

HOME'S
SURVEY
OF
ASSYNT

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JOHN HOME'S
SURVEY OF ASSYNT

JOHN HOME'S SURVEY OF ASSYNT

edited by
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with a map drawn by
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PREFACE

The documents printed in this volume throw some light on the condition of the parish of Assynt in the 1770's. They are printed as such, with an introduction designed to place them in their historical setting. The volume is in no sense a general survey of Highland social or economic history. It may be taken as a small repayment for a happy childhood spent in Assynt.

My colleague Dr. MacIver has drawn the map, which incorporates all the important topographical and agrarian information provided by Home's plans. Such value as this volume may have is in large part the result of her skill, and I am much in her debt.

His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.T., has most kindly permitted me to draw upon the Sutherland Papers at Dunrobin Castle, not only for the documents here printed, but also for the unpublished material used in the Introduction.¹ To him my chief thanks are due. Dr. MacIver, the Rev. Angus Mackenzie, the present minister of Assynt, and my father, in his time factor of Assynt, have read the manuscript. Mr. T. I. Rae has guided me through the intricacies of the Delvine Papers in the National Library of Scotland. Lastly, Dr. E. W. M. Balfour-Melville, the Secretary of the Society, has been patient and forbearing, and has saved me from many of the errors of inexperience.

R. J. ADAM.

ST. SALVATOR'S COLLEGE,
ST. ANDREWS,
April 1960.

¹ It may be explained here that documents quoted in the Introduction for which no references are given are amongst the unpublished Sutherland Papers at Dunrobin; also, that Assynt place-names are printed in the form used by the Ordnance Survey (except where the contemporary 18th-century spelling is reproduced).

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A generous contribution from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland towards the cost of producing this volume is gratefully acknowledged by the Council of the Society.



THESE ARE THE ONLY TWO PLACES WHERE
THE RIVER CROSSES THE GREAT CANYON

21

22



FARMS

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. ACHMELVICH | 27. INVERKIRKAIG AND BADNABAN |
| 2. ACHMORE | 28. KIRKTON |
| 3. ACHNACARNIN | 29. KNOCKAN |
| 4. ARDVAR | 30. LEDBEG |
| 5. AULTNACHIE | 31. LEDMORE |
| 6. BAD A' GHRIANAN | 32. LITTLE ASSYNT |
| 7. BADDIDARACH | 33. LOCH BEANNACH |
| 8. BALCHLADICH | 34. LYNE |
| 9. BRACKLOCH | 35. NEDD |
| 10. CLACHTOLL | 36. OLDANY |
| 11. CLASHMORE | 37. RIENTRAI |
| 12. CLASHNESSIE | 38. STOER |
| 13. CNOC NAN EACH | 39. STRONECRUBIE |
| 14. CROMALT | 40. TORBRECK |
| 15. CULAG | 41. TUBEG |
| 16. CULKEIN | 42. UNAPOOL |
| 17. CULKEIN DRUMBEG | |
| 18. DRUIM SUARDALAIN | |
| 19. DRUMBEG | |
| 20. DUBH CHLAIS AND POLL A' GHARBH BHAI | |
| 21. EADAR A' CHALDA | |
| 22. ELPHIN | |
| 23. FILIN | |
| 24. GLENLIRAIG | |
| 25. INCHNADAMPH | |
| 26. INVER | |

--- FARM BOUNDARIES

○ Open water and watercourses

— Roads

▨ ARABLE

▨ SHEELINGS

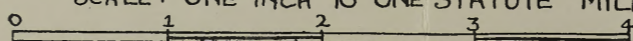
▨ WOODLAND

NOTE. EMPHASIS HAS BEEN LAID ON

GENERAL LOCATION OF LAND USE UNITS;

STRICT ACCURACY OF SCALE IS NOT CLAIMED

LAND NOT SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED CONSISTS OF ROCKY OUTCROPS WITH PASTURE
SCALE: ONE INCH TO ONE STATUTE MILE



MAP OUTLINE BASED ON O.S. 1:62,500 SERIES
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PARISH OF ASSYNT

LAND USE 1774

AFTER JOHN HOME



INTRODUCTION

i

Assynt in the mid-18th century retained many traces of its earlier clan history. Although Neil, the last Macleod Laird, lost his lands before 1692,¹ Macleods still formed the largest single name-group in the parish almost a century later.² The rivalry of Macleods and Mackenzies, with the displacement of a Macleod by a Mackenzie laird, was reflected in the Forty Five. Coll Macdonald, younger of Barrisdale, the Jacobite recruiting agent, and Lord Cromartie, of the younger Mackenzie house of Tarbat, were both able to collect a following for Prince Charles Edward in Assynt :³ on the other hand, Hugh Macleod of Geanies, brother's grandson to the last Macleod laird, raised an independent company from his Assynt fellow-clansmen to serve under Lord Loudoun on the Hanoverian side.⁴ The story of the acquisition of Assynt by the Sutherland family throws some light on this situation, and on the difficulties involved in translating a legal title into effective possession in the days before the disarming of the Highlands.

The first Mackenzie Laird of Assynt was John, second

¹ Alexander Mackenzie, *History of Macleods* (Inverness, 1889), 410-20 ; and *History of Mackenzies* (2nd edition, Inverness, 1894), 259-65 ; I. F. Grant, *The Macleods* (London, 1959), 320-2.

² *Infra*, xliii.

³ William Baillie of Rosehall wrote to William Earl of Sutherland on 7 October 1745, reporting that Barrisdale had called on him on his way to Assynt 'on private business' ; Baillie thought that Barrisdale was on a recruiting mission, but was sure that he would not 'cause disturbance in your lordship's country because his amity is assured.' Later, Baillie told Duncan Forbes of Culloden that Barrisdale had received many promises in Assynt, but that all but 30 of his recruits had deserted when the supplies of aquaviv ran out (G. Menary, *Duncan Forbes of Culloden* (London, 1936), 231). The greater part of Lord Cromartie's regiment was raised from his own lands in Easter Ross, and in Lochbroom and Coigach parish, but Captain John Mackenzie of Ardloch, from Assynt, aged 22, was taken prisoner and transported to Antigua (*Prisoners of the Forty Five*, iii (Scot. Hist. Soc., 1929), 124 ; *infra*, n. 123).

⁴ Menary, *op. cit.*, 304-5.

son of Kenneth, third Lord Seaforth, who was in occupation by the end of 1695.⁵ He died in 1705,⁶ and was succeeded by his son Kenneth, then a minor.⁷ Kenneth married his own cousin, Frances Mackenzie of Conansbay. He was, apparently, an indifferent manager of his affairs; he ran into heavy debt, and his wife had to act for him.⁸ By 1736 Kenneth was in such difficulties that he was making serious attempts to sell Assynt, for on 6 October he signed a disposition of the estate to William, Earl of Sutherland.⁹ The purchase price was 40,000 merks, the Earl taking burden for the payment of Kenneth's debts and allowing him an annual aliment of 400 merks out of the lands of Calda and Ardvreck. But less than a month later, on 3 November, Kenneth signed another disposition of Assynt, this time to William, formerly Earl of Seaforth, who took burden for his debts and allowed him 500 merks annual aliment.¹⁰

We can trace something of the background of this situation. According to a series of questions later prepared by the Earl of Sutherland's lawyers,¹¹ the Laird of Assynt sent his wife to hawk the estate around the neighbouring chiefs and landowners. Seaforth at first refused the terms asked, and Lady Assynt then went to Sutherland, who accepted. The disposition was drawn up and signed at

⁵ Mackenzie, *Mackenzies*, 281.

⁶ He was alive on 7 February 1705, but dead by 27 June (Nat. Lib. Scot., *Delvine MS. 1323*, 33, 82: the date of fo. 82 is '1705,' not '1715' as in the superscription). *MS. 1323* contains various letters from him, and others also relating to the Mackenzies of Assynt.

⁷ Colonel Alexander Mackenzie of Conansbay, John Mackenzie's brother, became tutor to Kenneth (*MS. 1323*, 39, 40). Kenneth was still under age on 25 March 1719 (*ibid.*, 97), but had come of age before 28 April 1725, when he received an assignation from Col. Alexander (*ibid.*, 130).

⁸ Col. Alexander Mackenzie, Lady Assynt's father, remained deeply involved in Kenneth's affairs after his majority. Alexander Mackenzie of Applecross had transferred to him, for Kenneth's behoof, a decret against the latter's father. On 27 May 1726 Col. Alexander consented, for any title that he might have to the lands of Assynt, to a redemption of a wadset by his former pupil (*Part. Reg. Sasines, Inverness* 8, 295^r). He was dead by 17 May 1728 (*MS. 1323*, 136). His daughter's marriage to Kenneth took place before 4 September 1728, when her husband gave her a special power of factory (*P.R.S. Inverness*, 8, 472^r).

⁹ *P.R.S. Inverness*, 9, 71v.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 9, 70^r.

¹¹ *Infra*, n. 34.

Calda House, the Laird's home ; Lady Assynt had already extracted a loan of £100 sterling from the Earl.¹² Seaforth, however, took fright at the prospect of Assynt passing out of Mackenzie hands. Whilst Lady Assynt was absent from Calda, he sent for her husband to come to Brahan. There, under what pressure we can only guess, the Laird was forced to sign the second disposition.

A complicated situation thereupon developed. Lady Assynt went to Brahan, in an attempt to see her husband.¹³ She was refused access, and an estrangement developed. Kenneth, apparently, never returned to Assynt. At some subsequent date he went to Lewis, where—or so the Sutherland lawyers believed—he was kept under duress.

Meanwhile, both Seaforth and Sutherland took steps to establish their titles. Both sent procurators to take sasine.¹⁴ Sutherland's procurators started a day sooner, but Seaforth's representatives showed the greater urgency, and his sasine was registered at Fortrose more than twenty-four hours before his rival's.¹⁵ Legal action soon turned into something more forceful. Sutherland's lawyers had some doubts about the validity of his title.¹⁶ To reinforce it, the Earl therefore sent a party to collect the rents of the

¹² Lady Assynt drew a bill for this sum on Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch, the later factor of Assynt, on 3 May 1736. The bill was payable at Martinmas 1741, but Ardloch defaulted and was put to the horn on 3 December 1741. Whether payment was finally made is unknown.

¹³ Apparently in April 1737, for Col. James St. Clair (for whom see *infra*, n. 21) wrote to the Earl of Sutherland on 23 April: 'I wish that the Lady Assynt may succeed in hir expedition into Ross, for without She can get hold of hir Husband, I am affraid that your right to the Lands will be found to be very diffident. . . . But they have had time to worke upon him, and to confirme him in his Rebellion against hir.'

¹⁴ *P.R.S. Inverness*, 9, 70^r, 71^v. Sutherland's procurator took sasine between 8 and 13 November, Seaforth's between 9 and 12 November. The two must have crossed each other's tracks, or even met, on 10 November, when both took sasine of Clashmore, Clashnessie and Stoer. George Sinclair, tacksman of Filin, who wrote the disposition to Sutherland, was one of the two bailiies who gave sasine to Seaforth's procurator.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Seaforth's sasine was registered between 1 and 2 p.m. on 15 November, Sutherland's between 5 and 6 p.m. on the following day.

¹⁶ Alexander Gordon of Cairnfield, Sutherland's Edinburgh agent, writing on 29 January 1737, pointed out that Lady Assynt's right to dispose the estate was questionable, for she had only a power of factory, which her husband could revoke at will.

estate in April 1737. It met with some violence,¹⁷ and shortly afterwards, while Lady Assynt was absent, Calda House was burned down.¹⁸ The event was remembered in local tradition, which ascribed it to her reckless extravagance. Evidence was later produced that those responsible came from Kintail and Lochalsh, and the hand of Seaforth was suspected.¹⁹ Robert MacAlister, Sutherland's factor at Dunrobin, went to Assynt in May with Baillie Kenneth Sutherland of Dornoch and others, but no trace of the culprits could be found and local connivance was presumed.²⁰ Colonel James St. Clair,²¹ the Countess of Sutherland's uncle, who was in London, laid the case before the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor-General. They were anxious to help, but pressed for a specific deposition to be made before the Sheriff of Sutherland (i.e. the Earl himself), naming the

¹⁷ Earl of Sutherland to John Baillie, agent for Lady Assynt, 11 April 1737 (printed in Sir William Fraser, *Sutherland Book* (3 vols., Edinburgh, 1892), ii, 237-8).

¹⁸ The ruins still stand on the shores of Loch Assynt, close to Ardvreck Castle. They remain much as Home sketched them.

¹⁹ A memorial, dated 26 December 1737, was based on information given by Kenneth Matheson and Duncan Cameron, tacksman in Cracaig. Matheson was considered a strong witness, Cameron only a hearsay one. Matheson provided a list of names: 'Alexander Mathison alias Mcfarqhar in Bracontra in Craig in Lochalsh being the person who told Mathison of the rest. Murdoch Mcfarquhar in Achihuron the Captain or Leader of the band, his Two Brothers Donald and John Mcfarquhars in Achihuron, Calum McIoin VicComb in Achnashelack . . . being fifteen more in Company they came to the house of Kenneth McMurochy Reoch in Lochbroun where they gott their Dinner. And he spoke to the landlady who informed him of what they had been about. And he was told there was likewise with them John Mackenzie son to Mr. Donald Mackenzie in Kintail' (and four others). Cameron added 14 names on hearsay, some of which appear to duplicate those given by Matheson. The writer of the memorial advised that further evidence should be sought before a warrant was taken out, and the people mentioned in Cameron's information should be referred to, that the truth might be discovered—'In Short Every Bush ought to be beat, wher there is the least Prospect of Starting the Game.'

²⁰ William Munro to Earl of Sutherland, Brea, 19 May 1737: 'All the willians that Brunt Calda house is gone out of the Countrie for they were searched throw all Asin up and down and none found, Surly they head Country men with them which will be found as yet.'

²¹ James St. Clair (d. 1762), son of Henry, 10th Lord Sinclair (attainted after the Fifteen); Col. of Royal Scots, 1737, Brigadier-General, 1739; see *Scots Peerage*, vii, 588-9. His sister Elizabeth was wife of David, 3rd Earl of Wemyss, and mother of Elizabeth, Countess of Sutherland.

offenders.²² General Wade was prepared to send some of the new Highland Companies to restore order, if needed. Nothing more than hearsay evidence, however, was ever forthcoming, and by the close of the year the attempt to bring the incendiaries to justice had petered out.

