

Septs of Clan MacLeod

Bethune MacClure MacCallum Norman
MacCrimmon
Lewis MacGillechallum MacWilliam
Caskie MacRaild MacAulay MacAskill
MacHarold MacCabe Beaton
MacCaig Askey Norie MacAndie

Septs are associated smaller clans or families who found it prudent to attach themselves to more powerful neighbours in turbulent times. Sometimes the association was by marriage, other times they provided services. In many cases the connection is not now known.

Compiled by Peter Macleod 2010

Beaton

Bethune, Beton

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan
From History of Skye by Alexander Nicolson and
Crofting Years by Francis Thompson

A famous family noted for their services to Medicine and the Church. The name is mentioned in Skye as early as the fourteenth century when a certain John Bethune married Margaret, daughter of the second Chief of MacLeod. The first of the family mentioned as physicians was Peter who was physician to the MacDonalds and given a tract of land on the condition he trained a son to continue this service. The son chosen was Angus, Peter's second son.

The skills were passed down, father to son until we come to Neil, great grandson of Angus, who was perhaps the most distinguished of the line. Neil lived in the latter sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. He was said to be illiterate but possessed a wonderful knowledge of herbs and their medical properties which he could extract in a manner known only to himself. His skills were so great as both physician and surgeon that according to Martin Martin, his cures were "*attributed to a compact with the devil.*"

In the eighteenth century when qualified practitioners began to appear the Beatons/Bethune began to lose their prestige. They turned to other spheres of usefulness and the Church claimed many of them. Rev. John Bethune was minister of Bracadale where he died in 1708, he was described as "an able divine and a learned physician". Rev. William Bethune served the parish of Duirinish and wrote the "*Old Statistical Account*" of that district in 1791. He was one of the ministers who so impressed Dr. Samuel Johnson, both by their learning and their lofty morality that he said he could not converse with them, "*without wishing, as his respect, that they had not been Presbyterians*".

The Beatons were physicians to the Lords of the Isles and held lands in Islay, the seat of the old Lordship. After the Lordship was broken up, the Beatons scattered to enter the service of several Highland families: the Macleans of Duart, the MacLeods of Skye and MacDonalds of Sleat.

Yet other branches of Beatons became physicians to the Frasers of Lovat, Munros of Foulis and the old Earls of Sutherland. With the clan system prevailing in the Highlands and Islands at that time, no doubt the services of these physicians were made available to some clansmen as well as to the clan chiefs.

In 1305 a work called *Lilium Medicinae* was compiled by Bernard Gordon, a professor at the University of Montpellier. It became popular not only on the continent of Europe, but also in Scotland, for shortly after its appearance it was translated into Gaelic. Tradition has it that one copy of it cost of the Beatons of Skye no fewer than 60 milch cows and was so highly prized that when the doctor crossed an arm of the sea to visit a patient, the book was sent around by land.

Beatons are said to be a sept of both the MacDonalds and MacLeods.

Lewis

MacLewis

Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis

From various sources including Clan MacLeod website & Wikipedia

Considered by some to be part of Clan Stewart. Lewis is also a Welsh and Irish name.

Lewis could be an anglicised version of the gaelic Lughaidh derived from Lugh meaning brightness. Another possibility is that it is a place name adopted by some living on the Isle of Lewis (gaelic Leodhas).

MacAndie

Andie, MacKande, MacHandie

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From Clan MacLeod website

Black in 'The Surnames of Scotland' says Andie is a curtailed form of MacAndie and is current in Argyllshire. He further states the name is a small sept in the island of Bernera, Sound of Harris and known as Clann 'Ic Anndaidh or 'Ic Anndai. He goes on to say the island name consists of only a few families and the name here is from the Old Norse personal name, Andi. In local folklore, the long tailed ducks are held to be enchanted MacAndies.

MacAskill

Askey, Caskey, Caskie, MacAskie, MacCaskie, MacKaskill

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

Based on an article by Weeden Nichols published in The Clan MacLeod Society of USA Newsletter in the article there are quotes from 'The MacAskills of Rudh an Dunain' by Alisdair Roderick Murray, 1998. Some other sources also used.

