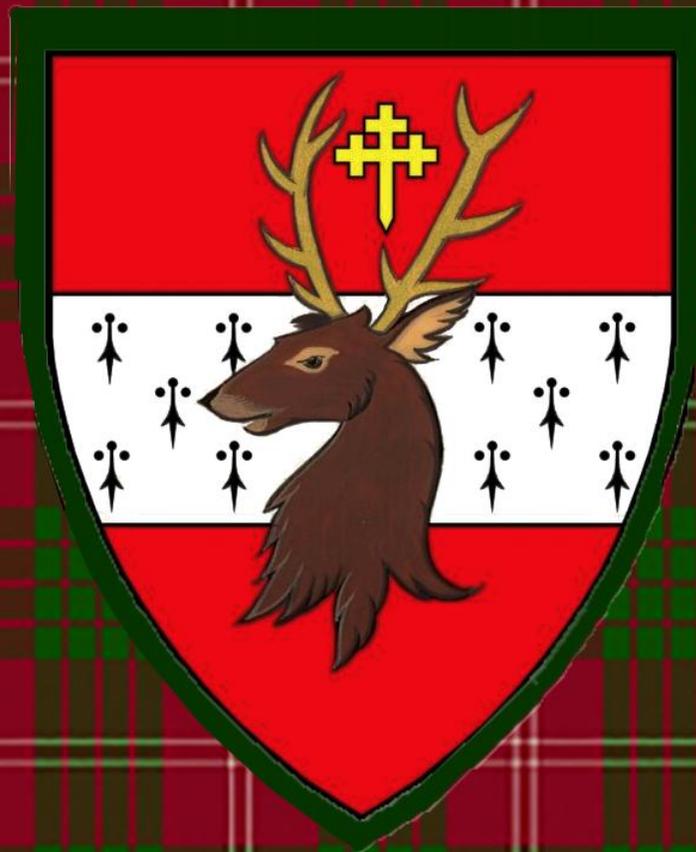




**CLAN CRAWFORD  
ASSOCIATION**

**(HOUSE OF CRAWFORD)**



**NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 2025**





“I will give you safety by strength!”

## In this issue:

Editor's Letter: Honoring Those Who Serve

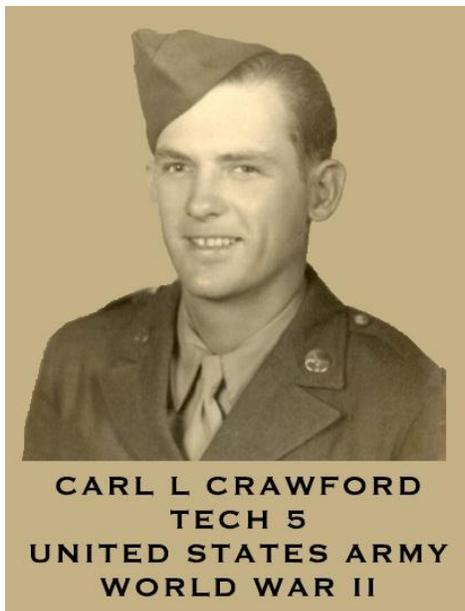
Who was Samuel Wylee Crawford?

Ronald LeRoy Crawford Clan Piper for the Clan Crawford Association.

Cartoon: This Misadventures of Klaxon Longus

Will The Real Ancient Ancestor of the Crawfords  
Please Stand-Up Part Three of Three





## EDITOR'S LETTER:

Welcome to our latest newsletter. I believe that you will find information here that will answer some questions, stir your imagination, inspire new projects, and encourage you to relate your family's story.

We have a few important items to cover. First, we need to hold an election of Association officers and Regional Directors. The scheduled officer positions for election or reelection are President and Vice President 2. (We have two vice president positions. Their duties are explained in the By-laws. In addition to the officer positions, it is time to elect or reelection (your choice) the regional directors and alternate directors.

In the last newsletter we asked for nominations. We are asking that nominations be submitted by December 7 so that elections can be held in December. It should be noted that we are behind schedule as it is, and this is on me. Without going into detail, life gets in the way sometimes.

The next item is the Kilbirnie Auld Kirk. A kirk is a Scottish church, a place of worship. The Kilbirnie Auld Kirk's association with the Clan Crawford goes back centuries as I understand it. The congregation combined with Kilbirnie St Columba's in about 2023 and the Church of Scotland is looking to sell the old building. There is a movement to purchase the building as a heritage center which would preserve the building and grounds which includes the graves of our ancestors. Dr. Joanne Crawford will be submitting an article on this history and the efforts to turn it into a heritage center. I will publish the article in a special edition of the clan newsletter. In my opinion this is an important issue that has a direct impact on our history.

Which brings us to the third important point. You and I are experiencing today and everyday what will be tomorrow's history. What would you like your descendants to know about you and those who are close to you? How do we as individuals impact history?

Let's begin with our public service members. In the United States we have two holidays that are devoted to the armed forces: Memorial Day and Veteran's Day. Australia and New Zealand have Anzac Day. In Canada and the United Kingdom, they recognize Remembrance Day. When we set up tents in the Clan Glens at highland games, we display information about historical battles and those that fought them. Next year in the 160<sup>th</sup> Scottish Highland Gathering & Games put on by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, the Clan Crawford Association tent will include two honor boards. One will be filled with photographs and names of Crawfords who have served in the armed forces of their countries. Please note, they don't have to have the surname of Crawford, perhaps

they were or are members through marriage, they are still family. Also, it doesn't matter which country they served, it all counts.

The other honor board will display people who have given back to their communities as teachers, doctors, police officers, firefighters, or any profession that you think demonstrates love and service to the community.

If you want to include a loved one on either honor board, (or both boards) contact me at [jaycrawford231@gmail.com](mailto:jaycrawford231@gmail.com) with the photos that you wish to display, their names and, if you want, their stories. There will be separate binders filled with stories and bios that people may review.

If this is well received, I would like to see it become a regular feature at the games.

An example of what these bios might look like is Bruce Crawford's article, "Who Was Samuel Wylee Crawford?"

Finally, I wish to add a Regional Director's section to each newsletter. Regional will be encouraged to write a note to the general membership about what is occurring in their region. I also wish to have a section devoted to member's adventures in the Scottish games. For example, are you competing in any of the highland dance competitions? How about the highland sports. Do you throw the hammer, run the kilted mile? How are you doing? When is your next competition. Do you have any photos of your efforts? When and where can we root for you?

Till Next Time,

Jay Crawford  
Newsletter Editor  
Regional Director – California / Latin America

## WHO WAS SAMUEL WYLEE CRAWFORD?

By Bruce Crawford

As Crawfords, we are proud of the people who have served their countries well and have excelled in what they did. An example of this is the story of Samuel Wylee Crawford.



Samuel Crawford was born on November 08, 1829, in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, USA. He was the son of the Reverend Samuel Wylie Crawford and Jane Agnew. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1846 and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 1850. He joined the U.S. Army as an assistant surgeon in 1851 and served in that capacity for ten years. Crawford was of Scottish heritage. He served as a surgeon at Fort Sumter, South Carolina during the confederate bombardment in 1861. A month after Fort Sumter, Crawford decided on a fundamental career change and accepted a commission as a major in the 13th U.S. Infantry. He led a brigade at Cedar Mountain which routed a division that included Stonewall Jackson's unit, though it was later driven back. He was promoted to brigadier general of volunteers on April 25, 1862, and he was severely wounded at Antietam and returned to action at Gettysburg, where his division drove the

Confederates out of "the valley of Death" beside Little Round Top hill, with Crawford dramatically seizing the colors and leading from the front.

Crawford was present for Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House in April 1865, making him one of the few soldiers to be present at both the beginning and the effective end of the Civil War. The preservation of the battlefield after the war was due in large part to his efforts.

Crawford retired from the Army on February 19, 1873, and was given the rank of brigadier general, U.S. Army Retired. He authored the book *The Genesis of the Civil War*, published in 1887. He died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was interred in Laurel Hill Cemetery. In 1988, a statue of Crawford was dedicated at Gettysburg depicting him clutching a bullet-riddled American flag.

The Source of this account is [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel\\_W.\\_Crawford#cite\\_note-2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_W._Crawford#cite_note-2)

## Ronald LeRoy Crawford Clan Piper for the Clan Crawford Association.

By Bruce A Crawford

When Clan Crawford Association (CCA) first started up Ronald Crawford was recruited as the Clan Piper by President Kevan Crawford and played for several Crawford events. The first one



was the Highland Games at Thanksgiving Point, Utah 18 years ago. He helped to start the local band "The Order of the Thistle Pipes & Drums" in which he was Pipe Major for 5 years. His wife was a drummer, but both are now retired from Band duty. They still drum & pipe together on occasion for entertainment. Ronald has played with the Shrine Band in Albuquerque, McIntyre Pipes & Drums in Albuquerque, and Four Corners Pipe & Drum in Los Alamos. Mostly his piping has been as a ceremonial piper for solo performances at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe for funerals & Memorial Day services there. He has also been a piper for the New Mexico State Police Honor

Guard, which no longer exists.

*Figure 1. Ronald with his pipes*

Ronald's Great Highland Bagpipes were custom made Blackwood with half silver

Henderson type trim by Rick Pettigrew, sun-in-law of the late Jack Dunbar. He has talked with Jack Dunbar for many years and is very proud of his pipes. He also has Small Pipes made by Gibson and recently acquired a set of Blair Digital pipes made in Australia



*Figure 3. MP Bruce Crawford*

and really enjoys the quality of sound they produce. He continues to have fun playing them for his wife & friends. Piping has been his life-long passion.

He is 87 now and has had trouble blowing the Highland Pipes with his mouth so he has switched to the E Bellows arrangement and can continue playing long sets and Piobreach. He also plays small pipes with that system.