The legal battle meanwhile continued. The Laird of Assynt, guided by Seaforth's lawyers, brought an action for the reduction of the disposition to the Earl of Sutherland. As early as April 1737 trouble was anticipated.²³ The position was complicated by the fact that Kenneth could not be found. St. Clair told Seaforth's lawyer in August that the Laird must be produced by the beginning of the session,²⁴ but he had not appeared by 1 December, when the process was debated before Lord Roystoun. The Sutherland lawyers argued that Assynt should be required to present himself and give oath, to which Seaforth's agents objected. Lord Roystoun deferred a decision.²⁵ Meanwhile, Sutherland had his own difficulties. He had not paid the 40,000 merks originally agreed on, and found funds difficult to raise. To secure the money, he entered into an agreement with Roderick McLeod of Cadboll. Cadboll was to give a bond for the price and to become the nominal purchaser, whilst at the same time giving an undertaking to transfer his rights to the Earl within two years.²⁶

Time did nothing to simplify the situation. Fraserdale,²⁷

²² Col. St. Clair, writing to the Earl from London on 11 June, reported that he had laid a letter from the Earl before Earl Ilay, the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor-General, who were unable to give any warrants without specific names. He asked that any clues should be followed up, and continued: 'If Lovat, Glengary and Locheill are realy Your frinds I hope this affair must come to light, . . . if we can but get hold of the truth, I belive Seaforth will give no further trouble about Assint, and be glade to get off so easily.'

²³ *Supra*, n. 17.

²⁴ 'Memorial by Col. St. Clair to Robert MacAlister concerning Lord Sutherland's affairs. August 31st 1737.' William Forbes, Seaforth's lawyer, promised that Assynt would appear.

²⁵ Gordon of Cairnfield reported on 2 December that the Laird of Assynt might be allowed to depone *in absentia*.

²⁶ Articles of agreement were signed on 25 and 26 November 1737, and Cadboll added explanatory articles on 19 December.

²⁷ Alexander Mackenzie (d. 1755), son of Roderick Mackenzie of Prestonhall and grandson of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat; in 1702 he married Amelia, daughter of Hugh, 10th Lord Lovat, and assumed the name of Fraser and designation of Fraserdale (W. Fraser, *The Earls of Cromartie* (2 vols., Edinburgh, 1876), i, lxiii).

a creditor of the Laird of Assynt, was preparing to bring a process.²⁸ Lady Assynt, too, was creating difficulties. In January 1738 there was even rumour of a reconciliation with her husband.²⁹ She had not received the 40,000 merks, nor a bond in security. In straits for money, she wrote to Colonel St. Clair, asking him to see that she received an immediate security. St. Clair, not surprisingly, was reluctant. He agreed that her request would have been reasonable, had the title she had given the Earl to Assynt been a good one, but, as things stood, he advised Sutherland on 29 January that she should be 'kept in play with fair words', and that no money should be advanced to her. By May 1738 Cadboll had come to the conclusion that there were too many uncertainties involved for him to risk losing his money.³⁰ By July the Earl's lawyers were advising him not to try to put his title into effect. It had become obvious that the Laird's debts, for which the Earl had taken burden, were very large and onerous.³¹ Thereafter the attempt was tacitly abandoned; an unsuccessful effort to collect the rents in April 1738 was probably the last serious move made.³²

Lady Assynt, without the 40,000 merks, and £100 sterling in debt to the Earl, was left in a difficult position. She could get no maintenance from her absent husband, although in July 1738 she came to Edinburgh to bring an action against him for aliment. Gordon of Cairnfield reported on 21 July that she was in a miserable condition. Eventually, in March 1739, her action came before the Lords of Session. They ordered that she have interim aliment of £50 until 1 June; the Laird was commanded to appear at their bar so that they could discover if he

²⁸ So Cairnfield reported to the Earl of Sutherland on 2 December 1737.

²⁹ Cadboll wrote to the Earl of Sutherland on 30 January that she was said to be 'makeing up with the Man.'

³⁰ Cairnfield to the Earl of Sutherland, Findhorn, 23 May 1738: he had been with Cadboll the previous night and had discovered him unwilling to continue.

³¹ Cairnfield to the Earl of Sutherland, 21 July 1738.

³² Cadboll criticised the failure when writing to the Earl of Sutherland on 12 April. There had been an earlier attempt in midwinter: Robert MacAlister wrote from Achany near Lairg on 5 January that he was on his way to Assynt, despite bad storms on the hills.

were in freedom or under constraint—and then, wrote Cairnfield on 14 March, ‘we shall see what influence the Lady’s charms or art can have over him after so large an absence.’

Assynt’s own process of reduction against Sutherland’s title meanwhile continued on its course. When it was debated on 12 July 1739, the Lords were unanimous for reduction. The old problem of the Laird’s non-appearance, however, remained. The Lords therefore sisted all further procedure ‘till Assint himself appear personally, and declare if he is for reducing it or not, for they will not suffer the process to proceed at his Instance till they know if he is a free Leidge or not.’³³ At the same time they took the decisive step of sequestrating the estate, naming Fraserdale—a principal creditor—as judicial factor, and ordering him to pay the Laird £50 sterling to pay his expenses in coming to Edinburgh to appear before them on 1 November. Lady Assynt considered that she had gained her own point by this judgement, and Cairnfield consoled himself with the thought that now Seaforth could only secure Assynt by purchase at a public roup. With the Earl of Sutherland’s other lawyers, he prepared some pointed questions to be put to the Laird.³⁴ But there is no evidence that the latter

³³ Cairnfield reported their decision to the Earl of Sutherland by letter the following day.

³⁴ ‘Interrogators for the Earl of Sutherland to be put to Kenneth McKenzie of Assint. 1739.

1. Did you, your wife, son and friends not offer your estate, on account of debts affecting it, to Kenneth (*sic*) late Marquis (*sic*) of Seaforth in September or October 1736, for a bond of 40,000 merks in liferent to you and wife or longest liver, and to son in fee, and with annuity of 400 merks, and payment of all your debts?
2. Did you not send your wife to make the offer, which Seaforth refused, but only proposed to take a disposition of Assint and pay you an annuity of 400 merks only?
3. Did you not send your wife then to make the offer to Lord Sutherland?
4. When your wife was absent, did not Lord Seaforth send for you to come to Brahan, where you then signed a disposition to him which gave you no value for the salmon of Assint nor take burden for your debts? Were you not told that your wife was then in the change-house nearby, and come to Brahan to see you and was refused access? Have you since desired to return to Assint? By whose advice did you stay at Brahan? Who advised you to go to the Lewis? Have you since desired to return to Assint but could not find any opportunity?

ever came to Edinburgh. Seaforth died in 1740,³⁵ the estate remained under sequestration, and the Mackenzies of Assynt vanished from history.³⁶

For twenty years Assynt remained without a legal owner. Fraserdale appears to have been an absentee factor,³⁷ and the tenants were left much to their own devices. Even the aftermath of the Forty Five left little mark. By the 1750's, however, the legal process began to stir again. Janet Sinclair of Ulbster, a sister of the Earl of Sutherland—now dead—who had unsuccessfully tried to secure Assynt in 1736, wrote on 25 June 1754 to her mother, Katherine Lady Strathnaver,³⁸ asking if she was interested in purchasing the estate. Mrs. Sinclair also wrote to the minister of Assynt for information on the estate.³⁹

Lady Strathnaver was, in fact, the eventual purchaser. The Lords of Session ranked the creditors of the late Laird on 19 February 1757, and in July a judicial roup was held.⁴⁰ A decret of sale in favour of the highest bidder, Lady Strathnaver, completed the long process. Even before

³⁵ *S.P.*, vii, 511. Cairnfield wrote to the Earl of Sutherland on 31 January, reporting that it was rumoured in Edinburgh that Seaforth had died in Lewis during the previous week.

³⁶ The above narrative corrects Mackenzie, *Mackenzies*, 281, where it is stated that Kenneth Mackenzie of Assynt died childless in 1723. He certainly lived until 1739, and he had a son (*S.P.*, vii, 509). Col. St. Clair, writing to the Earl of Sutherland on 28 May 1737, warned 'Lady Assint to be cany about her Son, for car shall be taken to keep him out of his Chifes hands, and to support hir and hir Sons interest with relation to the Esteat, as far as Law can.' The dates of the deaths of Kenneth and his wife are unknown.

³⁷ Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch informed John Mackenzie of Delvine, the Sutherland agent in Edinburgh, on 25 April 1761 that Fraserdale had changed his subfactors four times during the sequestration (*Nat. Lib. Scot., Delvine MS. 1319*, 26).

³⁸ For Lady Strathnaver (d. 1765), see Fraser, *Sutherland Book*, i, 395-7. Her son, William Earl of Sutherland, bought the estate of Rosebank in Midlothian in 1734, and gave her a liferent tack.

³⁹ In reply, Rev. William Scobie (father of Kenneth Scobie, later tacksman of Achmore) reported on 27 August 1754 that the annual income of the estate was 7000 merks Scots (£490), but that Lady Strathnaver would face many bidders; however, 'tho' Assint should sell at Thirtie years purchase, the Head will pay for the washing.'

⁴⁰ These details are narrated in a renunciation by Hugh Macleod of Geanies (*infra*, n. 44).

it was finished Janet Sinclair was congratulating her mother.⁴¹

The purchase was not a straightforward one. Lady Strathnaver, over 30 years a widow, was an acute business-woman, and she did not intend to become a proprietrix in her own right. As an agreement of 26 July showed, she was in effect advancing £12,000 sterling for the purchase of Assynt by her grandson, the contemporary Earl of Sutherland. This was 'with a view to enlarge the property of the Family of Sutherland in that Country where the Family Estate lies.' The arrangements were strictly business-like. Lady Strathnaver disposed to Earl William the fee title which she had purchased, reserving a liferent to herself; this liferent she then set in tack to the Earl for £600 annual tack duty (a return of 5% on her money). The Earl assumed responsibility for the payment of stipend and all public burdens on the estate. The final steps followed. The Earl recognised the superiority under which the Mackenzie lairds had held from their clan chiefs of Seaforth, and on 22 June he obtained a charter of confirmation from Kenneth Mackenzie of Seaforth, called Lord Fortrose.⁴² Shortly afterwards he bought the superiority from Fortrose, and took out a charter under the Great Seal.⁴³ His title was now complete. The Mackenzie line was extinct, and the dormant Macleod claim does not appear to have been

⁴¹ Janet Sinclair of Ulbster to Lady Strathnaver, Thurso East, 3 July 1757 (printed in Fraser, *Sutherland Book*, ii, 281): 'Ulster and I we congratulate your ladyship on the purchase of the Assynt estate. Be assured that the purchase is a good one. The Mackenzies offered Lord Seaforth the loan of £14,000 sterling to make that purchase for himself. But as he had not much ambition, he declined accepting so good an offer. You have now a whole country to your self, a command of men, that may make you of consequence to the government, and a valuation that will intitle you to make seven votes; and in the view of profit, a fine salmon fishing, the best cattle and butter in the north of Scotland.'

⁴² For Lord Fortrose (d. 1761), see Mackenzie, *Mackenzies*, 316-28. He was the eldest son of William, Earl of Seaforth, who had so troubled the Sutherlands in 1737. As the title had been lost with Earl William's attainder in 1716, his son (the Lord Seaforth referred to in n. 41 *supra*), used the courtesy style of Lord Fortrose.

⁴³ Mackenzie of Delvine's accounts as Sutherland law agent give the details of these transactions. Fortrose received £200 as composition for Sutherland's charter of confirmation and entry to Assynt, and £350 for the sale of the superiority.

revived.⁴⁴ When Lady Strathnaver died in 1765 her liferent right expired; the death of Earl William in the following year left Assynt, with the other Sutherland lands, to his daughter, the Countess Elizabeth, then a little over a year old.

ii

It was during the Countess' minority that the surveying of the Sutherland estates was first considered. The contemporary Lochtayside Survey,⁴⁵ and the maps in the Forfeited Estates Papers and the Gordon Castle Papers⁴⁶ show that systematic surveying was being extended beyond the Lowlands into the more difficult country of the Highlands. The Sutherland Papers at Dunrobin contain several maps and surveys which show

⁴⁴ The Macleods had been aware of the difficulties in which Kenneth Mackenzie of Assynt had been involved. On 8-13 May 1738 Norman Macleod of Macleod, by his attorney Roderick Macleod in Inver, took sasine of Assynt, on a disposition to his grandfather, John Macleod of Dunvegan, by Neil Macleod of Assynt, dated 24 November 1681 (*P.R.S. Inverness*, 9, 129^v). This disposition, as recorded in the sasine, gives an older and fuller enumeration of the lands of Assynt than Kenneth Mackenzie's dispositions to Sutherland and Seaforth (*supra*, nn. 9, 10). The witnesses are noteworthy: Roderick Macleod, tacksman of Ledmore, John Macleod in Cromalt, Hugh Macleod alias MacCormal in Ledmore. Neither of the other claimants used Assynt witnesses. Sutherland's sasine was witnessed by Charles Gordon, writer in Dornoch, and George Dempster, burghess of Dornoch, and Seaforth's by Murdo Mackenzie, second son of deceased Alexander Mackenzie, late chamberlain of Brahan, and William Fraser, second son of William Fraser, tacksman of Ferrytown of Brahan. Hugh Macleod of Geanies, the blood heir of the Macleod lairds, was also interested in Assynt. On 26 March 1733 he bought a wadset right to Oldany. This right had a long history, being originally granted by Donald Macleod Neilson of Assynt to John Mackeanroch in Oldany and Katherine Macleod Neilson, his wife, on 8 May 1613. From John Mackeanroch it descended to his son John, his grandson Neil, his great-grandson Angus, and finally to Angus' only child Margaret, who took sasine on 29 April 1730. Geanies bought the right from her. He renounced it to Lady Strathnaver on 18 July 1757. For Macleod claims on Assynt see also Grant, *Macleods*, 322, 398, and W. Mackay in *Trans. Gaelic Soc. Inverness*, xvi, 197-207.

⁴⁵ *Scot. Hist. Soc.*, 1936.

⁴⁶ Both in Scottish Record Office. A series of 26 maps of the Cromartie estate in Coigach (*S.R.O., Forfeited Estates Papers, Particular Management, Coigach*, vol. 145) were drawn by Peter May, who surveyed the estate in 1756; his maps contain summary totals of area, but no details. Despite Home's references to the terms offered by the Duke of Gordon (*infra*, 55), none of the maps in the Gordon Castle Papers is his work.

the trend moving very far north. Of these *John Home's Survey of Assynt* is the last, the finest—and unquestionably the most expensive.