The MacAskills are descended from Askill (Askel, Asketil), the last Norse Viking King of Dublin, who may have fled and taken refuge on the Isle of Man (probably beginning the enduring association between those who became MacLeods and those who became MacAskills). Most MacAskills who participated in a Y-chromosome DNA study are of Norse ancestry. The MacAskills were already in Skye when the Island came into the possession of Leod by marriage to a MacRailt heiress around 1230. When the MacLeod territories were divided between Tormod and Torquil, the MacAskills came under the jurisdiction of Siol Tormod, i.e., the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan.

Alanus MacKaskyll, a scribe in a monastery at Perth in the 16th century wrote:- "MacAskills were the lieutenants of the MacLeods, both by sea and land, from whom they held large territorial possessions in reward for their services as commanders of their galleys or birlinns, and one of them, clad in full armour, always accompanied the chief as his henchman." One of the traditional posts held by the MacAskills was that of Constable of the main MacLeod stronghold in the South of the Island, the Castle of Dunscaith, they are said to have held it through several sieges although it was eventually lost to the MacDonalds.

The office of Lieutenant of the Coast at Rudh an Dunain was an hereditary one bestowed on the MacAskills and among the more dauntless of these lieutenants was Donald Dubh (Black) MacAskill. There was none in all the Isles more adept with the bow and arrow than Donald Dubh. One day he noticed a birlinn of the Clan Ranald in the Sound of Canna. As she approached Rudh an Dunain, Donald Dubh recognised it to be intent on plunder and manned by twelve stalwart MacDonalds. He quietly retired to the dun to collect an ample quiver, and then concealed himself behind a rock, from which he fired twelve arrows that killed the twelve rowers. Soon Clan Ranald's birlinn came ashore and it was dashed to pieces

against the very rocks at Rudh an Dunain that it had hoped to make in happier circumstances.

Another tale concerns a Lieutenant of the Coast who was known throughout Skye as MacDhomhnuill Dubh, son of Black Donald. In pursuance of his duties this Lieutenant apprehended a man who formerly had been convicted of cattle lifting, fire raising and murder. The Son of Black Donald did not detain him long in captivity, but tried him on the spot. He decide to execute him, but before doing so he brought the prisoner to his own house and supplied him extravagantly with bread, cheese and whisky that he might thereby be the more able to endure his last moments on earth. Thereafter the Son of Black Donald marched his captive up a steep brae above the sea at Rudh an Dunain and beheaded him with his sword. The head rolled down the slope crying out as it rolled, ‘Faire, Faire, Mhic-Dhomhnuill Dubh! (Beware, Beware, O Son of Black Donald!).’

Brenda MacLeod in ‘Tales of Dunvegan’ tells that the MacAskills were for several generations, henchmen to the MacLeod Chief and Captains of his birlinn.

There is a MacAskill Sept Society who acknowledge they are adherents to the Chiefs of MacLeod of Harris. Address is 8 Huckleberry Lane, Hampton, NH 03842 USA, website: www.macaskillseptociety.org



The MacAskill Sept Tartan was commissioned by a gentleman of that name in 1951, and designed by Miss Margaret MacDougal. It is based on MacLeod of Harris tartan differenced by changing the red and yellow lines of the Harris tartan to black, and then placing threads of either red or yellow on both sides of alternating black lines.

MacAulay of Lewis

Aulay, Caulay, MacAlley, MacCaulay, MacCauley, Calley, MacCorley
Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis

From Clan MacLeod website, Wikipedia and
Tales & Traditions of the Lews by Donald Macdonald

There are three main groups of MacAuleys who are not connected with each other. One group is from around Dunbartonshire, Scotland and another from Ireland. The group connected with the Clan MacLeod were located around Uig on the Isle of Lewis and are of Norse origin. There are also MacAulays from Wester Ross and Uist, these may be related to the MacAulays of Lewis.

The Norse form of Aulay is Olaf, i.e., MacAulay is Olafson. According to the Orkney sagas Gunnri Olafson (Gunnri MacAulay) was banished by the Earl of Orkney in 1154 and took refuge with Ljotulfr who was chief in Lewis at that date. In 'Tales & Traditions of the Lews', Donald Macdonald speculates Ljotulfr could be Leod, progenitor of the MacLeods.

Be this so or not, the MacAulays sought protection under the Chief of the Lews who, if not in 1154, was soon after, MacLeod of Lewis.