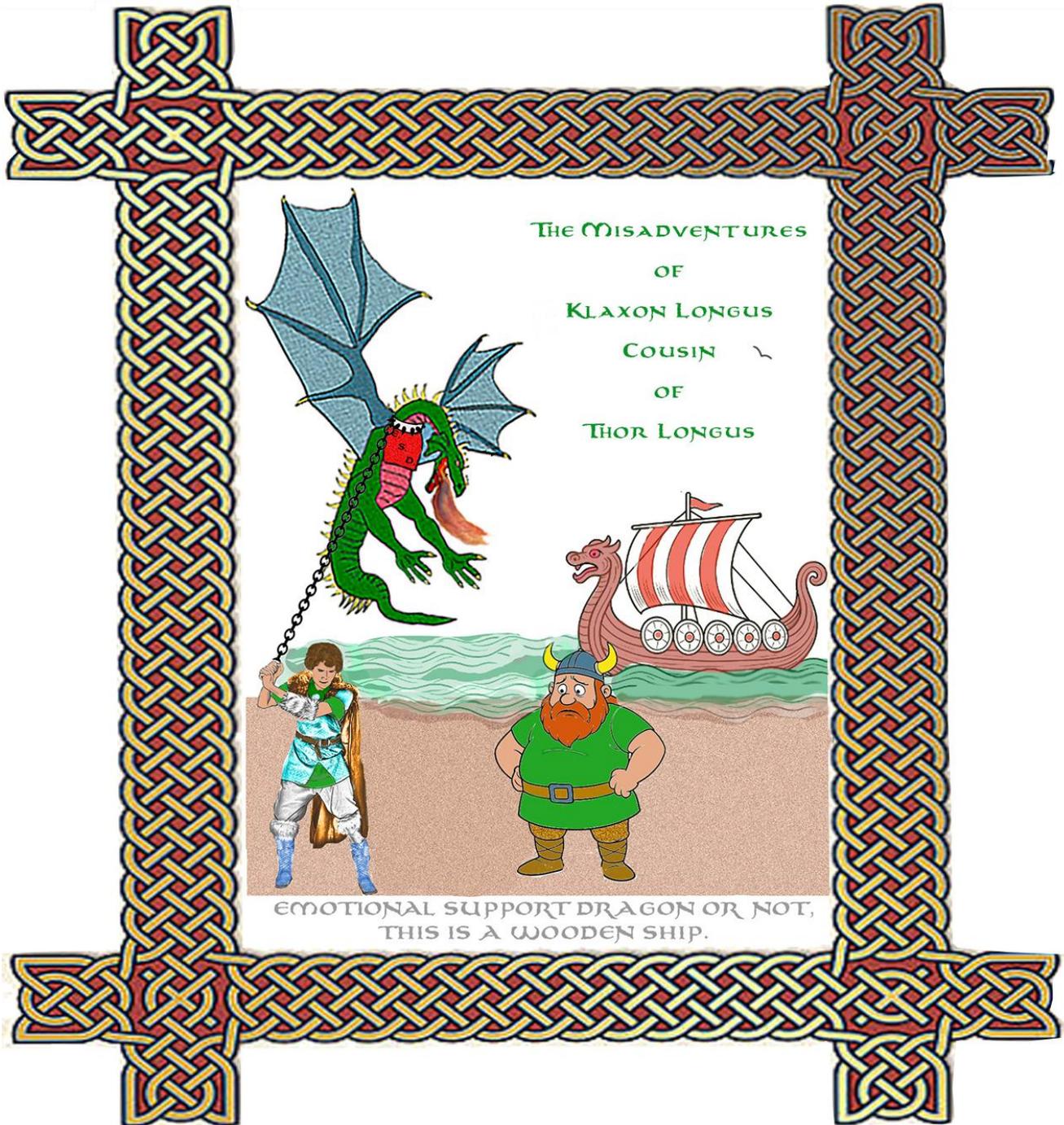
He has been told that the Scottish National Parliament member, Bruce Crawford, and he look like we could have been brothers.



*Figure 2. Piping for the Governor*

My lineage in America is descended from Alexander Crawford & Mary McPheeters who settled in Virginia and were massacred by Shawnee Indians in 1705. However, their children survived, and 5-year-old Samuel Crawford went on to Tennessee where my grandfather was born. They all ended up in Texas eventually.

If you are a member and a piper and wish to apply as Clan Crawford Piper please contact us. At [argyll.crawford@gmail.com](mailto:argyll.crawford@gmail.com)



# Some Gatherings and Games in California During 2025

By Jay Crawford

On August 30 and 31, 2025 the 159<sup>th</sup> Scottish Highland Gathering and Games produced by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco were held at the Alameda County Fair Grounds in Pleasanton, Ca. The Clan Crawford Association was represented by family and friends all pitching together to extend a warm welcome to Crawford clan members and curious visitors. As always Cristie Crawford made Scottish shortbread cookies and Scottish tablet candy which she shared with all of the clans in the glen as well as visitors to our tent. This year we set up three



tents. The first was games for the children. They had a child's caber to toss, a Scottish themed corn hole game to play and coloring books that told the story of



Figure 4Crawfordjohn Kirk



Figure 5. Crawford Castle Ruin and Clyde River Ford

# Will The Real Ancient Ancestor of the Crawford's Please Stand Up Part Three of Three

By

Bruce Allen Crawford BA, MS

Clan Crawford Association

April 12, 2025



*Figure 6. Craufurdland Castle*

## Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Terry Pea, Jay Crawford, and Raymond Crawford for their willingness to review this paper and to provide useful criticism. I would also like to thank Raymond Crawford for his assistance in translating some of the abbey charters shown on the following pages. Thanks also to Allen Crawford who provided results of his inquiry into the Flemish connections.

## Introduction

Crawford has been spelled in many ways in the references cited. To be consistent, I have used the modern spelling. The origin of the name Crawford is wrapped with mystery. It is likely that it hearkens back to the Roman era or even the Brittonic tribe Damnonii. It has been speculated that it is derived from Latin Crue Ford (bloody ford) due to the fording of the Clyde River at the site of a Roman fortlet across from the ruins of Crawford Castle. Another similar version relates it to Ca Ro Furd (Castle at the Roman Ford). This would make it a place name that became a surname. This was very common in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. Examples include William of Lindsay, and Balwin of Beggar.

The literature cited in this paper follows the protocol of the International Organization for standardization. This lists the authors then the date and next the title of the document. Wherever you see a parenthesis around a name and/or date it is acknowledging the source of the material under discussion.

There are currently three credible versions of the first use of the Crawford surname and its earliest historic figures attached to that name. The first version by George Crawford was written prior to his

death in 1748. The Advocates Library obtained the draft and titled the manuscript “**Laurus Crawfordiana**” (Crawfurd, 1793) It addressed the history of the Crawfords from the time of King David the First of Scotland down to 1748 and followed all the known branches of Crawford up to that time. He identified Thor Longus a Danish knight as the first person to possess the Barony of Crawford. It is this version that the Clan Crawford Association has endorsed and supported.

It is this version that Kevan Crawford, PhD; Raymond Crawfurd PhD; and Joanne Crawford, PhD; used to develop a family tree of the early Crawfords in their book “The House of Crawford, Collected article on our history, genealogy, heraldry and Y-DNA” (see (Crawford, et al., 2009) page 7.

The second version was put forth by Burke in his “**History of the Commoners (volume ii and iii)**” (Burke, 1838) and referenced by Anderson (Anderson, 1867) and identifies the earliest Crawfords as descending from the earliest Earls of Richmond. The Earls of Richmond were wealthy noblemen related to William the Conqueror of England. Burke identified Reginald, the youngest son of Alan, the fourth Earl of Richmond, who died in 1146. Alan was the great grandson of Galfridus, Duke of Brittany who died in 1008. According to Burke, Alan was given large tracts of land by King David in Clydesdale as he was one of the thousand Norman knights accompanying David when he gained the crown of Scotland and whom he established in his kingdom.

The third version put forth recently by G. Ian Crawford “The Earliest Crawfords” (2020) pages 16-18 claims that the Johannes Crawford never held all of the Barony known as Crawford, but that the Barony was from the beginning under King David split out and part was awarded to Theobald the Flemish knight, part to Swain and then Lindsay and part to John of Crawfordjohn.

Which version is the most accurate? What is the evidence?

The origin of the Scottish surname Crawford as the beginning of surnames began in the 12th century in Scotland. To understand the circumstances in Scotland and England during that time we must look at the great changes that were occurring from around 1000 A.D. and through to 1300 A.D.

The clues to the early Crawfords are found almost exclusively in the royal charters dictated to the subjects as permanent records of various transactions, gifts, lands, etc. The other major source of information is obtained from the various abbeys where charters were produced by the abbots of the abbeys and priories. A detailed description of the sources of these charters are found in the Literature Cited list at the end of this paper and references to these works are also inserted in the descriptions of each charter along with a page number if available. The charters have been placed in their chronological order. This report covers events directly applicable to our Crawford heritage and name from the Scottish Kings Malcolm Canmore 1067 into the reign of Alexander III 1271. Also, a list of ancient terms is included to aid the reader.

### **Barony of Crawford**

The longstanding Scottish Barony of Crawford consisted of part of Douglas, all of Crawfordjohn, and all of Crawford and was held by Johannes of Crawfurd around 1080 who had two sons Hugh and Reginald. Hugh had no male issue, and his daughters married Archibald Douglas 1171-1214 and William Lindsay 1120-1185, suitors and neighbors sometime around 1180 when the Newbattle charter was filed. During this time of change, churches were planted at Crawford village (1165) and Crawfordjohn (1195 probably under the direction of Swain.

Swain died sometime around 1187 as we no longer encountered his name in any charters. We did not learn that Hugh or Archibald, Swain's sons, inherited the land, but instead the land was given to the Norman, Lindsay and the Celtic Douglas by marriage.

The following five charters treated the requirement that William of Lindsay and his heirs must acknowledge and continue the grants to the Newbattle Abbey that Swain made before the major portion of the Crawford Barony was turned over to William Lindsay. We do not know whether William de Lindsay received this land upon marrying the daughter of Sir John Crawford or whether Swain was the owner and sold or traded the land. If we go with the past written versions, then this part of the Crawford barony went to William Lindsay and another part went to Archibald Douglas. The third part went to John of Crawford John son of Reginald and brother of Hugh Crawford. And it was Hugh Crawford who died without male issue.