The Minute-Book of the Countess' Tutors⁴⁷ shows how the surveying programme was carried out. The moving spirit behind it was Captain James Sutherland, the general commissioner on the estates, under whose supervision worked the local factors, James Campbell of Turrerick, factor on the east coast estates, and Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch, factor of Assynt. Presumably because there were no local men of sufficient competence, two surveyors from Edinburgh, John Kirk junior and John Home, were engaged to do the actual work.

Kirk was appointed by the Tutors on 11 July 1771,⁴⁸ and went to Sutherland in the same summer. He worked until mid-October⁴⁹ in the east coast parishes, and returned in the next year, leaving Edinburgh on 17 June to resume work in Golspie parish. Captain Sutherland was anxious that he should make a start on Assynt during 1772,⁵⁰ but by the time he went south in the autumn of that year Kirk had apparently not finished in Golspie. The two surviving

⁴⁷ The Tutors, as originally nominated by the Countess' father, Earl William, on 15 January 1765, were the Duke of Athole, the Earl of Elgin, Lord Justice-Clerk Thomas Miller, Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, James Wemyss of Wemyss, Sir David Dalrymple of Hailes, Alexander Boswell of Auchinleck, and John Mackenzie of Delvine. Their Minute-Book is preserved at Dunrobin; subsequent references in this introduction to their transactions are derived from it.

⁴⁸ He was 'to be allowed each Season £20 for his personal Charges, £5 for his travelling Charges, And to be indemnified in the expence of furnishing the Men necessary for assisting him in the survey.' On his own proposal he was 'to be rewarded by the Tutors for the Survey and Plans after the work is finisht as Mr. Wemyss and the other Tutors think him deserving.'

⁴⁹ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., the Tutors' cashier and law agent, 15 October 1771: 'Mr. Kirk the Surveyor talks of ending his Survey for this Season in a few days, he has Surveyed the whole of the Parish of Loth and from the Bridge of Brora till the burn of Culmailly which comprehends part of the Parish of Clyn and the greatest part of the Arrable land of the parish of Golspie.'

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*: 'As the Tacks in Assint will expire in three Years, I wish the Tutors would approve of Mr. Kirks beginning there next Summer after he has finisht the Parish of Golspie, no Heritor interferes with the Countess in that Parish and befor the Tutors can give new leases they can have the several farms laid befor them to judge if the offers shall be adequate to the Farms.'

pieces of his draughtmanship⁵¹ were probably drawn in the winter of 1772-3. In 1773 he went to Sutherland again. He was at Wemyss House on 20 May, and by 1 June he was in Assynt.⁵² There he fell sick. He was ill at Ardloch's house of Ledbeg for 40 days, and despite a doctor and a nurse being fetched from the east coast he died in late July or early August.⁵³ His death was formally reported to the Tutors at their meeting on 30 November, when they appointed John Home to succeed him.

The new surveyor was instructed to start by completing Kirk's assignment in Assynt, but in fact he spent some time in the early summer of 1774 finishing the latter's work in Golspie. He did not leave for Assynt until 7 or 8 June, accompanied by his two assistants, Crawford and Anderson, and four 'lads' provided by Captain Sutherland from Dunrobin.⁵⁴

⁵¹ A plan of Easter Helmsdale and Navidale, 'surveyed and planned by John Kirk, 1771'; and 'A Book of Plans of the Parish of Loth the Property of the Countess of Sutherland Containing Threeten Different Farms Surveyed and Planned by John Kirk Junr. 1772.' Between 21 January 1772 and 7 May 1773 Kirk was paid £50 by the Tutors' cashier. In all he received £70, but there is no final statement of money paid to him and money due, although on 7 April 1774, after his death, the Tutors directed that such a statement be drawn up.

⁵² On 1 June a boll of oatmeal was fetched from 'the low country' (east Sutherland) for Kirk and his servants 'while he was Surveying Part of the Estate of Assint' (Assynt Factor's Accounts, 1772).

⁵³ Daniel Forbes, 'chyrurgeon in Dornoch,' who attended the sick man, was at Ledbeg on 15 July, when he witnessed Ardloch's signature to his Factor's Account for 1771. Ardloch's Account for 1772 throws some light on the hazards of illness in a remote area. Two expresses had to be sent to Tain for medicine, each at a cost of 2/6. A nurse, who was paid £1, was 'Provided from Tain Because she could speak English.' Forbes was paid 18 pence per day (£3 in all) and his horse cost Ardloch £1, for it had to be 'Teathered in my Best Hay as he would take no other.' Another express went to Tain for a winding sheet after Kirk's death, and the funeral was costly: 'a Coffin coverd with Black Cloath, 10/-; digging the grave, 1/-; 18 Pints Gin, £2.5/-; 3 Pints Rum, 9/-; 4 Pounds Sugar, 4/-; 1 Stone Butter and 2 Stones Cheese, 14/-; 2 Wedders, 10/-.' The total spent on Kirk came to £21.3.8½, and Ardloch declared that 'I would not Undertake Such a piece of Trouble Again for Double the Sum charged here.'

⁵⁴ Captain Sutherland ordered James Campbell, the factor at Dunrobin, on 8 June to send 10 bolls of meal by a Golspie fishing-boat to Rosehall, where one of Home's assistants was to remain with it until Ardloch sent men to carry it to Assynt. This is an interesting indication of the use of water transport. The Oykeell estuary is tidal almost as far as Rosehall. Ardloch's Accounts show that on other occasions meal was taken upstream

Once in Assynt, his movements can be reconstructed in some detail, between his arrival at Ledbeg on 9 June and his final departure on 16 September.⁵⁵ His accounts show something of the difficulties of field-work in such wild country. He worked on foot,⁵⁶ recruiting local men to lead the measuring-chain and to point out the marches. As he went he sketched and protracted.⁵⁷ Amongst a suspicious Gaelic-speaking people,⁵⁸ and in country as rugged as any in Britain, it was hardly surprising that he found it necessary to lay out a good deal of money on spirits. Sometimes this was 'for the use of self and Assistants who led the Chain to enable them to endure the fatigue of widing through Lochs and Mosses from Morning early till Late at night';⁵⁹ sometimes it was for 'Tenents for showing their Marches as they could not be prevaild with to do so without it'.⁶⁰ Two of the east coast men sent by Captain Sutherland failed to stand the pace,⁶¹ and there were times when Home himself

as far as Ochtow, some 12 miles above Bonar Bridge. There was no bridge on the road from the east coast to Assynt (*Old Statistical Account*, xvi, 165-6), but horses made the journey with quite heavy loads. When Rev. William Mackenzie, minister of Assynt, rebuilt his manse at Kirkton in 1771, he brought fir-wood from William Baillie's wood of Glenenach (Glen Einig) in Kincardine parish. 16 joists were hauled by two horses each, and 32 other horses each hauled a single couple-beam (Sutherland Factor's Account, 1776). A small amount of wood, for joists and lintels, was found in Lead-lanich moss, within a mile of the manse.

⁵⁵ *Infra*, 56-8. From 9 June to 7 July he was at Ledbeg (Ardloch wrote to Captain Sutherland on 20 June that 'Mr. Home was ailing here yesterday, but seems better this day and is at Breakfast with us'; the factor must have hoped that another surveyor would not go the same way as Kirk). From 7 to 28 July Home lodged with the minister at the manse of Assynt. He was next at Little Assynt for two weeks, including 5 August, and then at Stoer for a short time. On 9 and 23 August he was at Oldany; he lodged there for ten nights in all, possibly in two separate periods. On 26 August he was at Ardvar, where he stayed for three nights. Finally, he was at Inver on 1 September, and stayed for two weeks before returning to Ledbeg and Ledmore.

⁵⁶ He paid the minister two guineas for grazing for his horse from 10 June until 16 September (*infra*, 56).

⁵⁷ *Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1583* contains a series of sketch maps of lands in Glenlyon (ff. 126-51), surveyed in August and September 1794 by one John Home. Allowing for the difference in date, the hand appears to be that found in the Assynt maps. The Glenlyon maps were apparently required for a lawsuit. Their most interesting feature is the light they throw on field methods; the sketches are extremely rough, containing descriptive jottings, notes of areas, projection lines and landscape profiles.

⁵⁸ See his comments on Balchladich (*infra*, 11).

⁵⁹ *Infra*, 56.

⁶⁰ *Infra*, 57.

⁶¹ *Infra*, 57.

was hesitant. His expedition on 17 July, when he traversed the Braebag ridge, over 2600 feet high, obviously weighed on his mind,⁶² and the remote marches of Achmore, along the shattered crest of Glas Bhein, were too much for him. But the completeness of his survey is the best evidence of his thoroughness.

By November Home was back in Edinburgh,⁶³ at work on the general map and 16 separate plans, now kept at Dunrobin, which form the basis of this volume.⁶⁴ He was working under pressure, for Captain Sutherland was anxious to have the use of the plans when he carried out the new set of Assynt in the summer of 1775.⁶⁵ Home in fact completed his part of the business, for the Tutors were told on 11 March that the plans had been delivered, though it is not certain that they were sent north in time for Sutherland to consult them before his meeting with the Assynt tenants at Kirkton on 15 May.⁶⁶

If pleased with Home's speed, the Tutors were less appreciative of his charges. Shocked by the cost, they instructed Alexander Mackenzie, their cashier, on 11 March to settle the account; they also decided not to continue for the moment with the project of surveying all the estates. Mackenzie was apparently reluctant to pay in full, for in June Home submitted a memorial to the Tutors,⁶⁷ showing that he had so far received only £176.6 towards his account for £324.9.2. The Tutors, on 23 June, agreed to pay a further £100 at once and to refer the outstanding balance of £48.3.2 to the decision of Sir Adam Fergusson of

⁶² *Infra*, 46.

⁶³ *Infra*, 58.

⁶⁴ The only other example of Home's work at Dunrobin is a book of plans of Golspie parish. Only one of these contains a sketch similar to those appearing on all of the Assynt plans, and the whole volume has a less finished appearance.

⁶⁵ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., 23 February 1775: 'By a letter yow sent me from Mr. Home the Surveyor, I find he is engaged in protracting the parish of Assynt, it will be necessary that his Plan be sent me befor I go to Assent to settle with the People for their new Leases.'

⁶⁶ Mackenzie paid 3/- on 12 August 'for a box to hold the Plans of Assint sent north to Capt. Sutherland and for Shiping Charges.' It is possible that the plans actually travelled before August, but there is no evidence to confirm this.

⁶⁷ *Infra*, 58-9.

Kilkerran. Home accepted this,⁶⁸ and on the basis of Kilkerran's report⁶⁹ the Tutors made a final payment of £21 on 15 January 1776. There is no evidence that Home pressed the matter. Probably he was not ill-content. Whether the excellence of the maps, and Sir Adam's commendation of them, reconciled the Tutors to the cost may be doubted. Home's expedition, however, was remembered in Assynt two decades later.⁷⁰ It had, too, an immediate relevance to the problems that faced the Tutors and their agents in Sutherland. To these problems we must now turn.

iii

The background to all Highland history in the 1770's was emigration to North America. The phenomenon has been examined, both in its origins and in its American results, and attempts have been made to explain the forces which caused it.⁷¹ The Assynt material, reinforced by other evidence from the Sutherland Papers, throws some light on the whole complex situation.⁷²

⁶⁸ See his receipt for £100, dated 24 June 1775 (*infra*, 55-6).

⁶⁹ Sir Adam Fergusson to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., 8 August 1775: 'As you was present at my conversing with Mr. Home, you will recollect that he admitted that his Charge, both for the arable and pasture lands, was much higher than usual, and that he put the reason of that higher charge upon the nature of the Country, which I could not judge of, having never seen it. I never paid any Surveyor myself by the Acre, but always by the Day; because I wanted to know the real extent of my Land, not to lay the Surveyor under the temptation of encreasing the quantity, in order to augment his own profit: But I am certain that, in this country, the work might have been cheaper, even in a greater proportion than that admitted by Mr. Home. It is very true that the plans are neatly drawn, and the observations accompanying them have the appearance of accuracy and attention. If upon these Accounts, the other Curators chuse to go farther than appears to be strictly due, I shall not object to it.'

⁷⁰ *O.S.A.*, xvi, 166.

⁷¹ See in particular M. I. Adam, *The Highland Emigration of 1770* (*Scot. Hist. Review*, xvi, 280-93); more recently, I. C. C. Graham, *Colonists from Scotland* (Cornell, 1956) and M. Gray, *The Highland Economy, 1750-1850* (Edinburgh, 1957).

⁷² What follows is not intended to be an exhaustive discussion of emigration. It is limited to an examination of the Sutherland evidence in the light of existing ideas about emigration. More general conclusions cannot properly be drawn from evidence for so restricted an area.

The fact of emigration from Sutherland is undoubted.⁷³ In December 1771 Captain Sutherland was reporting that the Assynt tenants were talking of emigration, and threatening to do as the 'Isle of Sky People' had done.⁷⁴ The winter of 1771-2 was a difficult one, and as it moved on the note of alarm deepened in Sutherland's letters. On 17 February he wrote at length to Edinburgh about a general restlessness in Strathnaver.⁷⁵ With summer restlessness changed into action. Some Sutherland emigrants were in Edinburgh in June, on their way to Carolina,⁷⁶ and other

⁷³ Its beginnings go far back. On 8 February 1763 Ardloch reported to John Mackenzie of Delvine that young men in America, natives of Assynt, had made proposals to take tacks at a 5% yearly increase over the existing rents until those stood at 25% more, the leases to run for 40 or 50 years; the proposers had brothers and other relatives in the parish who would enter the tacks until they themselves appeared (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1319*, 41).

⁷⁴ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 20 December 1771: '... there is nothing that I am more certain of than that the Assent People have a Scheme to plead poverty, in hopes as their Tacks are near run out, to deminish the present rent, or at least to prevent an augmentation, and to favour this plan they have told Ardloch that they have some thoughts to follow the example of the Isle of Sky People.' For the Skye emigration see Graham, *Colonists from Scotland*, 75-6.

⁷⁵ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 17 February 1772: 'I am now to inform you that there is a migration going on in this Country in imitation of the Isle of Skay People, since it has come to my knowledge there was no possibility of seeing the People but now as the thaw is begun, I have appointed all those who intend to leave the Country with the Tacksmen, under whom they have lived for some Years past to meet me at Kildonan the 28th Inst., that being the most central place for both the Parish of Kildonan and Far, I do not hear of any embarking in this Scheme but the Subtenants of those who have large highland Tacks except George Mackay at Mudal (at the head of Loch Naver) and a young lad of the Name of Macpherson. I wrote to George Mackay at Mudal who is the ringleader but I have no answer from him as yet. . . . I guess that their great argument in support of the migration will be the Want of Victual and the opression they meet with from their Masters the Tacksmen, this is rather a disagreeable expedition for to do justice to the poor people I shall certainly have the resentment of the Tacksmen, my shoulders are broad enough if I can but releve the oprest.' On 27 February Sutherland wrote that he had had to postpone his meeting at Kildonan for a fortnight, owing to a fresh fall of snow. There is no further mention of the meeting in his correspondence.