Donald Cam MacAulay and his family assisted Neil MacLeod in resisting the Fife Adventurers when they tried to take over the Isle of Lewis. He took part in the capture of Stornoway Castle in 1607 and in 1610 he and his brother, Malcolm were wanted by the Privy Council.

The MacAulays also helped the MacLeods of Lewis resist the take over of the island by the Seaforth MacKenzies but when the cause was lost it appears they made peace with the MacKenzies. On a Uig list of tacks (rented farms) in 1725-26 eight out of 21 are held by MacAulays. This would not have been the case unless the MacAulays were on good terms with their MacKenzie overlords.

Shown is MacAulay of Lewis Hunting tartan. Designed in 1992 by Dr. Philip Smith Jr. and registered with The Scottish Register of Tartans.



MacCabe

Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis

From Clan MacLeod website & Wikipedia

A pedigree written by Dubhaltach Mac Fhirbhisigh says the MacCabes are descended from the MacLeods. It appears they originated in the Western Isles but settled in Ireland around 1350 as gallowglass (mercenary soldiers) to the O'Reillys and O'Rourkes of Breffny. The chieftain of the MacCabes became known as 'Constable of the two Breffnys'.

There are two versions of the meaning of MacCabe. One says Caba could refer to a cap, hood or helmet, MacCabe then meaning 'son of the helmetted one'. It could also come from the gaelic MacAba, 'son of the Abbot'.

MacCaig

MacCuaig, MacKaig, MacCoig, MacHaigh

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From Clan MacLeod website & other sources

Black in 'The Surnames of Scotland' says MacCaig (MacDbubhaig) means son of Blackie. For two centuries the name was common in Islay as M'Cuaig or M'Cowag.

Another version of the origins of the name says that the father of a declining family gave his child the name of the first thing he met to ensure the child had a long life. This thing happened to be a cuckoo (Cuthaig), hence MacCubhaig/MacCuaig.

MacCaig is said to be a sept of both Clans Farquharson and MacLeod. There are also Irish and Shetland versions of the name.

MacCallum

Callam, Callum, Macallam, Malcolmson
Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

The MacLeods - The Genealogy of a Clan, Section One, covers the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan. The Third Chief, Malcolm (c1296 - c1370) had four sons, John, Norman, Murdo and Malcolm followed by one daughter Fingula/Flora. The fourth son, Malcolm 'married a daughter of MacDuffie (or MacFie) of Colonsay, and settled in Argyllshire, where families of Malcolms and MacCallums claim him as their progenitor.' The source for this information is quoted as the Bannatyne Manuscript, a document written a couple of hundred years ago.

There is a Clan MacCallum Malcolm Society with branches in North America and Australia, their website, <http://Clan-MacCallum-Malcolm.3acres.org/> tells of a different origin, they say the original MacCallum family came from around Oban and settled in various places including Argyll. No date is mentioned so it is possible the two stories are not inconsistent. Fourth son Malcolm could have moved to around Oban in the 1300s and the family later moving to Argyll. We will probably never know.

Black in 'The Surnames of Scotland' says Allum is a curtailed form of MacCallum and is a derivative of Macgillechallum and Gillecillum, meaning son of the gillie of Calum.

MacCorkill

MacCorkle, MacCorkindale*, MacCorquodale*, MacThorcadail*
Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis
From Clan MacLeod website & other sources

Black in 'The Surnames of Scotland' says MacCorcadail, another spelling of the name, is from the personal name Thorketill, Thor's Kettle. Nothing else seems to be known of the origin of the name or how the MacCorkills became connected with the Clan MacLeod.

*MacCorkindale, MacCorquodale and MacThorcadail emanating from Argyll may not be families specifically associated with Clan MacLeod. However, The Clan MacLeod Societies remain welcoming to people of these names who wish to join.

MacClure

MacAlear, MacClewer, MacLewer, MacLure

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From an article by Weeden Nichols in The Clan MacLeod USA

Newsletter Spring/Summer 2010 and other sources

The most likely origin of the name MacClure is that the name is derived from the Gaelic “Mhic-GilleLeabbam” (son of the servant of the book - son of the tutor). The tutor connection is well documented. One Donald was guardian or tutor of his nephew, Tormod, 11th Chief of MacLeod. Both Donald and Tormod were murdered in 1557 by Iain Dubh, the usurping 12th Chief. Many MacClures still on Skye are believed to be descendants of the tutor Donald. It is also known that many MacClures were part of James VI of Scotland’s “plantation of Ulster”, becoming Ulster Scots.