Thorlongus and his son Swain were deacons in the churches at Kelso and Newbattle as well. All the charters that they witnessed involved church property or church issues. Neither were identified as knights or barons. Charter 25 identified the sons of Swain as Hugh and Archibald living in Fife. Neither were identified with Crawford. Even though Thor and Swain are associated with the Crawford-Lindsay land holdings, it was centered around a grant of land to Newbattle Abbey and not the transfer of property between Swain and William Lindsay. However, George Crawford in (Crawford, 1793) concluded that Swain was the ancient ancestor of the Crawfords. This does not appear to be correct.

**1185-1190 A.D. Charter 257** Page 291 (Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971) William Confirms to Newbattle Abbey the grant made by William of Lindsay of a certain part of his **land of Crawford**, Lanarkshire, which William holds of **Swain son of Thor**, to be held as William's charter bears witness, William by the Grace of God, King of Scots, to all the honest men of his land, both clergy and laity greetings. Let all present and future people know that I have given and, by this charter have confirmed that gift which William de Lindsay gave to God and the church of Saint Mary of Newbattle and to the monks serving God there, concerning a part of his lands of Crawford which Crawford, that is to say, **William himself holds from Swane, son of Thor**, holding for itself (ie the church of Newbattle) in free and perpetual almsgift, as freely and quietly, fully and honorably, as the charter of William (William de Lindsay) himself witnessed and confirmed, saving only the service to me. Witness: Earl David my brother, Robert de Quincy<sup>1</sup> and others

*Barrow's note: The charter of William of Lindsay and its confirmation by his son and heir David Lindsay given in Newbattle Registrum, numbers 135 and 136 are unfortunately very hard to date. Also, he writes that the church of Crawford had been granted to Holyrood Abbey before 1164 (Holyrood Liber, p169).*

There are also two more charters at Newbattle that relate to the land at Crawford obtained by the Lindsays. These four charters are produced and translated by Raymond Crawford and repeat the alms gift to the church by William Lindsay's sons and grandson.

**Charter 135 Newbattle Abbey** Crauford Lyndessay Glengoneur and Fynglen and Glengeth Translated by Raymond Crawford from Latin.

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<sup>1</sup> Robert de Quincy was appointed Baron of Tranent after Thor died in 1154.

To all sons, present and future of holy Mother Church, William de Lyndessay sends greetings. Know that I have given and conceded and, by this my charter, have confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Newbottle and to the monks serving God there in free and perpetual alms gift for the love of God and for the souls of my lords, my ancestors and **my successors a certain part of my land of Crauford** Know that the land lies Southwest of Brothyrale Wyn, and to the North of Deiher with these recognized boundaries – that is to say, descending along Brothyralewyn from its source till it falls into the Clyde, and where Poletnoth descends from the mountains and falls into the Deiher, and the Deiher into the Clyde and from the descent of the Clyde as far as Brothyralewyn. I also wish that the foresaid monks should hold and possess the whole land on the terms stated below freely, quietly, peacefully and honourably, in wood and field, in plough and pasture, and all other easements as they hold and possess the rest of their lands freely, quietly, peacefully and honourably, saving to me and my heirs the beasts and animals on that land, unless the monks themselves or their heirs sell the foresaid lands. And saving service to my lord the King and **my service to Swane son of Thor which service I and my heirs agree that we owe.** Witnesses: Earl David, brother of the King, <sup>2</sup>David my heir, Walter de Lindessay and others

<sup>3</sup>*There are a lot of abbreviations in this one and I am less certain of the translation but I think the sense is right. The land he is giving to the Abbey is defined by its boundaries. Deiher is probably now known as Daer Water, but I can't find any tributaries of the Clyde with a name like Brothyralewyn. Daer Water and Potrail Water meet to form the Clyde just south of Glengeith. Potrail might be the modern name of Polnetnoth. Glengonnar Water is a tributary further down the Clyde.*

**Charter 136<sup>4</sup> Newbattle Abbey** David de Lindessay son of William  
This David was known as David the older.

To all present and future sons of Holy Mother Church, David de Lindessay sends greetings. Know that I have conceded and by this my present charter have confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Newbottle and to the monks serving God there **a certain part of my land of Crawford which my father William de Lindessay gave and conceded in pure and perpetual almsgift** and confirmed to them with his charter. That known land which lies to the Southeast of Brothalewyne and to the north of Deiher with these recognized boundaries, that is along the descent of the Brothralewyne from its source till it falls into the Clyde and where Poletnoth descends from the mountains and falls into the Deiher and from the Deiher into the Clyde and along the Clyde to Brothalewyn. And I wish that the foresaid monks should hold and possess the whole land on the terms stated below. In wood and field, plough and pasture and with all other easements and freedoms, freely and quietly and free from all secular and customary taxes, as my father's charter witnesses and confirms to them, and they shall hold and possess as freely, quietly, peacefully and honourably as they do the rest of their lands. Saving to me and my heirs the beasts and animals on that land, as my father's charter witnesses. And saving service owed to my lord the King and **a certain service to Swane son of Thor and to their heirs, which service I and my heirs agreed to.**

Witnesses to this: Walter de Lindessay, David de Quincy. Alan de Somerville, William Bonvaillet and others.

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<sup>2</sup> This charter was probably made around 1187 A.D. Thereafter there are no more charters with William Lindsay.

<sup>3</sup> Note by Raymond Crawford

<sup>4</sup> This charter was probably made at the same time as charter 136.

*<sup>5</sup>This is very much a repetition of the previous charter but signed by David, son of Willian de Lindessay. Curious that the previous charter says the land is Southwest of Brothalewyne and in this charter it is Southeast.*

**1165-1214 Charter 137** Newbattle Abbey Confirmation by King William

William by the grace of God, King of Scots. To all honest men of the whole of his land, both clergy and laity greeting. Let all present and future men know that I have conceded and, by this my charter have confirmed that gift which William de Lindessay gave to God and the Church of Saint Mary of Newbottle and the monks serving God there of a part of his land of **Cracheford** which known **Cracheford** William himself holds from **Swane son of Thor**, holding it in free and perpetual alms gift freely quietly fully and honourably according to the charter that William himself witnessed and confirmed, saving my service. Witnesses – Earl David my brother, **Robert de Quincy** and others

**1187 A.D. Charter 258** Page 291 (Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971)

William Grants to Gilbert Earl of Strathearn Madderty (Perthshire) in feu and heritage, with sake and soke, toll, team and infangthief, for the service of one knight; in manner that neither he nor his heirs shall be required at any time to be challenged with regard to this by Gillecolm the marischal or his heirs or any of his kin, should they wish to pursue him for possession of the land, since Gillecolm has lost the land on account of his felony, inasmuch as he yielded the kings castle of Heryn treacherously and then went over to the king's enemies as a wicked traitor and stood with them against the king to as much harm as he could. Linlithgow.

Among the witnesses: **William of Lindsay, Swano son of Thore, William son of Thore**<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> This is a comment by Raymond Crawford who translated this charter into English

<sup>6</sup> This is the first time we have encountered a note indicating a second son belonging to Thore.

## 1127 King David is saved from an attack by a stag

### Knight Sir Gregan of Crawford

According to (Anderson, 1867), Sir Gregan Crawford saved the king from an enraged stag and was given permission to put a stag on his arms with a cross shown between the antlers. The following year King



David had Holyrood Abbey built near the spot where his life was saved as an atonement for hunting on the Sabbath. This abbey was especially important, but most of the original charters were no longer available. (Nisbet, 1722), in his "System of Heraldry Volume 1" page 334 described the shield and made the statement that "*the Crawfords of Kerse and Drumsoy were descended from Sir Gregan and carried argent stags head Gules as well*". Gules designates the color red. So, from this it can be concluded that the Gregan Crawford shield has remained the same since 1128.

(Anderson, 1867) goes on to write that on the foundation of the abbey of Holyrood, King David placed Sir Gregan's arms. Later the old stones on which it was emblazoned were taken from the ruins of Holyrood Abbey and placed above the lintels of the Canongate Church porch which still stands along the Royal Mile. This church was a dependency of the Abbey. As can be seen by the attached figures, the deer's head and the cross existed then and exists today at Canongate church. There are nine clans who have a stag as part of their crest, but only Crawford has the cross crosslet between the antlers.

Sir Gregan had a grant of land in Galloway from King David, which was called after him Dalmagregan (De La Mag Gregan).

Sir Gregan would have moved to his new land in Galloway which was farther south than the Crawford barony and was part of the old kingdom of Strathclyde. He would not have appeared in the charters of Kelso or Newbattle for that reason. Also, for someone to falsely claim that they had saved the King, they would have been drawn, quartered, and had their head put on the gate of Edinburgh Castle.

The following account was taken from the Preface of Liber Cartarum Sancte Crucis (1840) and is the oldest written record of this account believed to have been written during the reign of James the First 1406-1437.

*"On the fourth year of his reign this noble prince came to visit the castle of Edinburgh. At this time all the areas of Scotland were mostly woods and meadows. For the country was more given to support beasts than any production of grain. About this castle was one great forest full of*

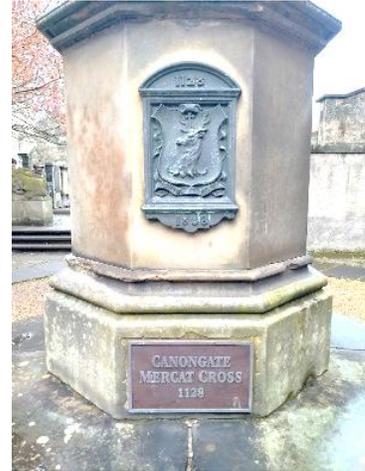


Figure 7. The Mercat Cross



Figure 8. Canongate Church Gregor stags head.