⁷⁶ Captain Sutherland to James Campbell, Edinburgh, 17 June 1772: 'Our emigrants have made very false report in regard to the cause of their leaving the Country. I came time enough here to inform the Magistrates of this place of the facts, the Magistrates offerd to employ them and give them meal to maintain their Wives and Children till their Worke would enable them to pay for the Meal, They refused the Magistrates offer and said as they were bound for Carolina that they hoped that the Lord would open the Magistrates hearts to give them such assistance as would enable

parties were reported at Glasgow.⁷⁷ There were also direct sailings from the north, for Sutherland wrote on 4 July that a ship was lying in Lochbroom, taking emigrants for America at £3 per head. The Strathnaver people actually sent their leader to Edinburgh to charter a ship.⁷⁸ The estate correspondence for 1772 is full of references to emigration, real or projected. Thus in July 'the spirit of Emigration spreads like a Contagion over Ross and Caithness,' and Sir John Gordon of Invergordon's tenants announce their intention of going to America in the following summer.⁷⁹ At least one ship left Sutherland during the summer of 1772,⁸⁰ and the probability is that there were more.

them to proceed on their plan, when the Magistrates would not listen to them, they got a Mr. McPheal to Preach a Sermon, and the next day they proceeded for Glasgow.'

⁷⁷ James Campbell to Captain Sutherland, 26 June 1772: 'It is reported that 350 or 400 are engaged and paid their freight for that Strathnaver Ship and that there is from 60 to 100 that is to travel on foot to Glasgow that cannot get a passage in the Ship for want of room.' On 4 July Sutherland, who had reached Cradlehall near Inverness on his way north to Dunrobin, wrote to Campbell that 'those who went to Glasgow in the first squad are lying all over the Country and those that can work are dispersed every where, some of them I saw in Fife and I suppose the greatest part of them will return after the harvest is over.'

⁷⁸ Captain Sutherland to James Campbell, Edinburgh, 20 June 1772: 'George Mackay at Mudale has been here to freight a Ship for two hundred People from Strathnaver and I was a good deal surprised to find he has a letter signed by Lt. Walter Gray (tacksman of Rhian near Lairg), Kenneth Scobie (tacksman of Achmore), Mr. Forbes the Sheriff and one Mackay who I take to be Georges Brother in Law binding themselves for the freight of those People'; Mackay had gone to Burntisland and had chartered a ship at £3.5 a head, but it was 'not to sail from Burntisland till George Mackay remit money twixt three and Four hundred Pounds to provide Necessarys for the Voyage and this money is expected in a fortnight hence'.

⁷⁹ James Campbell to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., 16 July 1772.

⁸⁰ Ardloch, writing from Ledbeg on the last day of 1773, stated: 'Captain Sutherland having Put Several Querys to me About Emigrations the Answers follow—No Person emigrated from the Estate of Assint for 12 years back one only excepted, he was an old man of 70 Called John Macra Subtennant to the Minister of Assint, went of in August 1772 from Locheripol (Loch Eriboll) on Board of Capt. Smith and left a Wife and one Daughter behind him.' The ship in which John Macra sailed may have been the notorious brig *Nancy*, of whose 280 passengers 81 died on a voyage to New York in 1773 (Graham, *Colonists from Scotland*, 101). Ardloch's report on emigration hardly agrees with Thomas Pennant's observations (*A Tour in Scotland and A Voyage to the Hebrides, 1772* (2nd edition, London, 1776), i, 365-6). Pennant visited Ledbeg on 28 July 1772, where Ardloch gave him 'quarters, and rough hospitality.' He

This panic emigration was not repeated on the same scale in the following years. Ships still sailed from Sutherland for the New World,⁸¹ but there is reason to believe that emigration had become a business which called for organisation and finance.⁸² Certainly, although the Sutherland agents still referred to the subject from time to time,⁸³ their tone was less worried after 1772. By the time the American War of Independence had broken out they had reached fairly positive conclusions about the reasons for the movement.

Although famine was no new phenomenon in Sutherland, and although the estate agents did not stress it to the exclusion of every other factor, there can be little doubt that it was a real element in the situation in 1772, if not in later years. Here the east coast evidence reinforces that from Assynt. Despite Ardloch's apprehensions,⁸⁴

noticed that 'dispirited and driven to despair by bad management, crowds were now passing, emaciated with hunger, to the Eastern coast, on the report of a ship being there laden with meal. Numbers of the miserables of this country were now migrating: they wandered in a state of desperation; too poor to pay, they mostly sell themselves for their passage, preferring a temporary bondage in a strange land, to starving for life in their native soil.'

⁸¹ E.g. the *Nancy* in 1773 and the *Batchelor* in 1774 (see the customs report at Lerwick, printed in M. Jensen, *American Colonial Documents to 1776* (London, 1955), 469-76: the place-names in the text are confused; 'Wymore' (469) is presumably 'Clynemore,' 'Mointle' (470) should read 'Mudale,' and 'Aschog' (473) is 'Ascoig').

⁸² *Infra*, xxx-xxxii.

⁸³ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., 2 March 1772: 'I know the game that they will play, that they will go to America, this Idea of going to that Country is at present a sort of madness among the Common People, but they have no person at their head, and tho I do not believe any of our Assent Tacksmen will go, yet their saying that they will go may increase that Flame that I have in a great measure stild.' On 27 May 1773 he was still referring to the current 'dreams about America'.

⁸⁴ Ardloch to Captain Sutherland, 17 December 1771: he had received only £15 at his rent collection, although he had waited four days at the Kirkton of Assynt, and asked for instructions 'how to behave in Such an Uncommon Emergency'; the people of the estate were in distress, with 'not two Months Bread and Many Must Starve if there be No Supply provided for them.' Captain Sutherland, replying from Dunrobin on 19 December, regretted the failure of the meeting with the Assynt tenants, adding dryly—'had I been told that £15 had been drank at your meeting it would not have surpris'd me'; he considered that the slowness of the rents was due to the failure of the Assynt people to send all their cattle to the autumn markets—'I suppose yow have as much difficulty to convince the People of Assent as I have with the other Tenants here that the price of Cattle is much fallen, but time will only convince them of this truth.'

there were no reports of famine from the latter parish in the spring and early summer. The arrival of herring shoals in Lochinver Bay in January⁸⁵ may well have saved the inhabitants, though it should be noticed that Thomas Pennant observed starvation conditions in July.⁸⁶ But in the east matters were worse. In February Captain Sutherland was convinced that the position in the county as a whole was becoming desperate.⁸⁷ He linked famine with emigration,⁸⁸ and he returned to the same theme on 2 March.⁸⁹ Clearly, famine contributed to emigration.

It was also an immediate physical danger that had to be met. Something of the steps taken can be traced. Works were a partial answer. As far back as December 1770 Captain Sutherland was giving orders for the slopes of Ben Bhraggie, behind Golspie, to be planted with trees, to provide employment for those who needed it.⁹⁰ On his way north on 4 July 1772, when the emigration tide was at its flood, he was 'vixt to meet severals who had been working at the Dyke at Bhinwragie on the road to Edinburgh because they could not get work in the Country.' He ordered James Campbell, the factor, to employ all those who asked for work, and to set them to trench one of the Dunrobin home parks.

Food was even more crucial than work, and by June 1772 it had become the agents' first concern. In normal

⁸⁵ Ardloch reported their arrival.

⁸⁶ *Supra*, n. 80.

⁸⁷ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 17 February 1772: 'There never was such a Cry for Victual among the highlanders nor I believe with greater reason, I wrote yow of my apprehensions of this some months ago. It will be necessary that you mention the scarcity of Victual to the Tutors, for their derrection for to provide a suply of Meal and bear, Mr. Gilchrist (Dugald Gilchrist, the retired Dunrobin factor, whose service went back before the Forty Five) tells me that he thinks this year will be as severe on this Country as 1740.'

⁸⁸ *Supra*, n. 75.

⁸⁹ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 2 March 1772: 'This Year is a very bad one for the highlands in General and I make no doubt but Assent has their share of the difficulty of the times'; he considered, however, that the tenants were taking every opportunity 'to persuade these concerned that the Estate of Assent is over rented.'

⁹⁰ Captain Sutherland told Mackenzie of Delvine in May 1773 that 1,500,000 fir plants had been planted during the past season (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1485*, 240).

years east Sutherland had a surplus of grain and meal, and the Factor's Accounts show that considerable quantities were shipped south from Ferry Unes, where the estate maintained a girnel.⁹¹ But in bad years the position was reversed. Captain Sutherland found it difficult to lay his hands on supplies in 1772. He hunted Aberdeenshire and Banffshire, with mixed success,⁹² and enquiries were made in Caithness and Ross also. Gradually, stocks were collected. The estate had a total rental of slightly over £3000, of which some £1070 was accounted for by payments of victual—grain and meal—totalling 1529 bolls.⁹³ In the spring and summer of 1772 1022 bolls of this rent victual were issued from the girnels at Dunrobin and Ferry Unes to tacksmen and small tenants, to provide meal and seed corn. From outside, a further 2268 bolls were shipped in, at a time when supplies were scarce all over northern Scotland.⁹⁴

The effort was not enough to stop emigration, but it had serious financial repercussions. The early 1770's were a

⁹¹ Ferry Unes, or Little Ferry, was a difficult harbour, but the Sutherland Factor's Accounts show that it was regularly used for grain and meal shipments in the 18th century. John Grant, Charlestown, told Alexander Mackenzie on 23 July 1772 that shipmasters were suspicious of the channel and refused to go to Ferry Unes unless insured, even though they were offered high freights. A building at Little Ferry is still known locally as 'the Girnel.'

⁹² He wrote to James Campbell from Edinburgh on 17 June that Messrs. Arbuthnot and Guthrie had applied to their correspondents in Peterhead to send 350 bolls of meal and 200 bolls of bear to Dunrobin immediately. It proved difficult to find any supplies at all in Aberdeenshire and Banffshire, but on 22 June Sutherland reported to Campbell that he had secured 600 bolls of meal in the south and hoped to get 200-300 bolls of bear, and to ship both off to Ferry Unes in a few days. These supplies presumably formed part of the 1200 bolls shown in the Factor's Accounts as coming through Peterhead (*infra*, n. 94).

⁹³ The Factor's Accounts show that the remainder, though nominally paid in money, was normally met by the delivery of cattle to a drover. The drover paid in a lump sum of money to the Tutors' Edinburgh cashier on his way from the trysts, and an average price was allowed to the individual tenants. Ardloch complained that a similar system was not followed with the Assynt tenants (*infra*, 93-4).

⁹⁴ Some 300 bolls were found for sale in Sutherland, 400 bolls were bought from Barrack in Caithness, approximately 100 bolls from Castlehill near Inverness, and a small quantity from Easter Ross. The remainder came from the south: two cargoes, totalling 200 bolls, were shipped from Portsoy, and three shiploads, in all 1200 bolls, came through Peterhead.

difficult period for the Highland economy, with a decline in cattle prices as the critical factor. On an estate like that of Sutherland, where the greater part of the money rent was met by the delivery of cattle to the drovers, who later paid in cash to the Edinburgh doer on their way home from the trysts, the emergency could be very serious. The victual operations in 1772 cost in all £2200, against a total rental of just over £3000, of which £1870 was nominally paid in cash. To pay for the victual bought in to meet the famine, £1256 had to be sent from Edinburgh, in a year when the drovers had been unable to pay in much from the previous autumn's droving. Further, though the victual issued to the tenants was not an outright gift, payment for it was not expected until considerably later, and the price charged was well below the cost.⁹⁵ The result was a severe financial strain on management and tenants alike. Arrears of rent, around £2500 in 1770, had doubled by 1773 and still stood above £4000 a year later.⁹⁶ The Tutors, with no investment capital or property in the Lowlands, were as a result in some difficulty to meet their obligations.⁹⁷ It was the embarrassment of this situation,

⁹⁵ The imported victual cost £1800—slightly under 16/- per boll—and the recipients were charged 12/-. The whole operation was valued at £2200, the rental victual being fixed at an artificially low price.

⁹⁶ The gross total is to some extent misleading. The Sutherland Factor's Accounts were drawn up for the crop and year, and could not be made up until well after the end of the calendar year. The Assynt accounts (*infra*, 94) illustrate how this practice could give a deceptive picture. The real significance of the arrears lies in their sharp rise. Even this, however, may be partly explained by the financial difficulties of the factor, James Campbell (*infra*, n. 98).

⁹⁷ Alexander Mackenzie, writing to James Campbell on 31 July 1773, complained that he was pressed for money to meet the Countess' obligations, and that he was 'excessively dund'. On 10 November he was in great need of money ('I have none to pay, As I relyd on the proceeds of the Cattle to answer at this time'); the Sutherland drovers had paid in nothing as yet. On Christmas Day he reported that Charles Gordon of Skelpick had paid £150 and Lt. Walter Gray of Rhian £300, and the other drovers nothing, against Campbell's estimate of £1500; he ordered Campbell to secure the outstanding rents and send money to Edinburgh as soon as possible. Campbell was able to remit £594.10.10½ in cash, and £222.11 in drafts, on 26 March 1774, but the pressure continued. Mackenzie wrote on 20 April: 'All I can Say is That the disappointment will occasion more Embarrassment in the Countess Affairs than You can possibly figure, For besides other Demands, there is no Money in my hands to answer her Maintenance, and I have none that I can advance for that purpose.'

more than anything else, which drove them to take action in 1775 against the factor at Dunrobin, James Campbell, who had fallen far behind with his accounts. Campbell was relieved of his factory, went bankrupt and departed to America.⁹⁸ Captain Sutherland took over direct management of the east coast estates, as he was to do for Assynt when Ardloch lost his factory a year later.

Famine undoubtedly reinforced a widespread urge to cross the sea, and remedial measures were unlikely to stop the movement. As the Tutors saw the situation, however, there were other forces involved also. Pressure from the landowner was not one of them, for the estate correspondence is full of complaints about emigration. The agricultural optimism of the age, the beginnings of a native fishing industry, and the rise of kelp-burning on a large scale, all combined to make the normal landowner reluctant to see his stock of tenants diminish, even if he no longer retained the patriarchal outlook of the old clan chieftains. The Sutherland agents shared this viewpoint. They were also in no doubt as to the rightness of their own actions.⁹⁹ They deplored emigration—and above all they deplored the part played in it by the tacksmen, whom they singled out as the villains of the situation.