About 25% of the Highlander casualties in the Battle of Worcester, in which Charles II’s forces were defeated by Cromwell were of Clan MacLeod. This is one of the factors precipitating the MacLeod diaspora in the mid 17th Century. After the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 and Charles II was invited to be king he did little or nothing for those who had supported him and as a result the MacLeods, since then, have, at best been luke warm towards the Stewarts.

Boswell, in his “Tour of the Hebrides with Dr. Johnson” had the impression that many MacLeods who were, in varying degrees, refugees after Worcester had changed their name to MacClure to conceal their identities. Possibly Boswell did not understand that the MacClures were part of the Clan MacLeod and the MacClures who emigrated as a result of Worcester did so under their own identities.



There are two
MacClure
tartans:
MacClure
Green at left,
MacClure Red
at right.



MacCrimmon

Grimmond

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From The MacCrimmon Pipers of Skye by Robert Bruce Campbell,
Pipers by William Donaldson and various other sources

There are two stories as to the origin of the MacCrimmons. The most likely one is that they are of Norse origin. The Bannatyne Manuscript covering the 12th century but written much later, tells that the MacCrimmons held land in South Harris from a very early time. When Leod received superiority of Harris the MacCrimmons became his vassals. Eventually they moved to Skye and became pipers to MacLeod of Harris & Dunvegan. As such they occupied lands at Borreraig although still retaining lands in South Harris at Scarista.

The other version tells that a MacLeod Chief returning from the Crusades stopped for some time in the Italian town of Cremona. Here he befriended a local musician (some say harper) who accompanied him back to Skye. This young man took the name Cremona which was Gaelicised to Crimmon and his progeny became MacCrimmon (son of Crimmon).

It is not known when the MacCrimmons became hereditary pipers to MacLeod of Harris & Dunvegan but certainly prior to 1500, the time of Alasdair Crottach, 8th Chief. For ten generations they conducted a piping college at Borreraig. This college was probably not a special, formal building but more likely consisted of the MacCrimmon of the day tutoring pupils who either resided at the MacCrimmon home or nearby. However the form of the college it is known that many significant Highland Chiefs sent their pipers to MacCrimmon for instruction. It is sometimes said the course lasted seven years but this is unlikely.

The MacCrimmon's enduring contribution to pipe music is the piobair-chd or 'coel mor' (the great music). This is regarded as the 'classic' music of the bagpipe. If the MacCrimmons didn't invent it they certainly refined it to a very high degree. Piobaireachds composed by MacCrimmons are still played today.

The main MacCrimmon piping family emigrated to Canada in the early

1800s where their descendants still live. This does not mean all MacCrimmons emigrated. There are still many in the Highlands & Islands bearing this name, in fact one of Scotland's pre-eminent pipers today is Ewan MacCrimmon who has won many contests. Ewan piped at the memorial service of the Late John MacLeod of MacLeod, 29th Chief, in 2007 and has also piped at Clan MacLeod Parliaments on Skye. There are many tales and legends about the MacCrimmons, here is one:

The Chief of MacLeod was holding a banquet for the Chiefs of the Western Isles. Each Chief was accompanied by his harpers, bards and pipers. As the cup was passed around a discussion broke out as to who had the best piper and a contest was arranged. Also present was a page, Ian MacCrimmon, great nephew of MacLeod's principal piper, Crimmon. Ian was learning the pipes and aspired one day to succeed his uncle.

Crimmon was to be last of the twelve to play. As the tenth piper stepped forward MacLeod became anxious as Crimmon was nowhere to be seen. He sent Ian forth to find his uncle. In due course, Ian returned and reported that Crimmon was found but drunk and unable to play. MacLeod commanded Ian to take his uncle's place. In despair, Ian rushed out of the castle and hurried to a grassy knoll where he came to practice and threw himself on the ground.