*deer, red deer, foxes, and other animals. Now this day was called "The Exaltation of the Cross". And because the day was one solemn day, the King began his contemplations.*

*After the communion meal was done with most solemnity and reverence, accompanied with him were many young and insolent barons of Scotland, right desirous to have some pleasure and solace by chasing game in the forest. At this time with the king was a man of singular and devout life named Alkwine, a young priest after the order of Saint Augustine, who was the long-time confessor to King David in England during the time he was Earl of Huntington and Northumberland. This religious man dissuaded the king by many reasons to forego this hunt and alleged the day was so solemn due to reverence of the holy Cross, that he should give him ear for that day to contemplation rather than on other exertions. Nonetheless his discussions had little effect, for the King was so influenced by the inopportune solicitations of his barons that he went to his hunts, notwithstanding, the solemnity of this day.*

*When he was coming through the vail that lies to the east from the castle where now lies the cannon gate the group passed through the wood with such noise and din of bugles that all the beasts were raised from their dens. Now the King was coming to the foot of the rocks<sup>7</sup>, and all the nobles spread here and there from him at their game, when suddenly he saw the greatest and most impressive stag that he had ever seen. By the noise and din the stag appeared with awful and broad tines and made the King's horse so afraid that no reins could hold him but ran forcefully over mud and moss away with the King. Nonetheless the stag followed so fast that he knocked both horse and King to the ground. Then the King placed his hands between the tines of this stag to save himself from the strike of the tines and a holy Cross slid into his hands. The stag fled away with great violence and vanished in the same place where now springs the Rude well. The barons right after this returned to him out of all parts of the wood to comfort him after his trouble and fell on knees devoutly adoring the holy Cross. For it was not common but some heavenly providence that it had appeared. For there is no man can show of what matter it is of, metal or tree.*

*Soon after the King returned to his castle. And the following night he was admonished by a vision in his sleep to raise an abbey with priests in the same place where he received the cross. As soon as he awakened, he shared his vision with Alkwine, his confessor. And he let nothing in his mind divert him but was inflamed with the most fervent devotion there. The King quickly sent his trusted servants to France and Flanders and brought expert masons to build the abbey, to be dedicated only in honor of this holy cross. This cross remained continually in the said abbey to the time of King David Bruce, when it was unhappily taken to Durame, where it is held yet in great veneration.*

Part of this account is consistent with other historic accounts that there was a hunt and among the knights present was Sir Gregan. It seems that the account of Sir Gregan's assistance to the king is more believable than the mystical version produced at some point between 1406 and 1437. It is difficult to believe that everyone would have left the King completely alone in a forest he had never entered. One or two of his most trusted knights would have been with him as his guardians and helpers. They most likely would have been Norman or Flemish knights but maybe also a Celtic knight that accompanied him to Scotland from the south. However, Kings must keep their pride, and the church must have its miracles.

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<sup>7</sup> Perhaps this was at the base of Arthur's Seat.

The record was blank concerning individuals named Crawford until around 1147. Beginning in 1147 there is a major shift in the charters from Thor and Swain to entries about individuals with the surname Crawford. What happened to cause this change? Did the old Scottish family still exist but were kept quiet by the archdeacons, or were there new Flemish knights that arrived and took up the name of Crawford? Was this John of 1147, the son of Sir Gregan come north to pick up the Barony of Crawford or what was left of it. We shall probably never know for sure.

### John of Crawford 1147

The first is John of Crawford who witnessed a grant to Theobald in 1147 of lands in the Barony of Lesmahagow along with Baldwin of Biggar. This was twenty years after Sir Gregan saved King David. Sir Gregan would have been around fifty years old when this John was mentioned. This John was not given an addition to his name such as Crawfordjohn or stepson of Baldwin. Therefore, this was before those events and this John was different from John of Crawfordjohn. This John may have been the brother of Reginald or the son of Sir Gregan. The age of John of Crawford is not known, but it can be assumed he would have been at least twenty-seven years old to be witnessing charters. Therefore, the birth date may have been around 1120. He would have been around seven years old when Sir Gregan saved the king. If he lived to be an old man, he would have died around 1190 at age 70. He would have had sons born from age 20 (1140) to age 50 (1170).

**1147 A.D. Charter 107** Page 78-79 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567) Charter to Theobald from Abbot Arnald of Kelso

Abbot Arnald and the whole convent of Kelso sends greetings to all sons and followers of the Holy Mother Church. Know that we with our common council have given and granted and by this our present charter have confirmed to **Theobald the Fleming and his heirs** our land on/above the water of Douglas and from the source of the Poneil as far as the water of Douglas and from the source of the Poneil beyond the Broad moss to Longfaw from there to the Herdlaw, from there to Thievesford in Mosminin Elcorocand and thus along to the Long Black Ford and so as the road runs to Crossford. In feu and heritage, freely and peacefully, fully, and honorably, in mills, waterways, ponds, woods, open land, pastures, meadows and in all other easements, to render annually two merks, that is at the feast of St. Martin and the other at Pentecost. The 1147 date of this charter was set by NF Shead in his Syllabus of Cartularies of Kelso Abbey (2007).

With these witnesses: **Baldwin of Bigger, John of Crauford**, Gilbryde son of Giderede, Gilmalagon, Son of Kelli, Gilberto the Clerk.

According to George Crawford in his "History of the Shire of Renfrew" (Crawford, 1782) the Barony of Crawford was last held by Johannes (John) who had no male issue and died in 1248. Upon his death or just prior to his death the barony was split when his oldest daughter who married David of Lindsay and the younger daughter who married Archibald Douglas. However, in his book "Laurus" he stated that the older daughter Margaret married Archibald Douglas and younger daughter married William de Lindsay. What is quite clear is that Swain was the deacon of Crawford-Lindsay prior to its Acquisition by William of Lindsay.

The date of 1248 for the death of Johannes and the splitting of the barony is based upon a very brief record in (The Chronicle of Melrose, 1991) on page 87 where it briefly states under the heading date 1248 "The Lord John de Crauforde was buried at Melrose." The assumption made by George Crawford is that the individual mentioned had to be the Johannes without male issue. However, we know from

the various charters and the Ragman Roll that there was more than one John of Crawford and that the Lindsays held the largest portion of the Crawford Barony by 1190 at the latest, fifty-eight years before 1248.

### The Douglas Dale

The following information was obtained from the Douglas Book (Fraser, 1885). The Douglas family have no charters existing earlier than Robert the Bruce due to the burning of the Douglas castle during the war of independence against the English. No seals of the Good Sir James of Douglas have been preserved, nor have any charters been found concerning William of Douglas (1171-1214), the first laird on record nor his son Archibald of Douglas (1213-1240). The son of Archibald was Sir William Douglas who was lord from 1253-1266, but by the 1500s the Earl of Douglas owned extensive lands including Crawfordjohn. William of Douglas held the Douglas Vale from 1174 to 1199.

On page 283 it states that "Archibald Douglas married Margaret, elder daughter of Sir John Crawford of Crawfordjohn. He had two sons, Sir William who succeeded his father in the Douglas estates and Sir Andrew of Douglas from whom the family of Douglas of Dalkeith sprang. No mention is made of land being acquired from this marriage.

**1271 A.D. Charter 202** page 168 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567) Abbot Henry de Lambden and the conv land of Poneil in Lesmahagow to **William Douglas**, kt for reddendo of two pounds of wax: At Glasgow in the full court of the justiciar, in Crast. Purify BVM.

Concerning the land of Polnele given to Lord William de Douglas. To all the faithful in Christ who may see or hear these letters. Henry de Lambden by divine permission, Abbot of Kalchou and of Cenneut in the same place, greeting in the everlasting Lord. Let everyone know that we have given to the lord, **Sir William de Douglas, knight**, the whole of our land of Polleneile, in the feudal holding of Lesmahagow, with its appurtenances, for his faithful advice, help and ..... holding it for the whole of his lifetime, freely, in peace and safety, in payment to the house of Lesmahagow of two pounds of wax candles on the feast of St. Machutus in winter..... and recognized by all. That can be commanded or ordered from the said land ..... Of the said Abbey and Conneut after the death of the said lord William, the said land with its appurtenances .....without any contradiction, obstacle or impediment from anyone or anything and without..... any judicial *seal* he may enter into his own holding, and he should and will be able to command as he wishes. We will guarantee and defend the said land and its appurtenances for the said lord William, as long as he lives, against all enemies. In witness of which matter, the said lord William has placed his seal to this transcript of the original copy. Given on the day following the Purification of the Virgin Mary, at Glasgow in open court, in the year of Grace 1270.

### Notes by Raymond Crawford translator

*Charter 202 is much more difficult, not least because of the blurring of the print where the fold in the page occurs. Henry de Lambden was Abbot of Kelso in 1270 . Kalchou, Calchou and similar spellings are all early versions of Kelso. Cenneut and Conneut are I think to be read as Convent, which then meant a monastery for men as well as a convent for women. Lesmahagow was a daughter priory of Kelso and located in Lesmahagow Parish. St. Machutus, later St. Malo was a monk who settled in the very north of Scotland evangelizing in Orkney as well as the mainland. His day is Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Purification of the Virgin Mary is Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

**1289 A.D. Charter 201** page 168 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567) **Douglas, William de, Lord of Douglas** records receipt of his charters from the Abbot. At Glasgow.

To all who see or hear these letters. William de Douglas, Lord of Douglas, sends greetings in the name of the Lord. You should know that I have received from the lord Abbot of Kelso my charters, which he had in his possession, whatever charters I asked of the lord of the said Abbey he has delivered to me. In witness of which I have given my letters patent to the lord of the said Abbey. Given at Glasgow on the day following the veneration of St. Hilary in the year of Our Lord 1288.

*Note by Raymond Crawford Charter 201 is fairly straightforward St. Hilary's day is January 13<sup>th</sup>*

### The Lindsays

The name Lindsay is a place name in England mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and in the Domesday Book. The Lindsays arrived during the reign of David I and were part of his most trusted Norman vassals. Walter de Lindsay appeared in many charters as a witness from around 1130 until his death in 1168. His brother William was born in 1096 and died in 1147 and his son William de Lindsay was born in 1120 and died in 1185 and married the daughter of the Lord of Crawford. It is known that the Lindsays already held the Crawford-Lindsay portion of the Barony before 1185-1190 when King Malcolm confirms a gift to Newbattle in Crawford. Therefore, the marriage of the Crawford sisters had to take place prior to 1185. This conflicts with the long-held belief that the barony was split in 1248.