The importance of the tacksmen as the natural leader of emigration,¹⁰⁰ and as its possible financier,¹⁰¹ repeatedly appears in the agents' letters. The case of Robert Gray of Creich is illuminating. Gray was the largest single tacksmen in Assynt under the 1766 set, and also held tacks in

⁹⁸ Campbell was discharged in the autumn of 1774. He remained in Sutherland for a year and then went to his father's home at Turrerick. Ardloch, writing to Captain Sutherland on 26 August 1776, when on the point of losing his own factory, commented on Campbell's fate: 'Factor Campbell Banish'd himself or was Banished to America I know not which without Collecting his Arrears; Supposing me to be of a knavish Disposition which the Strain of yours seems to Insinuate you need not be Affraid that I shall follow Mr. Campbells example; I am to hold my face to all I do as has been my practice hitherto.'

⁹⁹ *Infra*, n. 110.

¹⁰⁰ *Supra*, n. 83.

¹⁰¹ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 27 May 1773: 'All I shall observe on the list of Arrears is that Ken: Scobie has money to buy the imigrants Cattle which enables them to put their dreams about America in execution, yet he has not money to pay the Countess her Rent.'

east Sutherland. He became involved with the Tutors in a protracted lawsuit over his rents, which a decret arbitral in 1773 failed to settle.¹⁰² Captain Sutherland suspected him of fomenting emigration. In February 1774 he was believed to have organised a visit to Dornoch by an agent for some Glasgow merchants who wanted 'a Cargo of Servants for America next Summer.'¹⁰³ Ardloch, who had his own difficulties with Gray, alleged that his interest in emigration was purely financial;¹⁰⁴ Sutherland considered that he was trying to blackmail the Tutors into giving him preferential treatment.¹⁰⁵

More often, however, the tacksman is blamed for emigration in a rather different way. As early as 20 July 1769 the Tutors had reached the conclusion that tacksmen were liable to abuse their tacks and to oppress their sub-tenants; they decided to limit the power of sub-setting in future tacks.¹⁰⁶ Captain Sutherland's comments on the

¹⁰² *Infra*, 92.

¹⁰³ Captain Sutherland to James Campbell, Ardmore in Ross, 4 February 1774: the agent concerned was one 'Angus Sutherlands Son'; 'I wish with all my heart it had been contrived to have got him or any of those Enemys to the Country a hearty drubbing for tho they cannot carry off the Tenants they will with their lyes debauch the Servants which must distress the Country and for my own part I think the plan Robert Gray and Angus Sutherlands Son is on is a Raskally one those who shall drub the American Agents, deserve the thanks and good will of all the Country from the Countess to the smallest Tenant in the Country.'

¹⁰⁴ Ardloch to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Ledbeg, 22 February 1774: 'Mr. G. pretends Great Services done to the Family of Sutherland, and more to be done, but all along it is his own Interest he has at heart, he has made Money by emigrations already and is in the way of making much more by his own Confession, there being no person so well Situat for that Trade; The story of Lieut. MacLeods Emigration with Assent Men is not True, but these declaiming Lawyers will make a handle of everything and of nothing Mr. G. Vants of his Thousands, and it is Allowed that he got some hundreds by his American Trade.'

¹⁰⁵ Captain Sutherland to James Campbell, Dunrobin, 17 May 1774: 'I am well informd that he wrote a Friend of his privatly that if the Tutors would give him a Tack for life, that he would put an end to emigration.'

¹⁰⁶ 'The Tutors having on this occasion taken under consideration the former practice of giving Leases of Extensive farms and Grasings to One Tenant with a Power of Subsetting the same whereby The principal Tacksmen commonly Exacts an additional Rent from his Subtenants imposing heavy Services and Other Conditions Oppressive to the Subtenants and detrimental to the Improvement of the Country. The Tutors in order to remedy these Evils, Have unanimously Resolved That All Tacks granted by them for the future shall contain an Express Seclusion of the Tenants Assignies or Subtenants without Consent of the Tutors or the Proprietor in writing And they Recommend to Captain Sutherland not

would-be emigrants from Strathnaver in February 1772 show the same line of thought reappearing.¹⁰⁷ He reported to the Tutors on 11 March 1773 that Charles Gordon of Skelpick 'is also a good Tacksman who does not oppress his Subtenants none of whom ever complained against him or emigrated';¹⁰⁸ on the other hand, Robert Gordon of Achness, who was offering to resign his tack, had 'much oppressed' his subtenants, 'most of whom on that account emigrated last year to America.' The Tutors returned to the subject in the autumn of the same year, with the tide of emigration still flowing strongly, and considered it at length.¹⁰⁹ Again the tacksman was singled out, and it

to receive or transmit to them any proposals for Leases in any other terms And where Leases have been already granted to the Tacksmen and their Subtenants They Recommend to Captain Sutherland to enquire and report to them the Behaviour of these Tacksmen towards their Subtenants So as if any Oppressive or undue practices of any kind are committed the Tutors may redress the same to the outmost of their power and Extend their protection as well as their Encouragement to the industrious Possessors in whatever Circumstances they are.'

¹⁰⁷ *Supra*, n. 75.

¹⁰⁸ Cf. Jensen, *American Colonial Documents*, 470.

¹⁰⁹ Minute of Tutors, 30 November 1773: this minute is important. 'Lord Hailes Represented to the Tutors that it was publicly reported "that the avarice of Landlords was the Cause of the Emigrations from Sutherland". He set furth that as the Countess of Sutherland was possessed of the largest Estate in that Country, it might be inferred that the Tutors by racking her Rents had given Cause to the Emigrations—that it might be of consequence to have the true state of the facts ascertained.

He therefore moved that Instructions be given to Captain Sutherland the Superintendent forthwith to transmit to the Tutors a list of all Tenants paying rent to the Countess of Sutherland who have left their possessions since Whitsunday 1771, And that the List do specify the names of the Tenants, what of them were married men and what Children they had respectively at the time of their quitting their possessions, As also the Rent annually payable by them, how long that Rent had been payable and what arrears were incurred by them previous to their quitting or being moved from their possessions. Ordered accordingly.

Lord Auchinleck represented that although the Tutors of the Countess of Sutherland have no power over the tenants possessing under leases with respect to their conduct towards their subtenants and therefore can neither prevent their Removal nor their Emigration, yet that he apprehended it to be the duty of the Tutors to promote all enquiries which Government might order to be made concerning the causes and the Extent of the alarming Emigrations of the inhabitants of Sutherland.

He therefore moved, that Captain Sutherland and the factors on the Estate of Sutherland be instructed to give all possible assistance to his Majesty's servants in prosecution of whatever enquiries may be made by them either as to the causes of the Emigrations or as to the number of the Emigrants. Ordered accordingly.'

is noteworthy that the Tutors showed no eagerness of any kind to encourage emigration.¹¹⁰

Captain Sutherland was prepared to go even further, and to take steps to curb the tacksmen. The Assynt tacks were due to expire at Whitsunday 1775, and Sutherland paid a visit to the parish in July 1774, whilst Home was working from Ledbeg and Kirkton. On his return to Dunrobin he wrote an important letter, which was laid before the Tutors at their meeting on 26 July, and formed a basis for the policy followed in the 1775 set.¹¹¹ The

¹¹⁰ Captain Sutherland wrote to James Campbell on 8 January 1774 from Ardmore in Ross, where he lay ill: 'It would be wrong to mention (i.e. in the report requested by the Tutors) that we have a power to turn out joint Tacksmen when they fall low in their circumstances as it would be giving a hint to an ill-natured Person who may see this Report to say what really never did happen, we have no reason to conceal any thing in this matter and every thing should be reported in the most plain and open manner.'

The completed report was laid before the Tutors on 22 February 1774: 'Captain Sutherland having in obedience to the Tutors Minutes 30th November last, transmitted a Report concerning the Emigration from Sutherland certified by the Ministers of the different parishes, which Report has been perused and considered by all the Tutors now present, They approve of the said Report, Direct the Agent to transmit the same to the Lord Justice Clerk and to ingross an Abstract thereof in the Record of their Proceedings.'

Thomas Miller, the Lord Justice Clerk, was at this period engaged in compiling lists of emigrants for the Highlands in general (Graham, *Colonists from Scotland*, 97-8). Unfortunately, no copy of Captain Sutherland's report, which appears to have been in some respects more comprehensive than those required by the government, has survived; Alexander Mackenzie, the Tutors' agent, failed to carry out the instruction to enter an abstract in their Minute-Book.

¹¹¹ Captain Sutherland to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., Dunrobin, 14 July 1774: 'I arrived last night from my Expedition to Assent, and the Inclosed which is a Copy of what I left with Ardloch will convey to yow, that I have no apprehensions of emigration from that Country notwithstanding the various Arts used with a view no doubt to diminish the Rent, now that their leases are out, the poorer sort of People are much pleased that they are to have no Tacksmen over them, and no wonder, for they have been squeezed to their last shilling by some of the Tacksmen, however I have no doubts about our keeping up the present Rent, and there is only one Farm on that whole Estate that I think high rented, and if it shall be found necessary to lower the Rent of that farm we can with great justice lay in upon another for although the most equitable manner of laying on the Rent equally on the whole Farms of that parish was used at the last sett yet there was tricks played. I make not the least doubt but in a few years the People of that Country will be in a flourishing way, they have many Advantages from the Herring and cod fishing which might be carried on with much Advantage to the Country if those who have substance among the Tenants would turn their thoughts that way but I am sorry to tell you that the genius of those seem to be for smuggling which I believe

intention was to strike a blow at the influence of the tacksmen, and to prevent their oppression of their subtenants. As Sutherland's subsequent comments on the minutes of the set make clear,¹¹² the policy was considered successful.

The details of the set illustrate the Tutors' intentions. Out of 42 farms, 16 were held conjointly by a number of their inhabitants in 1766, and the remainder by single tacksmen. In 1775 ten more farms became conjoint.¹¹³ Some figures are revealing :

	Infield		Population		Rent	
	1766	1775	1766	1775	1766	1775
Conjoint farms	860.9 acres	1361.2 acres	820	1398	£236.	£422.13.28
Single farms	1342 acres	841.7 acres	898	320	£418.4.54	£234.5.

Thus in 1775 almost one-quarter of the Assynt farms

has been carried on to a large extent in that Country this summer by the Merchants in the Adjacent Countys, I did not stop at a Tenants house but I had the offer of a glass of Rum and the Tacksmen drink nothing else and their wives as good Tea as Lady Sutherland drinks. . . .'

Enclosed : 'Copy Memorandum for Ardloch.

1st That the Account for Rent 1773 be made out for Captain Sutherlands transmitting it to Edinburgh to be laid before the Countess Tutors the first of October.

2dly An Exact list of those in Arrear to be sent to Captain Sutherland the first week in September in order that legal means may be used to recover those Arrears immediately.

3dly That all the Tacksmen and Tenants of the Estate of Assint be acquainted immediately that Captain Sutherland will receive their proposals for a renewal of their leases between this and the first of November, that their Proposals be sent to him in writing and except they desire it their offers shall not be made known to any but the Countess Tutors.

4thly The Countess Tutors mean to accomodate every Tacksman with as much land as they can occupy by themselves and their proper Servants but will allow of no Sub Tenants.

5thly That those who shall suffer themselves to be given up in arrear the first of September need not give themselves the trouble of sending proposals to Captain Sutherland.

Ledbeg 11th July 1774.'

¹¹² *Infra*, 66. The Tutors approved of the set on 23 June 1775.

¹¹³ The figure of 42 farms is reached by reckoning Dubh Chlais and Poll à Gharbh Bhair as one farm, and Inverkirkraig and Badnaban as one. The farms which became conjoint in 1775 were: Ardvar, Baddidarach, Badnaban, Cnoc nan Each, Culag, Glenleraig, Inverkirkraig, Ledmore, Lyne, Stronechrubie, Unapool. Ledmore is reckoned as becoming conjoint, although in fact one-half remained single; Tubeg is reckoned as remaining single (*infra*, 87).

passed from single to conjoint hands. They contained over 23% of the total infield and almost 34% of the total population, and produced over 29% of the 1775 rent. The result was to make Assynt predominantly a land of conjoint tacks held by small tenants; in most cases, the great majority of the inhabitants of a farm were tenants.¹¹⁴ To achieve this, Captain Sutherland's instructions had been carried out. By 1775 very few tacksmen held more than one farm.¹¹⁵ Those who did were in possession of wintering grounds which supplemented their main farms. Kenneth Scobie of Achmore held Little Assynt and Rientraid; Kenneth Mackenzie of Inchnadamph had a half-share of Tubeg; the minister of Assynt held Torbreck; and Ardloch himself had Filin. All were specifically noted by Home as being good grazing ground and well-suited for wintering stock from the Heights of Assynt.¹¹⁶ Further, the tacks remaining in single hands did not carry a large population. Seven of the farms which became conjoint in 1775 had more than 50 inhabitants, but none of those remaining single reached that figure.¹¹⁷ In all but one case, also, the tacksmen was resident.¹¹⁸

The financial changes are equally revealing. In 1766 the Assynt rents¹¹⁹ increased to £654.4.5⁴ from the 1759 figure of £555.0.5⁴. The 1775 increase was a mere £2.13.9. A larger figure would have been surprising in the financial difficulties of the 1770's. The rise in 1766 had been

¹¹⁴ In seven out of the ten farms, the excess of households in 1774 over tenants in 1775 was two or less. In Glenlerraig there were 14 tenants as against 18 households, and in Ardvar 12 tenants to 16 households; on the other hand, in Unapool there were 15 tenants as against 11 households a year before (*infra*, 80-1, 72-3, 88).

¹¹⁵ In 1766 Robert Gray of Creich and Kenneth Mackenzie of Inchnadamph had each held four tacks.

¹¹⁶ Cf. *Old Statistical Account*, xvi, 164. The house in which the editor grew up in Lochinver was still known as Tigh na Filin.

¹¹⁷ Kirkton (48), Achmore (40), Ledmore (40), Oldany (38), Elphin (33) were the only single tacks with substantial populations in 1775. Kirkton was a special case, and Ledbeg was Ardloch's own residence, where he kept nine servants (*infra*, 83).

¹¹⁸ Kenneth Scobie of Achmore may have lived at Scourie (*O.S.A.*, xvi, 181).