The mound opened and out stepped a fairy and in her hand was a chanter. She asked Ian what was the matter, he explained and said he played so badly that he would be an embarrassment to his Chief. She handed him the chanter and when he held it to his lips, out came the most beautiful music. She taught him tune after tune and then disappeared. To make sure, he put the chanter to his lips and the most exquisite sounds rang out.

Remembering the contest he rushed back to the castle with the magical tunes ringing in his head. The eleventh piper was finishing and MacLeod was ready to announce his own piper was too sick to play when he saw Ian confidently stride to the head of the hall. There was tittering among the other pipers "Who is this boy to compete with us?" But this ceased as Ian played such music as had never been heard before, his technique was perfect and the tunes were new to all.

As the lad finished the hall rang with cheers and applause so clamorous the Chief signalled for him to play again. Just then old Crimmon staggered into the hall, saw Ian in his accustomed place and knew at once his nephew had stepped into his shoes. The old man fled and never again shouldered the pipes.

Another MacCrimmon tale tells of Finlay of the White Plaid. Finlay MacCrimmon lived at Galtrigal, about a mile north of Borreraig. He possessed great strength and a very loud voice.

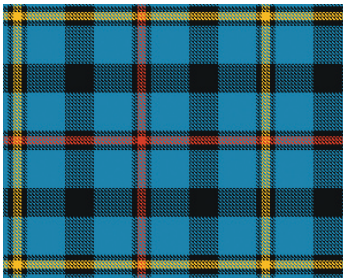
While fishing with four others on Loch Follart near the Isle of Isay they saw several MacDonald galleys heading for Waternish concealed by a heavy mist. Realising their mischievous mission had been discovered one of the galleys chased the unarmed fishermen who rowed as fast as they could towards Galtrigal. On landing Finlay's four companions tried to hide in one of the numerous caves. The MacDonalds pursued, caught and murdered them on the spot.

As this evil deed took place, Finlay escaped along the foreshore heading towards Dunvegan to warn his Chief, MacLeod of MacLeod. He ran at full speed through Borreraig, Colbost and Skinidin to reach Uiginish which is directly across the Loch from Dunvegan Castle. He could not see the castle due to the mist, but filling his enormous lungs with air he shouted a warning which was heard by one of MacLeod's watchmen. Speedily the message of an impending attack reached the Chief.

Thanks to Finlay's mighty effort, MacLeod had the night to prepare and the MacDonalds were annihilated at battle on the next day.

Ewan MacCrimmon pipes for Clan MacLeod at the memorial cairn to the MacCrimmon piping family near Borreraig, the site of the original Piping School.

Picture taken at Clan MacLeod Parliament.



MacCrimmon Tartan Taken from a knee rug with a label on it saying, Angus Macleod of Dunvegan Skye. This weaver has not been traceable but is identified by the proposer, Dr Hugh MacCrimmon as being the original designer. The tartan has been woven by D. C. Dalglish from Selkirk to this display's thread count.

MacGillechallum

Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis

From Clan MacLeod Genealogy Section Four &

Raasay - The Island and its People by Norma MacLeod

MacGilleChaluim was the family name of the MacLeods of Raasay. It literally means son of Calum's gillie. According to Norma MacLeod it could also mean descendants of Calum. Norma MacLeod then points to Calum/Malcolm second son of Torquil 1st Chief of Lewis (MacLeod Genealogy Section 4 shows Torquil as IV of Lewis) as the only possible founder of this family. He was known as Calum Beag nam Buadhan, Little Calum of the Accomplishments or Triumphs. Not all Calum's projects were successful. His sister, Sidheag, married Angus MacKay of Strathnaver. After she was widowed her brother in law treated her badly. Calum Beag and some Lewis men went to Sutherland to 'sort things out'. This mission failed and on their way home they 'laid waste' to Strathnaver and Breachart. The Earl of Sutherland sent men in pursuit, there was a skirmish at Tuiteam Tarbhach, Calum was killed along with all but one Lewis man who escaped and got home to tell the tale. The date was 1406.

MacRaid

MacRait, MacRalte, MacHarold, Harold

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From Clan MacLeod Genealogy Section One,

other books including History of Skye by Alexander Nicolson and

The MacLeods - The History of a Clan by Dr. I.F. Grant

Progenitor of the MacLeods, Leod (born c. 1200), held extensive lands in the Western Isles inherited from both his father Olave the Black, and his foster father Paul Baalkason, Sheriff of Skye. By his marriage to the only daughter of a Norse potentate named Mac-arailt Armuinn (MacHarold) in circa. 1220, Leod received further large areas of the Isle of Skye including the stronghold of Dunvegan. Although extensively rebuilt over the centuries, Dunvegan remains the Clan seat to this day.