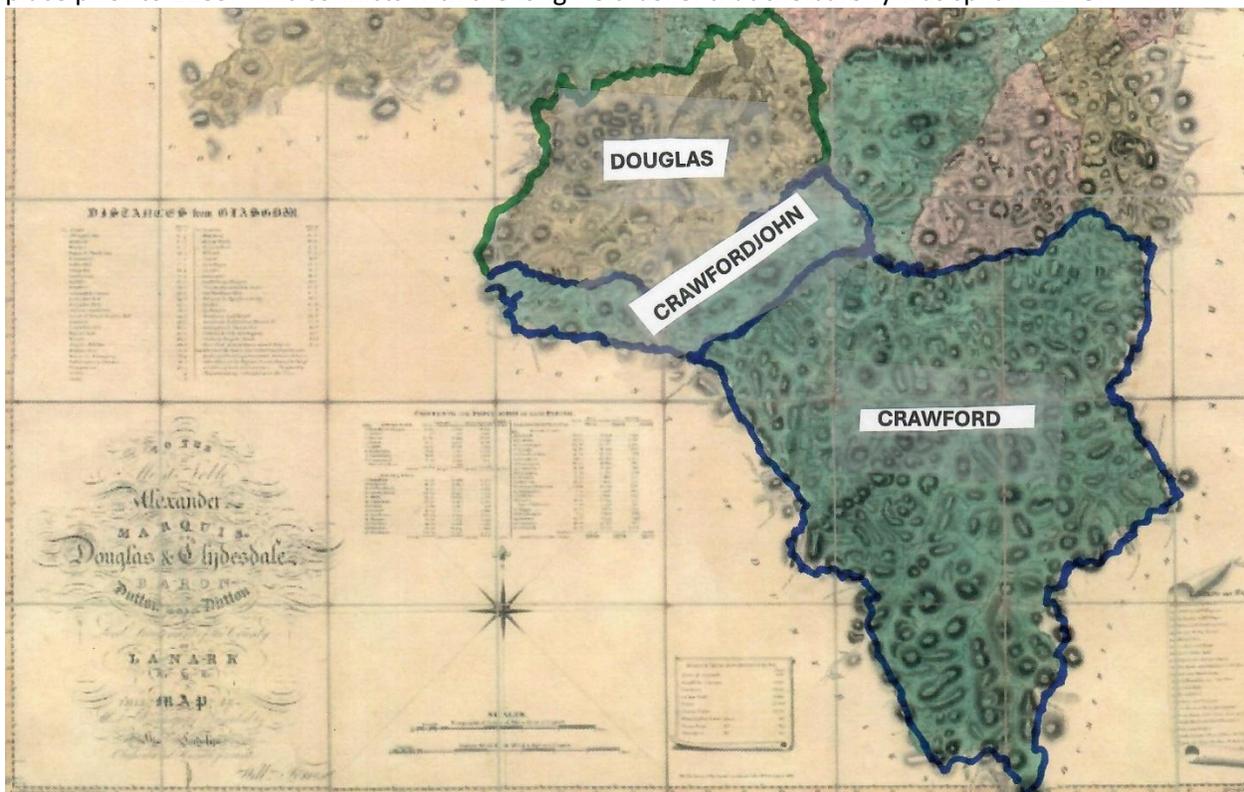


Figure 9. Map of upper Lanarkshire, 1816 National Library of Scotland (Forrest, 1816)

### John of Crawfordjohn 1195

The name Crawfordjohn appears in the charters 48 years after John of Crawford. The description of Crawfordjohn stepson to Baldwin in 1195 in Charter 379. This charter listed the parish churches which included a chapel in Crawfordjohn, and the list of pastors included John stepson of Baldwin. John of Crawford apparently died in 1259 and left heirs who disputed the possession of certain lands with William of Douglas (The Bannatyne Club, 1850) page 162.

**1165 A.D. Charter 39** pages 146-148, ([Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971](#)) William Confirms the privileges and possessions of Holyrood Abbey in particular the gift of King David I.

Among the long list of items belonging to the church, it states the following: By the gift of Malcolm IV the churches of Tranent, Bathgate, Livingston, Kinneil, Carriden (W. Lothian), Great Paxton (Huntingdonshire), and **Crawford (Lanarkshire)** belong to Holyrood Abbey. Etc., Et ecclesiam de Crauford cum carrucatis terre. **And the church of Crawford with 104 acres of land.** This charter documents that the church of Crauford existed at least as early as 1165.

**1195 A.D. Charter 379** page 373 ([Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971](#)) William confirms to Kelso Abbey the gift and concession made by Jocelin bishop of Glasgow.

Of the churches which the abbey has within the diocese of Glasgow by the reasonable grant of their patrons, viz, the churches and schools of the burgh of Roxburgh, granted by Herbert bishop of Glasgow; the church Maxwell with the chapel of Harlaw; according to the agreement between the monks of Kelso and the lepers of Harlaw; the following churches: Sprouston, Mow, Bowden, Selkirk, Dumfries, Lessmahagow, Kilmaurs, West Linton, Innerleithen, Wiston with its two chapels, viz Robertson and **Crawford John**, Thankerton, Symington, Cambusnethan, Dunsyre, Campsie, Antermony, Staplegorton, Drumgrey, Trailflat, and Mortan, with all their chapels and other rightful pertinents. These are confirmed to Kelso Abbey with their rectorial rights for the monks own use and for their support, as the charter of Bishop Jocelin and the charters of the patrons bear witness. At Jedburgh.

A list of the pastors of the churches occurs and for the church at **Crawford John it is written John stepson of Baldwin.**

Thirty years separate the official recognition of Crawfordjohn chapel after recognition of the Church at Crawford. The Crawfordjohn chapel appears to have started after the splitting of the Barony around 1185.



*Figure 10. Crawfordjohn 2017.*

### Galfridus of Crawford 1199

We then learn of Galfridus Crawford in 1199 who witnesses Charter 431.

**1199 A.D. Charter 431** Page 331 (Kelso Abbey Volume 2, 1113-1567) Confirmation of the freedom of Kelso Church

Roger by the grace of God Bishop of St Andrews confirms the possession of the church of Kelso and the land around it to the church and monks of Kelso, as they held it in the times of Robert, Amaid, Richard, and Hugh, former bishops of St Andrews , Witness: **Galfridus of Crauford among others.**

This charter is from Kelso Abbey so we know that Galfridus was probably related to John of Crawfordjohn.

Between the first use of Crawfordjohn and Sir Reginald of Crawford ten years have passed. Beginning with Reginald, suddenly many Crawfords appeared in the charters, many of which are knights. It is possible that during this time, some of the early Crawfords joined in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Crusades to the Holy Land. The Third Crusade took place between 1189 and 1192 and was led by Phillip II of France, Richard the Lion of England and Frederick Barbarossa of Germany. It was also aided by Italian, Danish, and Flemish knights.

Known participants included James Douglas, and members of the Stewarts, Balliol, and Bruce families as well as the Knights Templar. It is possible that Reginald and his sons and brothers participated in this crusade and where the Flemish and Scottish knights may have comingled and used the same shield of a gules fess ermine. There is no proof that this happened and is merely conjecture.

The fourth crusade 1202-1204 was a Latin Christian crusade called by Pope Innocent III and was intended to recapture Jerusalem from the Muslims. However, the crusade actually attacked and sacked Constantinople. This occurred just prior to Knight Reginald's charter.

### Sir Reginald Crawford Knight 1205

This is followed in 1205 with Reginald Sheriff of Lanark as a witness to charter 462 made by King William creating the new borough of Ayr. According to (The Bannatyne Club, 1850) page 40 Sir Reginald was the sheriff of Lanark and later also the Sheriff of Ayr during King William's reign.

#### **1205 A.D. Charter 462** Page 426 (Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971)

King William announces that he has founded a burgh at his new castle upon Ayr, and grants that all his burgesses dwelling upon Ayr, and grants that all his burgesses dwelling within the burgh shall have all the liberties and free customs that his other burghs and burgesses have elsewhere in his realm.

Among the witnesses: **Reginald of Crauford**<sup>8</sup>

He appears in this charter only ten years after the church at Craufordjohn.

In Charter 138 of Newbattle Abbey, which was made during the reign of Alexander II (1214-1249), we learn that John is the son of Reginald. Later Reginald was Sheriff of Ayr.

#### **1165-1214 A.D. Charter 72** (Melrose Abbey ) **page 64**

Charter by William son of Alan, Steward to the King, confirming a gift by his grandfather Walter, of certain lands described in that charter.

Witnesses to this document: Earl Patrick and Patrick his son, Lord Robert the Bruce and William his brother, **Reginald of Crawford of that ilk, Sheriff of Ayr**, Thomas de Coleville, Roger de Aunel, and Roger his son, Malcom Lockhart, Richard Wallace, Dean Umfred, Jordan Priest of Simonston, Gilbert, Priest of Kilbevhoe, Nicol priest of Dundowen, and William his brother, Adam of Nes and Duncan his son, Alan Wallace and Stephen his brother.

The significance of this entry is that Reginald, Sheriff of Ayr, signs as being "istius terris" of this land which indicates that he owned the estates of Crawfordjohn at that time.

#### **1165-1214 A.D. Charter 73** (Melrose Abbey ) **Page 66**

Charter by Walter, son of Alan, Steward to the King, granting to the Monastery of Melrose the lands of Mauchlin and St Michael's church.

Witnesses to this charter: Lord John de Maxwell and Bernard his brother, Adam son of Gilbert, **Reginald of Crawford**, Roger son of Glay, **Robert of Crawford**, Nigel de Heris, Robert the Clerk and many others.

#### **1205 A.D. Charter 75** (Melrose Abbey ) **page 70**

Charter of Peter de Curri to the Monastery of Melrose of a gift of land in Dalshangan and Balgower.

Witnesses to this charter: **Reginald of Crawford**, William of Lindsay, John Hosse, and others.

#### **1165-1214 A.D. Charter 81** (Melrose Abbey ) **Page 70-71**

Charter by Walter son of Alan, Steward to the King of one carucate of land in the town of Aldneston to the church of St Mary in Melrose.

Witnesses to this charter: Adam son of Gilbert, **Reginald of Crawford**, Ronald son of Glay, Robert of Logan, **Robert of Crawford**, Nigel of Heriz and others

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<sup>8</sup> See page 40 of Scottorum 1974

**1165-1214 A.D. Charter 193** (Melrose Abbey )

Charter of Thomas of Coleville of Kress giving a fourth part of Almelidon Which is called Kereshan to the church of St Mary of the valley of God and the monks serving God there which lies between Pullenshan and Polnescunt as far as the water of Don.