¹¹⁹ These figures do not take account of milns, multures, spirit licences or salmon fishings.

avowedly designed to bring the revenue up to a figure at which it would meet the public burdens on the estate and give a 5% return on Lady Strathnaver's purchase price. Even so, it probably did no more than keep pace with the rise in Highland prosperity. The tiny rise in 1775, however, was secured by a disproportionately large adjustment of the rents of a few farms, most of them members of the group which changed from single to conjoint tenure. The farms which were already conjoint in 1766 decreased in rent by £4.9;¹²⁰ those which remained single in 1775 decreased by £12.19.54;¹²¹ but those which changed from single to conjoint increased by £20.2.24.¹²²

Captain Sutherland's proposed policy was thus carried through. He reported that the new rents were well-received, and thought to be reasonable. The inference is clearly that the tacksmen had been rack-renting their sub-tenants; if this had not been the case, the rise in rents on the farms becoming conjoint would have been objected to. The effect of the new situation upon emigration is less easy to assess. Sutherland was convinced that it would relieve the pressure, but larger events prevented this view being put to the test. The outbreak of the American War of Independence checked the flow of emigrants for a full decade, and when the movement was resumed the situation had altered considerably. But the connection between diagnosis and remedy in Assynt is clear.

iv

The administration of the Assynt estate at the time of Home's survey lay in the hands of Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch, tacksmen of Ledbeg and Filin.¹²³ Ardloch

¹²⁰ Clachtoll increased by £2.8: Culkein decreased by £2.14, Achnacarin by £2.5, and Brackloch by £1.18 (*infra*, 62-3).

¹²¹ Tubeg increased by 10/-: Achmore decreased by £8, Oldany by £4, Bad a' Ghrianan by 15/-, Eadar à Chalda by 10/-, and Elphin by 4/5⁴ (*ibid.*).

¹²² Ardvar increased by £5.10, Stronechrubie by £4.3.4, Ledmore by £4.1, Glenleraig by £4, Culag by £2, Inverkirkaig and Badnaban by £1.12.10⁸, and Cnoc nan Each by 15/-: Lyne decreased by £2: Baddidarach and Unapool remained unchanged (*ibid.*).

was an old man, who had held tacks in Assynt for 40 years.¹²⁴ By descent and by temperament he was a tacksman, who had steered his way through the fall of the Mackenzie lairds and the period of sequestration. He had old connection with the Sutherland family,¹²⁵ and the Countess' father had appointed him factor in 1759; the Tutors reappointed him on 11 December 1766. His correspondence,¹²⁶ and his accounts as factor,¹²⁷ suggest that he met his obligations honestly but interpreted them rather freely. We find him explaining patiently to Mackenzie of Delvine, the Earl's Edinburgh agent, that it was easier said than done to send money to a creditor at Fort

¹²³ The family of Ardloch was descended from Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch and Kinellan, fourth son of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, who had a sasine of lands in the barony of Coigach in June 1654 (*P.R.S. Inverness*, 7, 216^v): for him see W. Fraser, *Earls of Cromartie* (Edinburgh, 1876), i, lxiv. The account of his family given in Mackenzie, *Mackenzies*, 564-5, is inaccurate in some respects. Alexander I of Ardloch was dead long before 1736, the date given by Mackenzie. His son John II received a wadset of Ledmore, Ledbeg, Lyne, Stronechrubie, Elphin, Knockan, Cromalt, Aultnachie, Cnoc nan Each, Druim Suardalain and Dubh Chlais from Kenneth Mackenzie of Assynt on 19, 31 May and 10 June 1726 (*P.R.S. Inverness*, 8, 344^v). The date of John's death is unknown. He was still alive on 6 June 1733 (*infra*, n. 124), but his son Alexander was styled 'of Ardloch' on a bill drawn by Lady Assynt on 3 May 1736. One John Mackenzie of Ardloch was involved in the Forty Five (*List of Persons Concerned in the Rebellion* (Scot. Hist. Soc., 1890), 330-1; Fraser, *Earls of Cromartie*, ii, 398; *Prisoners of the Forty Five*, iii, 124). Unless the age given in *Prisoners of the Forty Five* is incorrect, this cannot have been John II of Ardloch. It is more likely that it was his third son, also named John, who witnessed the disposition in n. 124 *infra*. Kenneth Mackenzie, John II's second son, who witnessed the sasine taken on this disposition, was, according to a note on a rental of Assynt for 1766, the tacksman of Inverkirkraig (*infra*, n. 177). John II's eldest son was Alexander the factor. The list of Alexander's children given by Mackenzie, *op. cit.*, is also confused. Roderick (called sixth son by Mackenzie) witnessed his father's account as factor for 1768 under the designation 'ninth son', and John (called seventh son) witnessed as eighth son on the accounts for 1768, 1769 and 1770.

¹²⁴ His father, John II of Ardloch, disposed to him his own tack of Knockan, Elphin, Ledmore and Lyne on 6 June 1733 (*P.R.S. Inverness*, 8, 663^v).

¹²⁵ He married Margaret, daughter of Captain Robert Sutherland of Langwell in Caithness. By the marriage contract, dated 16 September 1732, Ardloch undertook to create for her an annuity of 525 merks Scots, in the event of her surviving him. Lord Strathnaver, later William, Earl of Sutherland, the grandfather of Countess Elizabeth, took burden on himself that this would be fulfilled.

¹²⁶ His letters to John Mackenzie of Delvine are in *Nat. Lib. Scot. MS.* 1319.

¹²⁷ *Infra*, Appendix B.

Augustus,¹²⁸ pointing out the difficulties of getting payment for rents from tenants whose only wealth was cattle,¹²⁹ and showing a proper caution when it was suggested that east coast fishers might improve the methods used to catch the Assynt salmon.¹³⁰

Remote from supervision, and with little in the parish on which to spend the revenues, Ardloch's chief function was to remit cash—or drafts on cash—to the Edinburgh cashier. The problem years of the mid-decade made this task more difficult. The changing attitude of the Tutors to the tacksmen made the situation no easier, and clouded Ardloch's last years as factor. Possibly the Tutors, who had inherited him from the days of Earl William, always had reservations about him. As early as 1769 they were prepared to accept his resignation,¹³¹ which he more than once threatened to give. In the end Ardloch, like many of his class in 18th-century Scotland, broke himself on the wheel of the law. He became involved in a furious lawsuit with one of his fellow-tacksmen, Robert Gray of Creich, the arch-organiser of emigration. In the grip of this dispute—ironically enough caused by an attempt to collect Gray's arrears of rent¹³²—Ardloch fell further and further

¹²⁸ 'It is,' he wrote on 17 January 1771, 'easier to go from Inverness to Edinburgh than from here to Fort Augustus'; he was not prepared, in any case, to go to such expense on a yearly salary of £15 (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1319, 21*).

¹²⁹ The only way to collect arrears, he wrote to Delvine on 20 January 1765, short of waiting until the summer, would be to poind the tenants' milk cows, 'which is taking their Bread from their Teeth' (*ibid.*, 39).

¹³⁰ The Assynt salmon fishings were a recurrent worry to the estate managers (*infra*, 93). Delvine was anxious to try new techniques, and Ardloch retorted that 'one or two of these skilful men, with their New fashioned Tackling' should be sent to put matters to the test (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1319, 26*). Delvine, writing to Dugald Gilchrist, the factor at Dunrobin, on 1 September 1760, was prepared to agree, though for rather different reasons: 'Any thing that's new is apt to be ill receiv'd In remote Corners and requires the Countenance and help of men of better understanding than meer fishermen who tho' they were us'd for propagating Gospell have not Been the persons intended to Improve the advantage of Salmond Rivers with which Sutherland Abounds.'

¹³¹ A memorial from Ardloch asking for an increase in salary was refused on 20 July 1769, and the Tutors stated that 'if the Factor is inclined to Demitt they will accept his resignation.'

¹³² *Infra*, 92. In his attempts to collect the arrears, Ardloch appears to have proclaimed at the door of the Kirk of Assynt that Gray was in arrears, and to have warned Gray's subtenants that their corn and cattle

behind with his accounts.¹³³ He tried to charge his personal legal expenses against the Assynt revenues, with the inevitable result. Though Captain Sutherland was personally sympathetic,¹³⁴ the Tutors rejected Ardloch's accounts for 1774.¹³⁵ He never submitted them again, and no accounts for 1775 exist. Ardloch's factory was withdrawn in September 1776, and the flood of eloquence with which he had defended his actions ceased.¹³⁶ The Tutors

on the ground were hypothecated for the rent. Gray took legal action on this, and was successful by a narrow majority (five to four) in the Court of Session in November 1773; Ardloch was found liable in £150 damages and expenses. He claimed that the Tutors should relieve him of this, whilst they appear to have taken the view that he had exceeded his authority. When he asked for relief on 26 December 1774, they increased his salary from £15 to £30, but did not accept his main contention.

¹³³ The account for 1770 was fitted in February 1772, that for 1771 in July 1773, and that for 1772 in September 1774. The account for 1773, with a large debit of more than £150, was fitted comparatively quickly, in December 1774, but that for 1774 did not reach the Tutors until June 1776, and was never fitted.

¹³⁴ Captain Sutherland reported to the Tutors on 15 January 1776 that 'Ardloch the factor gave him every assistance he expected in the Sett of that Estate, Notwithstanding that it was a manifest loss to himself And humbly suggested That the Tutors should take the poor Mans situation under their consideration And save him in his old days from ruin—The Tutors Allow Ardloch to take Credite in his Accounts for 25 guineas as a Recompense for his Service in said Sett.'

¹³⁵ Minute of 24 June 1776: 'The Agent laid before the Tutors an Account of the Rents of Assint for the year 1774 lodg'd by Mr. McKenzie of Ardloch the Factor, with Captain Sutherland, and transmitted by the Captain to the Agent, with some Correspondence twixt Captain Sutherland, Ardloch and the Agent relative thereto: And as it appears from said Account that the Factor takes Credite for three sums of £150, £111.10.6 and £11.3.6 as damages and expences incurred by him in a proces with Robert Gray which the Tutors cannot admitt as proper articles of Credit with their Pupil And as the Factor in his Correspondence with Captain Sutherland and the Agent insists on these articles being allowed him, and has neither lodg'd his Account for rent 1775 nor paid up any of the rents of that Year, tho' there is reason to believe he has intromitted with the greatest part thereof The Tutors Resolve to recall their Factory from Ardloch And to Authorize Captain Sutherland to uplift the Rents of Assint along with the rents of the Pupils other Estate unless Ardloch shall betwixt and (*sic*) the 20th August next alter the said Account by leaving out said 3 articles And also lodge his Account for rent 1775 And pay the Cashier What part of the Rent 1775 he has received with the ballance of rent 1774.' Ardloch refused to comply: 'it would,' he wrote to Alexander Mackenzie on 11 July 1776, 'look like Suicide in me to Assent to that Measure.'

¹³⁶ Ardloch alternated between attacks on Gray, and complaints that the Tutors had failed to support him. On 23 December 1773, shortly after the Court of Session decision against him, he wrote to Alexander Mackenzie: 'If the K- had withdrawn his Favour from the Earl of B. That Rich Nobleman had before now Fallen a Prey to the Malice of Mr.

made some attempts to force him to pay his arrears, but these had made no progress when Ardloch died on 21 May 1778. He left no funds except Earl William's bond for £700,¹³⁷ which the Tutors were seeking to reduce. His widow's legal agent, producing her marriage contract, requested the Tutors to honour the Countess' grandfather's obligation of 1732, and to their credit they agreed.¹³⁸ Until she died in April 1783 Margaret Mackenzie was paid £14.11.8 at each Martinmas and Whitsunday. But already Captain Sutherland had taken over the factory of Assynt; the day of the tacksman-factor was over.

v

The 'List of Inhabitants of the Parish of Assynt,' compiled in November 1774, must be related to Captain Sutherland's plans for the set of 1775, though no evidence survives to identify the actual writer. Webster, 19 years

W— who was not worth a Shilling, But it was inconsistent with the K—s Honour and Dignity to Forsake his Faithfull Servant in Distress. Sic Parvis componere Magna Solitam.' Again, on 22 February 1774: '(Mr. Gray) does me the Honour likewise to Cry me up as a Man of Opulence and power, I'm sorry this is Equally false with the Rest, I was never Rich at any period of my Life, Yet I have been hitherto a Stranger to want, If Mr. Gray gets the Former Judgement Affirm'd I most then face that Monster poverty, more Terrible than Death; to Mr. Gray I never ow'd a penny, and to let him Run away with my Little all, and leave my Just Creditors unpaid would be a Highnous Sin Therefore when the process is finally determin'd let me be acquainted.' On 26 August 1766, when matters had come to a head, he even quoted Horace to Captain Sutherland: 'In regard to my doings for the Family from the beginning to this Day I stand in the Situation recommended by the Poet—Hic Murus aeneus esto: nil conscire sibi, nulla pallescere culpa.'

¹³⁷ *Infra*, 93.

¹³⁸ Minute of 21 November 1778: 'The Agent laid before the Meeting a Letter from Roderick McLeod Agent for the widow of Mr. Mackenzie of Ardloch dated 20th July last Covering Copy Contract of Marriage twixt Ardloch and his wife in which William Earl of Sutherland (then Lord Strathnaver) the Countess's Grandfather takes burden on him for Ardloch to pay his wife an annuity of 525 merks in case of her surviving her husband And Mr. MacLeod Represents that Ardloch died 21 May last and left no funds except a Bond by the late Earl of Sutherland for £700 Sterling, Therefore demands payment of said annuity either in Edinburgh or the Country. The Tutors authorize Captain Sutherland to pay Mrs. Mackenzie the half years annuity payable to her at Martinmass last on her discharge and assignation to the Countess, and to Continue to pay her half yearly thereafter during her life.'

before, had been helped by the parish minister,¹³⁹ but it is unlikely that the new minister of Assynt, William Mackenzie, had a hand in the 1774 list. His estimates of population in the *Old Statistical Account*¹⁴⁰ differ so widely from the 1774 figures that they can hardly come from the same source.

The 'List of Inhabitants' is detailed, but not entirely straightforward. Some entries are wrongly added up,¹⁴¹ some have been imperfectly transcribed from a rough copy,¹⁴² and some must remain ambiguous.¹⁴³ More seriously, its use of names presents difficulties, as an attempt to correlate it with the lists of tenants given in the 1775 rental shows. Even allowing for the greater use of patronymics and descriptive names in the 'List of Inhabitants,' and for the deaths which must have occurred in the months between the compilation of the two documents, it is still clear that names sat lightly on many of the people of Assynt. An outstanding case in point is Nedd, where three Mackenzies in the 'List of Inhabitants' do not appear in the rental, and three McRaes bearing the same Christian names take their places.¹⁴⁴

With these qualifications, however, the figures given by the 'List of Inhabitants' remain important. Their most striking feature is the corrective which they apply to Webster's totals. The contrast may not be entirely fair, for emigration must be taken into account. But, just as the census of 1801 corrects the inflated estimates of the *Old Statistical Account*,¹⁴⁵ so the *List of Inhabitants* modifies Webster, reducing his total of 1934 inhabitants to 1718. Taking into account the general rise in Highland population which went on all through the second half of the 18th

¹³⁹ See *Scottish Population Statistics* (Scot. Hist. Soc., 1952).

