii) Robert Beaufin Irving born 15th July 1877 at Fremington, Devon. He married Florence Brown, daughter of Mr Joseph Brown, The Grove, Oxton, Cheshire on the 9th July 1902. He died without issue on the 28th December 1954 in Carlisle
- (iii) Ellen Beatrice Irving
- (iv) Agnes Diana Irving
- (v) Rosa Lilian Irving married Major Alexander Duffett Snow on the 10th June 1891 at Fremington, Devon

They had:

George Robert Irving Snow/Irving (see below)

- (vi) Ada Constance Irving
- (vii) May Lucy Irving

George Robert Irving Irving

He was born on the 7th October 1895 at Worle, Somerset. He assumed the surname of Irving by Royal Licence on the 4th April 1927, in accordance with the Will of his grandfather, Colonel John Beaufin Irving. He was a Commander in the Royal Navy. He married Kathleen Marie Shaw on the 29th April 1925 at Holy Trinity, Church, Sliema, Malta whilst serving on HMS Marlborough.

They had:

- (i) Angela Marie Snow Irving born 20th December 1928
- (ii) Robert Alec Snow Irving born on the 4th November 1930 at Valletta, Malta

Clan Irving

The Border Irvings & Irvines

Robert Alec Snow Irving

He is a Captain in the Royal Navy (retired). He married 3rd November 1956 to Elisabeth Helen Schubart, daughter of Hans Albrecht Schubart CBE and Betty Dorothea Wingfield Verner, sister to Edward Derrick Wingfield Verner 6th Baronet Verner, at Lower Failand, Bristol.

They have:

- (i) Rupert Christopher Irving born 3rd November 1958 in Edinburgh (see below)
- (ii) Alexander Paul Irving born 12th February 1961 in Bristol, married Miranda Becher in 1991 and has issue
- (iii) Mark Adrian Irving born 30th July 1965 in Bath, married Dorothee van Tenderloo in 2005 and has issue

Rupert Christopher Irving

He is a Company Director. He married 4th October 1998 at Elcot Park, Newbury, Berkshire, Jane Macdonald Mitchell, daughter of Alan Roderick Mitchell and Jessica Catherine Curran, and has issue.¹²²

¹²² All details about the family subsequent to Colonel J.B. Irving supplied by Mr. R.C. Irving from research at the National Archives at Kew and the National Archives of Scotland, General Record Office (England & Wales) and General Record Office of Scotland and the Consulate General of Malta GC.