Witnesses: Alan Lord of Galloway, Earl Patrick, Walter son of Alan, Robert the Bruce, Duncan of Carrick, Edgar son of Donald, Fergus of Glencarn, Gillaven son of Dunegal, **Reginald of Crawford**, Golmore Macdunegal, and other knights.

**1165-1214 A.D. 4Charter 194** (Melrose Abbey ) **William of Coleville of Kereshan**

William de Coleville son of Thomas de Coleville making the same grant as in 193.

Witnesses: Duncan Lord of Carrick, **Reginald of Crawford**, Fergus of Glencarn, Robert of Bigger, **Hugh son of Reginald of Crawford**, Edward, Donald Mac Edi, Gilchrist Mac Haved.

[Alexander II is King of Scotland 1214-1249](#)

**1214 Charter 138** Newbattle Abbey David de Lindessay son of David de Lindessay

To all faithful men who see or hear this writing, David de Lindessay son of David de Lindessay sends greeting in the Eternal Lord. Let everyone know that for the salvation of my lord **Alexander** the illustrious King of Scots, and for my salvation and for that of my mother, my wife and the souls of David, William and Malcolm Kings of Scots, and for the souls of my ancestors and descendants, I have given and conceded and, by this my present charter, have confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Newbottle and to the monks serving God there in free pure and perpetual alms gift a certain part of my land in the territory of Crauford, that is to say from the head of Glengonell descending by the stream between my land and the land of **John son of Reginald de Crauford**<sup>9</sup> as far as the land of the **Church of Crauford** and following the slope of the mountain between the land of the said Church and Glencaple as far as the head of Hurleburle and following the slope of the mountain as far as Byrkebank, and following to the crossing of the marsh as far as the head of Glencaple and following the slope between Brothawyn and Glengonell as far as the head of Langtloch and then following the slope as far as the head of Glengonell. The whole of this land and whatever it contains within the said boundaries without retaining anything, I have given and conceded to them that they may hold it and possess it forever, and that they may use it by every means that seems to them to be better and more useful, in woods and fields, in arable and pasture, in marshes and bogs and all other appurtenances, freedoms and easements belonging to the said land or by law ought to belong. As freely, quietly, fully and honorably as any receiver of alms in the Kingdom of Scotland holds and possesses freely, quietly, fully and honorably. And I and my heirs will maintain and guarantee to the said monks noted above with all freedoms appurtenances and

*The text comes to an end here, but it probably continues in a similar way to the charters above. Of particular interest would be the names of the Witnesses. Where I have been unsure of the translation, I have used italics with the intention of giving the sense of the text. Raymond Crawford Nov 16th, 2024.*

*At the museum in Crawfordjohn at [www.crawfordjohn.org](http://www.crawfordjohn.org) the following statement is provided: "Through recorded history of Crawfordjohn, it has had many owners or lairds including John de Crawford, Sir Reginald de Crawford, Thomas de Moravia, David de Barclay. Moravia was the second son of Chritian, the sister of Robert Bruce, latterly Lord Bothwell."*

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<sup>9</sup> This Reginald is apparently an earlier Reginald than the Reginald who began witnessing charters in 1215.

There is no mention of Baldwin, Theobald or any other Flemish surname associated with Crawfordjohn.

In Charter 186 we learn that Sir Reginald had three sons, William, John, and Adam. There is also a Robert Crawford listed as a witness, but he does not identify himself as the son of Reginald. Robert also appears in charter 181 also associated with Kelso Abbey.

**1229 A.D. Charter 186 Page 152-153** (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567)

**Hugh de Biggar** son of Robert son of Waldo of Biggar<sup>10</sup> and patron of Strathhaven: grant to Lesmahagow of all the teinds of corn from the land of Richard of Baard . Witness: **Reginald of Crawford, William, John, and Adam sons of Reginald, Robert of Crawford** among others. **Reginald of Crawford knight at my request, has placed his seal with mine on this document. And with this seal signify my support for this charter.**

**? A.D. Charter 193** (Melrose Abbey ) **Page 173-174**

Charter by Thomas of Colville giving a fourth part of Almelidon which is called Keresban to the church of St Mary of the valley of God and the monks serving God there which lies between Polleneshan and Polnescunt as far as the water of Don.

Witnesses of this charter: Alan Lord of Galloway, Earl Patrick, Walter son of Alan, Robert the Bruce, Duncan of Carrick, Edgar son of Donald, Fergus of Glencarn, Gillaven son of Dunegal, **Reginald of Crawford**, Gilmore Macdunegal **and other knights.**

**? A.D Charter 194** (Melrose Abbey ) **page 174-175**

Charter of William of Coleville son of Thomas of Coleville making the same grant as in charter 193. Witnesses to this charter: Duncan Lord of Carrick, **Reginald of Crawford**, Fergus of Glencarn, **Robert of Biggar, Hugh son of Reginald of Crawford**, Edward, Donald Mac Edi, Gilchrist Machaved, who are all witnesses.

**1229-1232 A.D. Charter 280** Page 230 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567) Walter of Saint Albans Confirmation. Witness: **Reginald Crauford**

**1229 A.D. Charter 181** Page 149 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567)

Bard Richard : grant to Lesmahagow of all the land of Little Kype. Witness: **Robert of Crauford** among others

**1248 A.D.**, (The Chronicle of Melrose, 1991) **page 87.**

Under the heading of A.D.: 1248 a number of deaths are reported among the royalty and lairds. The brief sentence states **“The Lord John of Crawford was buried at Melrose.”** This brief sentence has been construed by many to be the John Crawford who died leaving his two daughters as heirs of the barony of Crawford. However, there were more than one John of Crawford and we know that William Lindsey held the larger portion of Crawford prior to 1190. See Charter 237 of (Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971). This John died 58 years later than the oldest date that can be attributed to the ownership of Lindsay to part of the Crawford barony. This does not make sense, and it seems more likely that the john buried at Melrose was John of Crawford (Charter 107) or John of Crawfordjohn (Charter 379).

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<sup>10</sup> We know from charter 74 page 20 that Baldwin of Biggar had a son Waldo.

## Alexander III becomes King of Scotland 1249-1286

### 1271 Sir Hugh Crawford Knight and his wife Alice

**1271 A.D. Charter 474** page 364 (Kelso Abbey Volume 2, 1113-1567) Draffan. **Crawford, Hugh and Alice his wife** receipt of Act of Abbot Henry of Lambden regarding the Crawford possession of Draffan.

To all who see or hear these letters, **Hugo de Crawford, knight, with his wife, Alice**, greetings in the name of the everlasting God. May you all know that, in the year of Grace 1271, on the day of St. James, we have received from our lord Henry, by the Grace of God, Abbot of Kelso and the convent in that place, a letter signed with the chief seal of Calchou, whose tenor is like this: To all who see or hear these letters Henry by the grace of God Abbot of Kelso and the convent in that place, greetings in the name of the everlasting God. May you all know that in the year of Grace 1271 we have found lord Hugo de Crawford, knight, and Alice his wife in possession of the lands of Draffan and its appurtenances, which the same hold, *from the time it was established by letters*, for the payment to us annually of two marks of silver, one half to be paid halfway through the term, that is to say on the day of the birth of St. John the Baptist, and the other half on the feast of St. Martin in winter, and by making homage and loyalty to us made at our court and by rendering one and a half man's feudal service. And we find also that the said lord Hugo with his wife Alice were holding courts of Bludwyth and *birth records* with other such small disputes. In witness of which we have placed our chief seal on these present letters at Calchou on the day of the Blessed Mary Magdalen in the year stated above. **And in witness of the receipt of this letter I, the foresaid Hugo, with Reginald my son and heir, have placed our seals, and because the said Reginald has no seal of his own, lord Simon Fraser has placed his seal at the request of the said Reginald.**

#### **Notes by Raymond Crawford who translated the Latin into English.**

*Charter 474 is reasonably straightforward though there is a section in the middle I can't translate properly, but I don't think it alters the sense. Mary Magdalen's day is July 22<sup>nd</sup> St. James's day is July 25<sup>th</sup>, and St. Martin's Day is Nov.11<sup>th</sup>. In feudal times relatively minor disputes were settled in the manorial courts by the local lord. I think "bludwyth" is blood money paid by the perpetrator to the family of a man who had been killed, but I don't know what "birthynfac" was.*



Figure 11. Location of Draffan, Lanark, Lesmahagow, and Douglas Water in Lanarkshire.

## King Edward Longshanks of England Invades Scotland in June 1291

Alexander III was a vassal of Edward II of England. Alexander III dies by falling off a cliff and without an heir to the throne. This led to a competition for the throne among the leading lords of Scotland. Finally,

the lords asked King Edward to oversee the selection of a new king. However, Edward Longshanks in June of 1291 ordered every Scottish castle be surrendered to him. Longshanks proceeded across Scotland and Stole some of the most important Scottish symbols and documents among them the “Stone of Destiny” the Scottish crown and the archives of Scottish records.

He also ordered that every Scottish official be replaced by Englishmen. Shortly thereafter the leading nobility of Scotland gathered to swear fealty to Edward. The cities of Ayr, Dumfries, and Perth were identified as locations for those taking the oath. The list of names and their identifying seals became known as the Ragman Roll.

### Reginald Crawford son of Knight Hugh Crawford of Loudon

Reginald Crawford, the son of Hugh Crawford in Charter 474, became the Sheriff of Ayr. Twenty years later he had responsibility for administering the oaths at that location (Mackay, 1995). Required by Longshanks. He also, in 1296, was forced to swear allegiance to Longshanks (The Bannatyne Club, 1850) page 162

According to Blind Harry (2003), in his poem “The Wallace” page 5, Sir Malcom Wallace and his eldest son did not take the oath but fled north to the Lennox. Sir Reginald Crawford took care of his daughter Margaret and her younger sons, including William, for a while but sent them to Kilspindie in the Carse of Gowrie where William’s Uncle lived. This is in Perthshire, east of Scone and near the River Tay. William went to school there and was well educated in all things.