¹⁴⁰ *O.S.A.*, xvi, 199. Mackenzie estimated that the population had been 2250 in 1766, and had risen by the time of writing to 3000.

¹⁴¹ *Infra*, 69.

¹⁴² *Infra*, 72 (Achnacarnin), 76 (Clashnessie).

¹⁴³ *Infra*, 72 (Achnacarnin: Kenneth Mackenzie), 85 (Nedd: Murdo Macdonald).

¹⁴⁴ *Infra*, 85.

¹⁴⁵ There are convenient tables of Highland population statistics in F. Fraser Darling, *West Highland Survey* (Oxford, 1955).

century, the actual population of Assynt in 1755 must have been well below Webster's figure. This is significant, for it has always been accepted that a dominant factor in the social and economic upheaval in the Highlands between 1770 and 1850 was the upsurge in population. Its relationship to the linked phenomena of emigration and agricultural change is not easily elucidated, but that it had a far-reaching effect cannot be doubted. The Assynt evidence suggests that the upsurge was even sharper and more overwhelming than previously thought, as the following table shows :

Date :	1755†	1774*	1801‡	1811‡	1861‡
Population	1934	1718	2395	2479	3174
Population as percentage of 1861 population	61	57	75	78	100

† Webster.

* 'List of Inhabitants.'

‡ Census.

Closer analysis of the evidence is difficult. One feature is the high proportion of servants to the total population.¹⁴⁶ Some tacksmen kept considerable households,¹⁴⁷ and many of the small tenants also had servants.¹⁴⁸ Their numbers make it impossible to determine closely the average size of families, for most if not all of the servants must have been the elder children of other families in the parish (in particular, of the non-tenant families). The figures suggest that the average household contained two or three children; many families were, of course, much larger than this,¹⁴⁹ but they were balanced by the small households of widows and such isolated figures as Alexander Mackenzie, the

¹⁴⁶ 287 out of a total of 1718; the figure was probably slightly higher, for 27 inhabitants cannot be assigned with certainty to any group (*infra*, Appendix A, Table 5, *passim*).

¹⁴⁷ Ardloch had nine servants (*infra*, 83), William Mackenzie the minister had eight (*infra*, 82), Mrs. Jean Mackay at Oldany eight (*infra*, 85), and Kenneth Scobie at Achmore (*infra*, 71) and Kenneth Mackenzie at Elphin (*infra*, 80) six each.

¹⁴⁸ At Drumbeg, five out of seven households contained servants (*infra*, 79), and at Unapool eight out of eleven (*infra*, 88).

¹⁴⁹ There were two families of eight children (*infra*, 71: Achmelvich, and 74: Clachtoll), two of seven (*infra*, 71: Achmore, and 84: Loch Beannach), and in all 13 of six children.

bachelor pedlar at Culag.¹⁵⁰ Unfortunately, there is no way of deciding whether the compiler followed any consistent policy in classifying children. Occasionally he named another male in addition to the head of the family,¹⁵¹ but it is difficult to believe that only the 315 named males were of full age.

The distribution of the population is more revealing. By far the greater number lived in the coastal farms,¹⁵² which held 1175 inhabitants—68% of the total—as against 543 in the inland farms.¹⁵³ While 11 coastal farms had populations of 50 or over,¹⁵⁴ only two exceeded that figure inland.¹⁵⁵ The concentration of population was particularly heavy in the farms on the Point of Stoer, and along the coast northwards from Drumbeg to Unapool. Inland, only the limestone patches around the Kirk of Assynt and in the Elphin-Ledbeg area showed anything approaching the same density. As we shall see later, the pattern of agricultural use and landholding matches this picture.

Macleods and Mackenzies, taken together, far exceeded the other named inhabitants. 138 Macleods and 91 Mackenzies comprised 59%¹⁵⁶ and in only five farms¹⁵⁷ did neither name appear. But the wide use of patronymics and descriptive names makes such figures tentative. At Oldany—to take only one instance—where three out of six named residents were Mackays, it is quite possible that the remaining three names conceal Macleods or Mackenzies.

¹⁵⁰ *Infra*, 77.

¹⁵¹ E.g. father (*infra*, 73: Baddidarach), brother (*infra*, 78: Culkein), brother (*infra*, 79: Culkein Drumbeg).

¹⁵² Achmelvich, Achnacarnin, Ardvar, Baddidarach, Balchladich, Clachtoll, Clashmore, Clashnessie, Culag, Culkein, Culkein Drumbeg, Drumbeg, Filin, Glenleraig, Inver, Inverkirkaig and Badnaban, Nedd, Oldany, Rientraid, Stoer, Torbreck, Unapool.

¹⁵³ Achmore, Aultnachie, Bad a' Ghrianan, Brackloch, Cnoc nan Each, Cromalt, Druim Suardalain, Dubh Chlais and Poll à Gharbh Bhair, Eadar à Chalda, Elphin, Inchnadamph, Kirkton, Knockan, Ledbeg, Ledmore, Little Assynt, Loch Beannach, Lyne, Stronechrubie, Tubeg.

¹⁵⁴ Clashnessie (103); Ardvar (90); Glenleraig (90); Stoer (83); Achmelvich (79); Clachtoll (78); Clashmore (72); Culag (72); Inverkirkaig and Badnaban (65); Unapool (58); Culkein (56): *infra*, 68-9.

¹⁵⁵ Ledmore (76); Stronechrubie (52): *ibid.*

¹⁵⁶ The total is 384, obtained by taking all names given in at least one of the two lists.

¹⁵⁷ Cromalt, Filin, Inver, Oldany, Poll à Gharbh Bhair and Dubh Chlais.

Alan Bane has a descriptive name, Donald MacHomash the miller is given a patronymic only, and Alexander Mckolvichomash is in all probability the miller's son.¹⁵⁸ With such imprecise evidence, and remembering that the spelling of both the 'List of Inhabitants' and the rental suggests the work of non-Gaelic-speakers, it is dangerous to argue too far. It may be suggested, however, that Mackenzies tended to concentrate on the coast from Clashmore round to Unapool, whilst proportionately more Macleods lived on the inland farms and around Lochinver Bay. Two smaller groupings may be noticed—McRaes in Glenleraig and Nedd, and Kerrs in Achmelvich, Clachtoll and Stoer. The remaining names show considerable variety, from Campbell to Sinclair, with a Douglas¹⁵⁹ and a Kelly¹⁶⁰ for good measure. Clearly Assynt was not a homogeneous clan country.

vi

Home's survey, taken in conjunction with the 'List of Inhabitants' and the rental of 1775, makes it clear that the distinction between coastal and inland farms was a fundamental fact in the agriculture of Assynt. The figures shown opposite are a starting-point.¹⁶¹

These figures cannot be pressed too far. As Home himself made clear, the infield totals are higher than the actual amount of ground tilled, for they take in 'all within the dykes,'¹⁶² including the stances of houses, baulks and other obstructions—often a considerable proportion of the total.¹⁶³ Again the frequent mention of shielings under

¹⁵⁸ *Infra*, 85

¹⁵⁹ *Infra*, 87 : Stronechrubie.

¹⁶⁰ *Infra*, 72 : Achmore.

¹⁶¹ The following tables have been obtained by reducing the individual areas to the nearest tenth of an acre; the totals therefore differ slightly from those given in the Summary (*infra*, 50-1).

¹⁶² As at Knoekan (*infra*, 32).

¹⁶³ At Achmelvich the infield was 'on each side of the marish Ground and Farmstead the greatest part of which consists of Rocky Baulks so that only about one half can be kept in tillage' (*infra*, 3). At Achmore, the lower infield was only one-third tillable (*infra*, 4). Part of the Clachtoll arable was so rocky that only one quarter could be worked (*infra*, 12).

TABLE 1

	Coastal farms ¹⁶⁴		Inland farms ¹⁶⁵	
	Total	Average	Total	Average
Area	33335.5 acres	1510.5 acres	56698.5 acres	2834.9 acres
Infield	1112.7 acres	50.1 acres	1090.2 acres	54.5 acres
Shieldings	925.3 acres	42.1 acres	581.7 acres	49.1 acres
Families	230	10.5	109	5.5
Inhabitants	1175	58.4	543	27.2
Rent	£342.6.108	£15.11.28	£314.11.4	£15.14.610

TABLE 2

	Coastal farms	Inland farms
Area per family	144.9 acres	520.2 acres
Infield per family	4.8 acres	10 acres
Shieldings per family	4 acres	5.3 acres

¹⁶⁴ *Supra*, n. 152.¹⁶⁵ *Supra*, n. 153.

corn¹⁶⁶ makes it difficult to assess the comparative values of the shielings; some of the remote inland ones can have been only summer pastures, but others, as at Oldany, were really detached parts of the infield.¹⁶⁷ On balance, however, the infield figures must give an exaggerated picture of the arable resources both of the farms and of the individual tenants. The distinction between the coastal and inland farms nevertheless emerges clearly. The coastal farms had slightly more infield than the inland farms, and paid slightly more rent; but they had little over half the total area of the inland farms, and they supported twice as many inhabitants.

The contrast is even more striking if we remove from the group of coastal farms the five which remained single tacks in 1775. Three of these—Filin, Rientraid and Torbreck—were grazing grounds attached to large inland tacks,¹⁶⁸ Inver was a small farm worked by two families only, and Mrs. Jean Mackay's farm of Oldany was the only substantial member of the group. At the same time we may separate the inland farms into nine conjoint tacks¹⁶⁹ and eleven single,¹⁷⁰ as shown opposite.

The inland single farms were clearly the best endowed with land, and the coastal conjoint farms the worst. Even

¹⁶⁶ Four of the six shielings at Brackloch were 'frequently in Corn' (*infra*, 12). At Clashnessie half or one-third of the nine shielings were annually in corn (*infra*, 15). The shielings of Ardroe gave twice the yield of corn got from the parent infield of Inver (*infra*, 29). Shielings in corn were also found at Achmelvich, Achmore, Ardvar, Clashmore and Oldany. At Clashmore a former shieling had even been incorporated into the infield (*infra*, 13).

¹⁶⁷ Mrs. Mackay of Oldany kept a servant who moved from shieling to shieling to take care of the corn (*infra*, 43).

¹⁶⁸ Filin was held by Ardloch the factor, Torbreck by William Mackenzie the minister, and Rientraid by Kenneth Scobie of Achmore. Home in each case stressed the importance of the pastures. Thus, at Rientraid 'there is no more Ground kept in tillage but the Infield about the Houses which is laboured by the People who herd the Cattle for their Master, who allows them to labour so much as pays them for their trouble' (*infra*, 43).

¹⁶⁹ Brackloch, Cnoc nan Each, Druim Suardalain, Dubh Chlais and Poll à Gharbh Bhair, Knockan, Ledmore, Loch Beannach, Lyne and Stronechrubie.

¹⁷⁰ Achmore, Aultnachie, Bad a' Ghrianan, Cromalt, Eadar à Chalda, Elphin, Inchnadamph, Kirkton, Ledbeg, Little Assynt, Tubeg. The inclusion of Kirkton affects the figures for rent, as half of Camore (one of its subdivisions) was the glebe proper and paid no rent.

TABLE 3

	Coastal conjoint farms		Inland conjoint farms		Inland single farms	
	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average
Area	27117.9 acres	1595.2 acres	24176.4 acres	2686.3 acres	32522.1 acres	2956.6 acres
Infield	963.2 acres	56.7 acres	398 acres	44.2 acres	692.2 acres	62.9 acres
Shielings	77.2 acres	45.7 acres	231.7 acres	25.7 acres	350 acres	31.8 acres
Families	215	12.6	65	7.2	44	4
Inhabitants	1088	64	310	34.4	233	21.2
Rent	£277.16.108	£16.6.106	£144.16.4	£16.1.75	£169.15.0	£16.19.6

TABLE 4

	Coastal conjoint farms		Inland conjoint farms		Inland single farms	
	Total	Average	Total	Average	Total	Average
Area per family	126.1 acres	371.9 acres	739.1 acres	15.7 acres	739.1 acres	15.7 acres
Infield per family	4.5 acres	6.1 acres	15.7 acres	8 acres	15.7 acres	8 acres
Shielings per family	3.6 acres	3.6 acres	8 acres	8 acres	8 acres	8 acres

Ledmore, the most populous of the inland farms, had 124·1 acres per family, and 5·6 acres inland, though only 1·9 acres of shieling ground. By contrast Clashnessie, the most populous coastal farm, had 65·2 acres per family, with 4·2 acres infield and 2·5 acres shieling ground. At crowded Glenleraig there was only 1·7 acres per family. Also, many of the inland conjoint farms had small populations; four were occupied by less than five tenants. Averages are thus less meaningful in their cases.

The broad distinction that emerges is between an arable coastal region already heavily populated and pushing up against the limits of its resources, and a largely pastoral interior. Home's comments reinforce this picture. He paid considerable attention to the importance of the fishings as an extra source of income and employment on the coast,¹⁷¹ and noticed also three instances of potato cropping there¹⁷²—a portent of the future. Inland, on the other hand, he was more inclined to remark on the pasture grounds.¹⁷³ His comments on Kenneth Scobie's experiments at Little Assynt are particularly relevant.¹⁷⁴ Without souming figures, which do not survive, it is impossible to be precise, but it is hard to avoid the conclusion that the coastal farms—apart from the wintering grounds—relied on their arable ground for subsistence and on small stocks of black cattle for the payment of rent, whilst the large inland single tacks specialised in the raising of cattle for the southern markets. They formed, in fact, one of the headstreams of the droving industry, and it may be noticed that a professional drover like Charles Gordon of Skelpick considered it worth his while to take a tack of remote Rientraid in 1766.

¹⁷¹ As at Baddidarach (*infra*, 9), Balchladich (*infra*, 11), Culkein Drumbeig (*infra*, 19), Unapool (*infra*, 49), and in particular Inver (*infra*, 28-9).

¹⁷² At Culag (*infra*, 18), Culkein Drumbeig (*infra*, 19) and Stoer (*infra*, 44). The only inland farm for which potatoes were mentioned was Ledbeg (*infra*, 34).

