

Research Notes on the Hoppringills of that ilk by James Bruce Pringle (brother of Sir Murray Pringle of Stichill, 10th Bt).

February 2012: I want to correct the lineage of Hoppringill of that Ilk and in particular to remove Thomas as father of Mariote with her real father William.

What I am printing below can be seen from the [Manuscripts of the Duke of Athole and the Earl of Home](#) found in Electronic library, Great Britain. Royal Commission of Historical Manuscripts. It reads as follows:

256. Retour of Inquest held at Lauder before Laurence of Abernethy of Eothiemay bailie of the regality, by **William Hoppringill of that Ilk**, Alan Lauder, Gilbert Lauder, John Sinclair, Hector Lauder, Nicholas Foreman, David Chirnside, John Lauder of Burngrains, William Lauder, Adam Crosby, Thomas Lauder, William Nisbet, Robert Lorane, William Leis, William Wedall, and Alexander Learmonth, who being sworn declare that George Ker is nearest and lawful heir of his brother the late John Ker in the lands of Samuelston, valued at 40/- yearly, in time of peace only, held in chief of the Earl of Douglas, lord of the regality of Lauder, for a white rose at Midsummer, and now in the superior's hands for the space of one month since the death of the late John Ker. Dated at Lauder, Monday 31 October 1440. Three seals remaining.

William of that Ilk obviously died in 1458 without a male heir and Mariote his eldest daughter inherited her father's lands of Hoppringill, Glengelt, Kirktonhill and Muirhouse. There seems to have been a delay for the next Hoppringill of that Ilk to be confirmed but it was Alexander, father of Adam, who died in 1479. Adam, his son and heir, was confirmed as Hoppringill of that Ilk in 1480.

I believe that the Thomas previously stated to be Mariote's father may have been Robert, Master Ranger's successor to Wrangholm (north west part of Smailholm and quite separate from the main Smailholm lands and tower conveyed to Robert, Douglas squire – but I could be wrong.

Alexander Pringle was wrong to include George and Alexander, Douglas squires, and Robert who succeeded George as Master Ranger in his chapter on Smailholm because David of Pilmuir succeeded his father Robert, Douglas squire, to Smailholm (including the tower) as his son and heir. So the other three could not be his older brothers. I can't remember whether I sent you the proof – David's plea before the Earl of Douglas, as Robert's son and heir, to which George was witness in 1432-3. George would not have agreed that David was Robert's son and heir if he had not been.

Also William, constable of Cessford Castle and first of Craigleith was not a son of David but a son of either George, Robert or Alexander and Alexander, first of Trinlyknowe, was not a son of James of Smailholm but a brother of William, constable of Cessford Castle.

December 2014: Archibald Pringill (of that ilk). I think I have worked out why Adam's father Archibald was never stated to be of that ilk. To have been of that ilk he would have had to have had possession of Hoppringill, which of course was held by Mariote, William's heiress, until after the death of Archibald when the Lords granted Hoppringill to Alexander's son and heir Adam in 1480. Archibald appeared as the senior juror in 1461 and his seal is still intact today. Archibald married Elizabeth Hoppringill, Robert first of Smailholm's daughter and sister to David second of Smailholm

William, constable of Cessford Castle, was Archibald's second son. Alexander of Trinlyknowe and David in Tynnes were his younger brothers. William was first recorded as a juror at the Jedburgh Assize in January 1465, at which assize his uncle David of Smailholm was a witness. Alexander deputised for his first cousin James ranger of the Tweed ward on three separate occasions. William first of Torwoodlee obtained Toftnes, Torwoodlee and the quarter share of the barony of Clifton through the good offices of David in Tynnes who was married to a Murray as was James third of Smailholm. The Murray's and the Pringles were in partnership as well as being interrelated on both the male and female side.

March 2015: Hoppringill (now shown as Hoppringle) is a farmstead off the A7, a road from Galashiels to Edinburgh some five miles north of Stow. It is the cradle of the Pringle family. They resided at Hoppringill from the early 13th century. The head of the family held lands between the Gala and the Leader rivers. Mariote the heiress took with her Hoppringill, Glengelt, Kirktonhill and Muirhouse (just east of Stow). However, the King granted Glengelt to Lord Borthwick. Hoppringill was recovered by Adam Hoppringill of that ilk in 1480. The head of the name gradually moved down the A7 and the Gala river towards Galashiels first to Burnhouse and finally to Torsonce, which is just south of Stow. Burnhouse and Torsonce passed to the Pringles of Stitchill in the 18th century. Hoppringill had been sold.

It is not to be mistaken with Smailholm, which was granted to Robert Hoppringill, Douglas squire in 1408. I believe that Archibald (Adam's father) married Elizabeth daughter of Robert first of Smailholm. She was the sister of David second of Smailholm. They had at least four sons. I am descended from the second son William (constable of Cessford Castle) who is recorded holding lands in Muirhouse and property in Lauder between 1480 and 1501. William was first mentioned in January 1465 as a juror at the Jedburgh Assize at which his maternal uncle David second of Smailholm was a witness. Whereas his older brother Adam was first mentioned as a witness to a charter transferring Glengelt from William, Lord Borthwick to his son James on 19 December 1467, which was confirmed in Edinburgh on the following day.