### The Ragman Roll

The Ragman Roll is the name given to the enrollment document of the recorded submission and fealty made by more than 1,500 Scots to Edward I in 1291 and 1296. The individuals (knights and barons) were required to provide their personal seals imprinted in wax and attached to their name and county of origin. “The Sigillography of the Ragman Roll” has numbered all the existing seals and related them to their owners. Some have become unattached over the centuries. The Roll was written in French. The Roll is important to us because it contains the names of six Crawfords. This information is drawn from (Electric Scotland) and (McAndrew, 1999).

The custom in heraldry was that the eldest son kept the shield of his father as the senior line. Subsequent younger sons had to differentiate their shield in some manner. Also, sometimes the younger son would take the shield of his mother as his shield. Here we find below Sir Reginald seal 3042 as the senior line and Sir Reginald #3087 and Sir William # 3528 with gulls fess differentiated. The use of the lion rampant for Sir Reginald 3310 is different altogether and may be the shield of his mother or even William Wallace.

### Crawford listed in the 1291 Ragman Roll

Sir Ralph Crauford, Knight (Dominus Radulfus de Mile) No description of his seal is mentioned or his residence. Following is his oath to King Edward Page 9 of the 1291 Ragman Roll.

**Radulphus de Crauford** et Henricus de Sco Claro / milites et barones dicti regni Scocie eo-^^ quilibet p se singillatim eidem domino Regi Anglie ibidem ut supiori et directo domino suo eiusdem regni fidelitatem fecunt / et tactis sacroscis et osculatis Dei Ev^^ngeliis juravunt • Quib^ ut permittitur factis • idem domin^ Rex p^cepit et fecit pacem suam ibidem publice proclamari / et ut ubicuq,, per totum ipm regnum 'Scocie proclamaretur jussit et firmiter observaretur / hoc idem omnib^ -de comunitate dicti regni Scocie ibidem exiftentib^ / et eiam dic

Ralph of Crawford and Henry of Sinclair knights and barons of the said Kingdom of Scotland for all and singular of them have sworn fealty to the same Lord King of England as their direct superior Lord of the same Kingdom, by touching and kissing the sacred Gospels of God. To whom as is allowed by these actions the same Lord King has made his peace and ordered this to be publicly proclaimed and strictly observed both there and throughout the whole Kingdom of Scotland itself<sup>11</sup>.

**Crawfords listed in 1296 Ragman Roll:**

1. **Sir Johan of Crawford, of the County of Ayr seal #1322** A hawk picking out the eye of a hare. No example of this seal was found by the author of this paper.
2. **Sir Johan de Craunford of the County of Ayr seal #1411**, featuring the Abernethy shield of a lion rampant gules on a field of gold with a black band and is reported as damaged on page 697. This shield is like a Flemish shield that Allen Crawford of Clan Crawford recently found at the website (Wappen Wicki) for the House of Brawand from Bern Switzerland and is similar to the Lords of Flanders.



Figure 13. Abernethy Shield



Figure 12. Brawand Shield

3. **Sir Reginald of Crawford, of the county of Ayr Seal #3042.** The seal is gules a fess (ermine). These on the



Sir Reginald Crawford 1296 Seal #3042

three variations of the shield are shown in the Clan Crawford red book bottom of page two and the top of page three (Crawford, et al., 2009).

4. **Sir Reginald of Crawford of the County of Ayr Seal #3087** Gules a fess ermine between three birds in chief and three fleur-de-lis in base.



Reginald Crawford 1296 Seal #3087

5. **Sir William of Crawford, of the County of Ayr. Seal #3528** . The seal is gules a fess (ermine) between three mullets. This shield is shown on page 3 Figure 5 of (Crawford, et al., 2009) and again on



William Crawford 1296 Seal#3528

continued This shield is shown on page 3 Figure 5 of (Crawford, et al., 2009) and page 4 under Crawfords of Kilbirnie. This seems to reveal the early differentiation of the various Crawfords by the late 13<sup>th</sup> century and its use until 1672 when the arms were quartered with Barclay.

6. **Sir Reginald of Crawford, of the County of Ayr Seal #3310** A lion rampant. Perhaps this Reginald is related to Sir Johan de Craunford listed above or William Wallace.

<sup>11</sup> Translated by Raymond Crawford



On page nine of (Crawford, et al., 2009), the authors show the combined quartered shield showing the Reginald Crawford gules a fess quartered with the Knight Sir Gregan stags head with a cross crosslet combining the two houses after 600 years.



There were seven knights in the Crawford family at the time of the Ragman Roll and the evidence is strong that they were of Flemish origin or were Celtic with close ties to the Flemish through marriage. It also reveals that there were a variety of Crawford shields by the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

There is an identical coat of arms at (Wappen Wicki) with that of Sir Reginald Crawford of Ayr Seal #3042. Allen Crawford of Clan Crawford found that there is an Anseau d'Aigremont and Réginer d'Aigremont who both bear gules a fess ermine in the Artois section of the Wijnbergen Armorial, circa 1267-1285 A.D.. (Nos. 814 and 815.) The Réginer d'Aigremont's shield bears a label, indicating his status as eldest son (grandson?) and heir to Aigremont. It is likely that this was the family who were later the lords of Tourmignies, a town in extreme northwestern France once western Flanders. The town still uses gules a fess ermine for their municipal arms. This brings the question who had the arms first, Sir Reginald Crawford in 1205 or the Reginer of Aigremont circa 1267? Or was it an example of convergent evolution on the battlefields of the crusades?

The Ragman Roll lists one person named Hugh de Bigge from Lanark. There was no other information or seal.

### 1297-1302 William Wallace Leads The People Against Edward Longshanks

While the leading knights and competitors for the throne of Scotland only halfheartedly resisted Edward Longshanks, William Wallace rebelled and attacked the English occupying Scotland wherever he could. The Norman and Flemish landed gentry including Robert the Bruce held lands both in Scotland and England and did not want to lose their wealth and lands.



However, Wallace stirred the common people of Scotland and soon an army was formed behind his leadership. His cousins, the Crawfords, fought with him and protected him at cost to their own lives and fortunes.

The treachery of the Scottish barons led to his capture and death in 1302.

### A Possible Chart of Descendants

The charts found in (Crawford, et al., 2009) and (Crawford, 1793) do not seem to fit the available information or the dates associated with the charters here cited. Therefore, I have attempted to build a genealogical chart based on estimated ages and offspring that would fit into the chart and on the findings of those cited that seem to fit into the lineage chart.

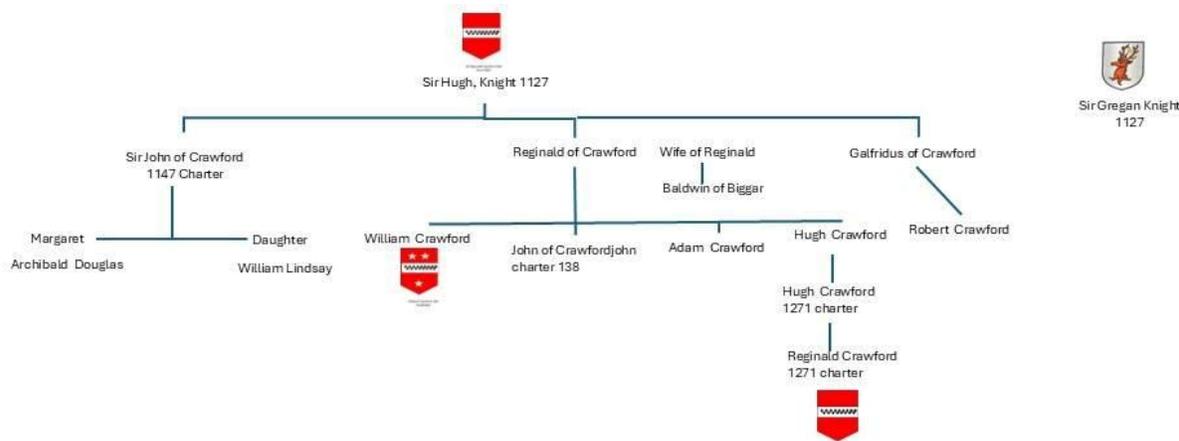


Figure 14. This genealogical chart is comprised of individuals known to have used the name Crawford or in the case of Gregan known to carry the Crawford coat of arms.

### Conclusions About the Flemish Baldwins and their Relationship with the Crawfords

The Baldwins were a Flemish family of nobility and flourished around the City of Brugge in Belgium and Flanders (Warlop, 1975) over several centuries. The Flemish had a school established to train aspiring knights in the skills of warfare. Flemish knights were essentially soldiers of fortune. Baldwin de Brugge is mentioned numerous times in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle as a place of refuge for the family of the Earl of Godwin.

We encounter Baldwin of Biggar in various charters beginning in 1147 and ending in 1174, and in the same timeframe as Thorlongus and his son Swain. He also shows up in Lanark as the sheriff in 1162 where the Crawford Barony existed. What is most intriguing is that he is identified as the stepfather of John of Crawford John. In 1174, his son Waldo appears in a charter. Later in 1229 in Charter 186 we see a charter with Hugh de Biggar, son of Robert, son of Waldo with witnesses Reginald of Crawford, William, John, and Adam sons of Reginald, Robert of Crawford among others. It is apparent that the Crawfords were there in force to lend assistance as witnesses to their stepbrother. From this information we can conclude that Baldwin was no longer witnessing charters by 1174. He is described as John's stepfather in charters made in 1195.

The Lindsays, Baldwin, Thor and Swain all had to be very familiar with each other as they witnessed many charters together. Baldwin was the Sheriff of Lanark at about the same time as the changes of ownership occurred in Crawford. If George Crawford was correct that the knight Reginald de Crawford had two daughters and a younger son and that the barony was split three ways between Lindsay, Douglas, and the younger son John, then it appears that Baldwin of Biggar married the widow of Reginald and helped Crawford John to maintain its lands and name against the lawsuit of the Douglas and others.