Dr. Grant says the MacRailds are descended from Hrolf the Ganger, who was also Rollo the first Duke of Normandy. After quarrelling with Harold Fairhair, King of Norway, Hrolf settled in the Hebrides, probably Skye,

and from there made expeditions ending in the conquest of the lands in Gaul now known as Normandy. Hrolf kept in touch with his kinsfolk and friends in the Hebrides. His daughter married an Irish king and had two sons. One of them, Harold, took a distinguished part in his grandfather's conquest of Normandy and has been shown by the Marquis Louis de Saint Pierre, in his study of the origins of Rollo, to be almost certainly founder of the MacRaidhs.

Norie

Norrie, Norry, Norrey, Nore, Norn, Norris, Noray, Norye
Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis
From Clan MacLeod website

Norn is surname formerly used in Orkney from Old Norse, Norraena.

Nory is an Orcadian surname from the Old Norse, Norge, pronounced Norre, meaning Norway. The name was given originally to a family who came from Norway towards the close of the Norse regime.

Norman

Normand, Norval, Norwell, Tormod
Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan
From Clan MacLeod website

Black in 'The Surnames of Scotland' says Norman is from Old English, Nordmann - a Northman or Dane. Tormod is gaelic for Norman.

The Norman name is also said to have derived from Normanville.

Tolmie

Sept of the MacLeods of Lewis
From The MacLeods - Genealogy of a Clan, Section 5 &
Raasay - The Island and its People by Norma MacLeod

Tolmies are descended from John Tolmach (or Holmach) MacLeod who was second son of Ruairidh Nimhneach MacLeod of Gairloch (Roderick the Venomous c. 1510 - 1586). Ruairidh Nimhneach was eldest son of Allan IV of Gairloch by his second wife. The lawful heirs of Gairloch were by Allan IV's first wife, a daughter of MacKenzie of Kintail.

Ruairidh Nimhneach schemed to assassinate all in his family with Mac-

Kenzie blood and who stood in the way of his offspring inheriting Gairloch and Raasay. In 1568 he invited the heirs of Gairloch (his half brother's two sons), the children of Alexander II of Raasay and some others to a feast on the Isle of Isay (off Skye). After the feast he professed to each guest that he had important matters to disclose to him alone. The guests were individually lead to an adjoining room where they were despatched with dirks by a gang of villians posted for the purpose. The scheme was not successful as the heir of Alexander II of Raasay was not present as he was fostered away from home by a loyal clansman.

The deed infuriated the powerful Clan MacKenzie who guided by the twin forces of greed for territory and vengeance drove the MacLeods from Gairloch. Many, including John Tolmach, escaped to Skye. They managed to retain just a small stronghold, a crannog called Eileen Gh-rudigh. In circa 1610 a severe skirmish took place between the MacLeods of Gairloch and the MacKenzies, it is unclear whether John Tolmach was in this raid or not. The MacLeods were defeated, their leader, a grandson of Ruairidh Nimhneach, captured and the few surviving, again escaped to Skye.

Tolmach (or Holmach) is derived from the Old Norse *holmr* meaning any feature, like a hill, that stood out. There is off Raasay a Holoman Island and off Skye a Holm Island. Possibly, John Tolmach lived near one of these at some time and this could be the source of his name.

An unlikely origin of the name is as a derivitive of Ptolmy from the time of the Romans, Ptolmy being from Egyptian conquests.

Williamson

MacWilliam, McWilliam

Sept of the MacLeods of Harris & Dunvegan

From Clan MacLeod website &

The Chiefs of Clan MacLeod by Alick Morrison

Tormod, second son of William Cleirearch (5th Chief of Harris & Dunvegan, 1365-1402), is said to be the progenitor of the Sliochd or race of MacUilleim (MacWilliam). The Sliochd includes the MacLeods of Borline, Waternish and Pabbay & St. Kilda. From this family is descended the famous Mairi nighean Alasdair Ruaidh, 'bardess of the Isles'.

