

Research Notes on the Pringles of Torwoodlee

by James Bruce Pringle (brother of Sir Murray Pringle of Stichill, 10th Bt).

On the question of Torwoodlee's history, I noticed that it's stated that Torwoodlee has been in the hands of the Pringles since 1501. However, the rentals of the Tweed ward show that David in Tynnes known also as 'Senior' received a new lease on Torwoodlee and Toftnes on 10th June 1485. David married a Murray and was in partnership with the Murrays. James 3rd of Smailholm also married a Murray. In other words, Torwoodlee was in the hands of the Pringles from at least 1480 – as the 10th June 1485 rental was extended by a further five years. David continued to hold it to the end of the century. We can add a further 21 years.

David in Tynnes was the youngest son of Archibald Hoppringill and Elizabeth Hoppringill daughter of Robert first of Smailholm and sister of David 2nd of Smailholm. There were four brothers – Adam of that ilk, William in Craiglatch, constable of Cessford castle, Alexander in Trinlyknowe who sometimes deputised for his uncle David in submitting the annual accounts for the Tweed ward and David in Tynnes, known as 'senior'.

In Edinburgh on 10th October 1508 a charter of the quarter lands of Clifton was gifted by M James Henrisoun, burges of Edinburgh, '*qua pro singulari amore ergo*' David Hoppringill in Tynnes to William Hoppringill, son of James of Smalhem; confirmed on 8th August 1509 (**G.S. 3370**).

In December 1510 a notarial instrument on assignation was made by David Hoppringill in Tynnis in favour of his cousin William in Torwoodlee under the Privy Seal to the lands of Tynnes and the hamlet of Glengabir both in the Yarrow ward of Ettrick Forest (**T.W. Box 30, no.4**).

My contention is that Archibald married Elizabeth Hoppringill, sister of David 2nd of Smailholm, and they produced:- Adam of that ilk, William of Craiglatch, constable of Cessford castle, Alexander of Trinlyknowe and David in Tynnes.

Clearly, there was a very special relationship between David in Tynnes and William first of Torwoodlee.