<p><b>Baldwin B. 1125? D. 1175-1195?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baldwin witnesses charter for Theobald 1147</li> <li>Baldwino flamosa 1150</li> <li>Obtains house in Perth 1153</li> <li>Baldwin of Lanark &amp; Lord of Biggar 1161 Charter 197</li> <li>Sheriff of Lanark 1162 charter 198.</li> <li>1185 Marries Reginald's widow</li> <li>1195 John called stepson of</li> </ul>
<p><b>Waldau son of Baldwin B. 1150</b></p> <p>Witnessed charter 74 of Kelso Abbey 1174</p>
<p><b>Robert of Biggar B. 1180?</b></p>
<p><b>Hugh of Biggar B. 1200?</b></p> <p>Charter 186 Patron of Strathaven 1229</p>

Biggar is an existing town in Scotland not far from Crawfordjohn and Crawford. From the research that was conducted into Biggar, it seems that the name was shortened to Biggs in later years. In the Ragman Roll a Hugh Bigge is listed from Lanark County. Research into Bigg or Biggs revealed that some Individuals with the name Biggs have a halved shield with a fess ermine on one side and a rampant lion in the center shield. This could have been the shield developed when Baldwin of Biggar married the widow of Reginald of Crawford and became the stepfather of John of Crawfordjohn.



### Conclusions About Theobald the Fleming

Theobald only seems to come to light incidentally. Ian Crawford in his book, indicates that Theobald the Fleming possessed part of Crawford, but the maps associated with Charter 107 prove that this is not true.

In the Domesday Book Theobald is mentioned under Hertfordshire as a place name in Aldenham page 372, 376 and 385. Under Kent William Fitz Theobald is named as one of King William's men asked to make sure the rents were paid (page 3).

The Douglas book refutes any connection of Theobald to the Douglas Vale and states "Local research defines the lands given to Theobald to be identical with Folkaristoun. If so, they could not have remained long in Theobald hands, as between 1208 and 1218, Henry, Abbot of Kelso, granted to Richard, son of Solph, the lands of Folkaristoun

**1147 A.D. Charter 107** Page 78-79 (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567) Charter to Theobald from Abbot Arnald of Kelso

Abbot Arnald and the whole convent of Kelso sends greetings to all sons and followers of the Holy Mother Church. Know that we with our common council have given and granted and by this our present charter have confirmed to **Theobald the Flemming** and his heirs our land on/above the water of Douglas and from the source of the Poneil as far as the water of Douglas and from the source of the Poneil beyond itself the customary width and length of a fall, from there to the Herdlaw, from there to Thievesford between Mosminin and Corehouse and thus along to the long black ford and so as the road runs to Crossford. In feu and heritage, freely and peacefully, fully and honorably, in mills, waterways, ponds, woods, planes, pastures, meadows and in all other easements, to render annually two merks, that is at the feast of St. Martins and the other at Pentecost.

With these witnesses: **Baldwin of Bigger, John of Crauford**, Gilbryde son of Giderede, Gilmalagon, Son of Kelli, Gilberto the Clerk.

The Bannatyne Club, in their Preface, adamantly ascertained that the grant to Theobald the Fleming was not part of the lands of Douglas nor was it the precursor to the Douglas surname and clan (Kelso Abbey Volume 1, 1113-1567). They created the map shown below on page xxviii in Volume 1 of Kelso Abbey. This grant lies further north (downstream) on the River Clyde and does not touch Crawford or Crawfordjohn.

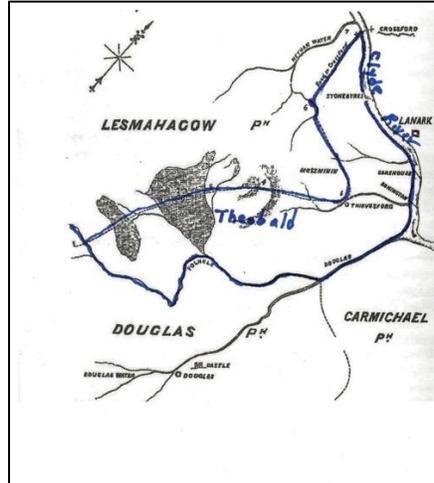


Figure 15. Boundary described in the Charter to Theobald the Fleming.

The only other reference to Theobald I could find anywhere near Crawford was in Charter 129.

**1153 A.D. Charter 129** page 191 (Regesta Regum Scottorum 1153-1424 Volume 1, 1960) Grants To Dryburgh Abbey the Rent of 2 merks a year in Ednam which his clerk Nicholas had in the land of Peter, son of Walter of Stirling and of **Theobald of Norham**; the half carucate in Ednam which David I gave to Nicholas; and the toft near the wall of the West Port of Roxburgh as David, I gave it to his chaplain Adam.

*Norham is a small village seven miles from Berwick, on the northern edge of Northumberland, beside the River Tweed. It is one of the most northerly villages in England. The village grew up at a crossing point on the Tweed.*

#### Evaluation Of the Claim That Crawfords came from the Earls of Richmond

The second version put forth by Burke in his "**History of the Commoners (volume ii and iii)**" (Burke, 1838) and referenced by Anderson (Anderson, 1867) and identifies the earliest Crawfords as descended from the earliest Earls of Richmond. The Earls of Richmond were wealthy noblemen related to King William of England. Burke identified Reginald, the youngest son of Alan, the fourth Earl of Richmond, who died in 1146. Alan was the great grandson of Galfridus, Duke of Brittany who died in 1008. According to Burke, Alan was given large tracts of land by King David in Clydesdale as he was one of the thousand Norman knights accompanying David when he gained the crown of Scotland and whom he established in his kingdom.

I could find no charters concerning Alan de Richmond in Clydesdale. There are references in the charters to Alan son of Hugh, Steward to David Earl of Huntington in (Regesta Regum Scottorum Volume 2, 1971) Charter 265 page 297 as having witnessed this charter. This Alan was the first Steward and his son Walter Fitz Alan was made hereditary Steward (dopifero) of Scotland in Charter 87, page 170 (Regesta Regum Scottorum 1153-1424 Volume 1, 1960) and grants of land in Renfrewshire Paisley, Talahret, Cathcart, Dripps, Mearns, Eaglesham, Lochwinnoch, and Innerwick which is north of Clydesdale and Lanark. Alan's father was Flaad. See also Charter 184. Page 225.

Therefore, it seems that this claim that the Crawfords came from the Earls of Richmond has been extrapolated from very little information and no direct references to written sources.

## Evaluation of the Conclusions by Ian Crawford of the Source of the Original Crawfords

In his book "The Earliest Crawfords: Origins of a Scottish Family 1155 to 1406" Mr. Crawford makes several statements and conclusions that appear to be in error. He starts his book on page 8 with a series of 13 bullets that were his Revelations.

- **Bullet #1** His first bullet statement was that Sir Gregan existed only in legend. However, research has confirmed the statements of Anderson and Nesbit on page 26 of this paper and the existing monuments at the Cannongate church that Gregan indeed did live. We also have corroborating evidence from the Shield of the Dalmagregan Crawfords.
- **Bullet#2** He claims that John of Crawford was the first known Crawford in 1155. This is in error because John of Crawford witnessed the awarding of territory to Theobald in 1147 along with Baldwin of Biggar as shown by (Shead, 2007).
- **Bullet #3** His next exaggeration is that there was no Galfridus but a man named Geoffrey Cranford. This statement is erroneous and can be shown in Charter 431 on page 30 of this report.
- **Bullet #4** He surmises that the Crawfords never owned all the original barony of Crawford but that it was split out before anyone used the name Crawford. We know that Crawford is an ancient place name and that it is highly reasonable that people other than lairds, barons, and knights may have used their first name followed by "of Crawford" at a much earlier date.
- **Bullet #9** He called the connection between the Crawfords and William Wallace problematic. He apparently has ignored Blind Harry as a liar and ignored the research by James Mackay and his book "William Wallace Brave Heart. The very first page in Blind Harry's poem identifies Ronald Crawford as the father of Margaret Crawford who married Malcom Wallace the parents of William Wallace.

Anne McKim as editor of "The Wallace" by Blind Harry (2003) points out in her opening comments that Blind Harry was well traveled, had detailed geographical knowledge of Wallace's routes, and excellent knowledge of the battle sites. He was born in 1440, and Wallace was killed in 1305. This was only 135 years later. My own grandfather was born 119 years ago. It is certainly possible that there were living witnesses to Wallace as Blind Harry grew up.

Ian Crawford must assume the thorn tree planted at Dunfermline Abbey in remembrance of William Wallace's mother Margaret Crawford is a lie. He apparently has never seen the Crawford crest on the wall of Edinburgh Castle where they show the coronation of Robert the Bruce as King of Scotland at Scone by Isabella Macduff of Buchan, and witnessed by Mary Bruce.

On page 214 Ian reports about the Bannatyne Maser commemorating four houses that supported The Bruce from the beginning but doesn't seem to give it much value. These were the shields of Stewart, Douglas, Fitz Gilbert, Crawford, and Menteith. The Crawford one showing the Gules fess ermine in color.



*Figure 16. Edinburgh Castle recreated crowning of Robert de Brus at Scone with the Crawford Crest on the wall in the background.*

- Theobald never held part of Douglas Water or Douglas territory as demonstrated by the Bannatyne Club and the History of Douglas explained in this report on pages 38 and 39 as far as it could be determined, this individual played little, if any, part in the business of Lanark and was not the precursor to the Douglas barons.
- He didn't understand the relationships of Merle Sweyne, Thorlongus, and Swain and their roles as deacons rather than knights.
- Ian Crawford didn't appear to be aware of Charter 462 and the statements made by the Bannatyne Club on page 40 of this report stating that Reginald was Sheriff of Lanark prior to becoming Sheriff of Ayr.

To be fair to Ian Crawford, he produced a lot of information that has helped us understand the big picture during those early years. He has produced an exhaustive list of available references he apparently researched.

### Conclusions

The pedigrees and time frames do not agree between (Crawford, et al., 2009), (Crawford, 1793) and the research shown in this paper. The problem is that there are few dates provided to help reach their conclusions. There have been many new sources added to the Internet since the publication of these books and that helped immensely in researching this report. The charters provided in this report and the new information have hopefully provided Clan Crawford members with greater confidence in what really occurred so long ago in the eleventh through the thirteenth centuries.

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