¹⁷³ At Inchnadamph (*infra*, 28), Kirkton (*infra*, 31-2) and Stronechrubie (*infra*, 45-6).

¹⁷⁴ *Infra*, 37). From these comments it would seem that hay was not usually cut in the parish. References to meadow grass are uncommon. At Cromalt, where there were no proper shielings, the meadows were classed under the head of shielings (*infra*, 16).

The congestion of the coastal area can be shown more clearly still. Although Home at times described various coastal farms as being held by one or two tacksmen with subtenants, this is probably a misconception. At Stoer, for example, he named Alexander and John Munro as principal tenants,¹⁷⁵ but the 1775 rental shows each of these men paying only one-tenth of the rent.¹⁷⁶ John Mackenzie at Clashmore, whom Home called 'principal tacksmen,' paid only one-eighth of the rent.¹⁷⁷ Both Stoer and Clashmore were already conjoint tacks in 1766. At Inverkirkaig Ardloch's brother, Kenneth Mackenzie, who had been sole tacksmen in 1766, paid half the 1775 rent;¹⁷⁸ this is a less straightforward case, for Mackenzie must have retained a good deal of his old authority after 1775.¹⁷⁹ But the 1766 tacks, which survive at Dunrobin, make it clear that conjoint tacks were a reality. The Earl expected that the small tenants should carry their own burdens, and insisted that they find cautioners for their payment of their rents.¹⁸⁰

The relationship between tenants and inhabitants, however, is not always easy to establish. At Druim Suardalain, for example, there were four families in 1774 and three tenants in 1775, but only two names appear on both lists.¹⁸¹ At Unapool, 11 families in 1774 must be set against 15 tenants in 1775, and only nine names coincide.¹⁸²

¹⁷⁵ *Infra*, 44.

¹⁷⁶ *Infra*, 86.

¹⁷⁷ *Infra*, 75.

¹⁷⁸ *Infra*, 81.

¹⁷⁹ Stronechrubie was a similar case. Murdo Mackenzie, sole tacksmen in 1766, paid the equivalent of 80 out of 160 merks in 1775 (*infra*, 87).

¹⁸⁰ The tack of Knoockan, signed at Dunrobin on 15 October 1765, was given to Ardloch in name and behalf of, and as burden-taker for, Angus McLeod, Niel McLeod, William McLeod, Alexander McLeod, Donald McLeod and Normand Ker, present tenants and possessors of Knoockan. It was to run for nine years, at an annual rent of £20. Ardloch bound the tenants to preserve the woods and prevent them being cut or destroyed without the Earl's licence in writing, and to carry their corns to the mill of Aldnuagh, to which the tack astricted them. Where applicable, the 1766 tacks reserved the right of kelp-gathering and burning, all mines, minerals and quarries of stone and marble, and all pearls found and fished.

¹⁸¹ *Infra*, 79.

¹⁸² *Infra*, 88.

At overcrowded Glenleraig, four families present in 1774 are missing in the next year.¹⁸³ This may simply indicate the presence of subtenants, but it may be significant that two of the missing names—Donald and Alexander McRae—may be equated with two new tenants—Donald and Alexander Bain—who appear at Unapool.¹⁸⁴ Local migration of this sort, together with deaths, makes any detailed picture difficult. Possibly the total figures are revealing: on 26 conjoint tacks there were 280 families recorded in 1774 and 248 tenants in 1775.¹⁸⁵ However severe the pressure of population, it did not reveal itself in the creation of a landless class of squatters. Most families in Assynt lived on conjointly-held tacks, and the vast majority were headed by actual rent-payers.

Stoer may serve to illustrate the whole position. There were 14 families living on the farm, and of these 11 were headed by rent-paying tenants. One tenant paid a fifth of the rent, five paid a tenth each, two paid three-fortieths each, and three paid a twentieth each; ¹⁸⁶ one of the three non-tenant households comprised a widow and her two children. Infield was relatively extensive, the 79·3 acres providing an average of 5·7 acres per family, though it was scattered between two main fields and seven smaller pieces.¹⁸⁷ There were six shielings, giving an average of 2·8 acres per family, but these were some distance from the houses and were seldom in corn. The hill pasture, at 1600 acres, was more generous than on many of the other coastal farms. With the fishings and the breaking-in of

¹⁸³ *Infra*, 80-1. It may be noticed that Home noted 16 families at Glenleraig (*infra*, 26), whilst the 'List of Inhabitants' recorded 18. Some degree of seasonal migration cannot be ruled out.

¹⁸⁴ It is also possible that Donald and John Mackenzie, living at Rientraid in 1774 (*infra*, 86), were the men of the same name who had a share in the conjoint tack of Unapool in the 1775 set (*infra*, 88).

¹⁸⁵ The figure of 248 tenants is slightly misleading. Strictly, it is the total of tenancies; four of these were held by two tenants jointly (at Achmelvich (*infra*, 71), Ardvar (*infra*, 72), Clachtoll (*infra*, 75) and Unapool (*infra*, 88)).

¹⁸⁶ *Infra*, 86. It would be unwise to assume that the arable land was shared in precisely these proportions. Souming for cattle was also involved.

¹⁸⁷ *Infra*, 44.

new ground with potatoes,¹⁸⁸ Stoer had greater reserves than most farms. We can only regret that neither Home's comments nor any of the other evidence has anything to tell us of its intricate communal life.

Indeed, our picture of Assynt in the 1770's remains a limited one. The rental of 1775 indicates that the allocation of rent was governed by the antique proportions of the 'old rent,' but it shows us nothing of the process by which each group of conjoint tacksmen adjusted their individual proportions. Home too was reticent, or unobservant. He conscientiously described the agricultural qualities of the farms, suggested possible improvements,¹⁸⁹ and made a few tantalising references to the techniques used. He noticed that the limestone outcrop was being worked at Ledbeg, and—probably not unconnected—that the nearby wood at Loch Awe had been recently cut down.¹⁹⁰ Once, at Achnacarnin, he showed that the idea of sheep-farming was in his mind, though it was to be two decades before the great invasion began in earnest.¹⁹¹ At Oldany he described the *cas-chròm* with some incredulity;¹⁹² although he was convinced that horse-ploughing might be introduced to the coastal farms with success,¹⁹³ he acknowledged that the infield at Oldany yielded heavy crops. But only rarely did he mention farming arrangements, as in a casual reference to runrig at Kirkton, and then in terms which suggest that it was already falling into disuse.¹⁹⁴ It is difficult to believe that runrig did not exist elsewhere in the parish, but there is no hint of this in Home's text. And for the houses,

¹⁸⁸ *Infra*, 44.

¹⁸⁹ As at Clashmore (*infra*, 13-4), Glenleraig (*infra*, 26), Inver (*infra*, 29) and Oldany (*infra*, 42-3).

¹⁹⁰ *Infra*, 34-5.

¹⁹¹ *Infra*, 6. Captain Sutherland was interested in south-country sheep. On 10 March 1775 he wrote to Mackenzie of Delvine: 'You'll give directions to fix a price to the hundred Ewes with their Lambs that I wanted of the Linton Sheep at Dunkeld. . . . This tryal of Sheep I intend to make is with a View to introduce that usefull Animal among the Countess Tenants, more than any profit I can make from them myself'; he also wanted to buy a collie dog and bitch (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS. 1485*, 248).

¹⁹² *Infra*, 42.

¹⁹³ At Clachtoll (*infra*, 13) and Oldany (*infra*, 43).

¹⁹⁴ *Infra*, 31. See also *infra*, 38 (Loch Beannach).

the clothes, the day to day life of the people of Assynt, the sketches attached to his plans are more revealing than his words.

What little he does tell us confirms the general outlines of our picture. Assynt was a remote and unspecialised land. The 'List of Inhabitants' shows a population almost exclusively occupied in agriculture. Craftsmen were rare: two weavers,¹⁹⁵ a smith,¹⁹⁶ a tailor¹⁹⁷ and a carpenter¹⁹⁸ are the only ones mentioned. If we add three grass-keepers,¹⁹⁹ five millers,²⁰⁰ a travelling pedlar,²⁰¹ the cathedist at Clashmore²⁰² and the minister, we have all those whose occupations are specified. Home himself thought that the absence of a 'mechanic' was a deficiency,²⁰³ and his predecessor's illness had sent messengers scurrying to Tain. When the minister of Assynt built himself a new manse in 1771, he brought in a master mason from outside. Most materials had to be imported also: the heavy timbers came from Ross,²⁰⁴ small dressed wood from a tacksman in Coigach, nails and glue from a merchant baillie of Tain, glass from Inverness, and two wheelbarrows from Edinburgh.²⁰⁵ Beyond black cattle, herring and salmon, Assynt had little of its own to offer the outside world.

Home, meticulous and tenacious, was as little impressed by his natural surroundings as by the life of the inhabitants. He was enthusiastic, in a practical way,

¹⁹⁵ At Culag (*infra*, 77) and Inverkirkaig (*infra*, 81).

¹⁹⁶ At Dubh Chlais (*infra*, 80).

¹⁹⁷ At Knoockan (*infra*, 83).

¹⁹⁸ At Stoer (*infra*, 86).

¹⁹⁹ At Filin (*infra*, 80), Little Assynt (*infra*, 84) and Torbreck (*infra*, 87).

²⁰⁰ At Clashnessie (*infra*, 76), Culag (*infra*, 77), Glenleraig (*infra*, 80), Oldany (*infra*, 85) and Stronechrubie (*infra*, 87).

²⁰¹ At Culag (*infra*, 77).

²⁰² *Infra*, 75.

²⁰³ *Infra*, 43.

²⁰⁴ *Supra*, n. 54.

²⁰⁵ Mackenzie laid out a good deal of money on his new manse, to judge from the account which he submitted to the Tutors in 1776. He collected the hearth and chimney stones from the ruins of Ardvreck castle and ferried them to the Kirkton in a six-oared boat.

about the harbours of Lock Inver²⁰⁶ and Kylesku,²⁰⁷ edified by the woods along the steep sides of Loch Nedd,²⁰⁸ and romantically respectful of the waterfall above Inchnadamph.²⁰⁹ He found the approach to Ardloch's house at Ledberg diverting,²¹⁰ but he sketched the ruins of Ardvreck castle and Calda house without making any reference to their turbulent history.²¹¹ Only on the ridge of Braebag did the immensity of the landscape make its mark on him. There was, perhaps, no reason why he should have been more receptive. Amidst the flood of travellers who were beginning to penetrate the further Highlands Home was a figure apart—neither intolerantly improvement-minded nor romantically novelty-seeking. His survey was not the work of an enthusiast; it can tell us little of a way of life that was shortly to disappear, little of the harshness of existence in an inhospitable land. But because he had a task to do and did it thoroughly, his survey has its own corrective value for Highland history.

vi

Home's Survey of Assynt consists of a map and a bound volume of plans. The map, on a single sheet, approximately 84 in. × 74 in., is now considerably torn and dilapidated. It does not contain any information not found in the volume of plans. Its scale is given as 20 Scots chains (of 24 ells or 74 feet each) to one inch.

The volume of plans consists of 27 folios (including interleaving), approximately 26½ in. × 18½ in., bound in boards with a leather spine. The binding is now broken, and

²⁰⁶ *Infra*, 28-9.

²⁰⁷ *Infra*, 49.

²⁰⁸ *Infra*, 40.

²⁰⁹ *Infra*, 31.

²¹⁰ *Infra*, 34. The farmhouse of Ledbeg still appears very much as in Home's sketch (Plan No. 14).

²¹¹ As shown in the sketch on Plan No. 9, the castle was rather more complete in Home's time than it is to-day. The minister referred to it as 'ruined' in 1776.

some of the interleaving is crumpled, but the general condition of the volume is good. The 16 plans are each drawn inside a border, with the relevant tables and observations on the facing pages. The plans are drawn in ink, with shading to represent hills, bogs and woods, and coloured washes to outline the farm borders. The lettering includes descriptions of the character of the grounds, in addition to place-names and areas. Each plan has a compass bearing, and decorative material inside the border. The latter includes vessels on the sea, and on each plan a pen-and-ink sketch which accompanies the title, and is shaded with a wash; these sketches are approximately 5 in. \times 4 in. The scale is given as $\frac{1}{4}$ Scots mile (20 Scots chains) to one inch.

The areas measured are not clearly explained. In particular, the lochs included are not always indicated, those on farm marches being particularly difficult to check. The following important lochs do not appear to have been included :

Assynt ; Awe ; Beannach ; Càrn ; Cròcach ; Féith an Leòthaid ; Fionn ; Gainimh ; Ghlinnein ; Gorm Loch Mòr ; Preas nan Aighean ; Tùire ; Urigill ; Veyatie.

The individual plans are :

- Plan 1. Oldany : accompanied by a sketch of a landscape, with trees and sea ; in foreground, three goats, a sheep, a cow and a stag, with three figures (one female, seated, and two males, standing, wearing plaid and bonnet) : on facing page, a man wearing kilt, hose and short jacket, and working a *cas-chròm*.
- Plan 2. Clashnessie, Achnacarnin, Culkein, Clashmore and Balchladich : sketch of a rocky coastline (probably Stoer Head), with a wrecked vessel ; in foreground a rowing boat with two men, one of whom is casting a net.

- Plan 3. Stoer, Clachtoll and Achmelvich : sketch of a loch ; on shore, a horse, two cattle, a goat and a sheep, with a kilted man carrying a fishing rod.
- Plan 4. Brackloch, Inver, Torbreck, Baddidarach and Bad a' Ghrianan : sketch of a bay, with six ships and many boats in foreground ; behind, a wooded coastline, with oak trees (hence probably intended for a view of Baddidarach), a cottage with thatched roof and two chimneys, and an outbuilding.
- Plan 5. Loch Beannach, Nedd, Drumbeg, Culkein Drumbeg and a detached portion of Achnacarnin : sketch of houses (one round house, one rectangular, and one rectangular with a side wing, none having chimneys), with a bull and a field enclosed by a wooden fence.
- Plan 6. Glenleraig and Ardvar : sketch of a lochan in rain.
- Plan 7. Unapool and Rientraid : sketch of Quinag (Sàil Gharbh and Sàil Ghorm) from Kylesku ; in foreground, a ship, a rowing-boat and a school of porpoises.
- Plan 8. Achmore and Little Assynt : sketch of Quinag (Spidean Coinich) from south shore of Loch Assynt ; in middle distance, Achmore, with buildings and fields shown ; in foreground, Ardvreck Castle (shown as a square tower), with a fishing figure.
- Plan 9. Eadar à Chalda and Kirkton : sketch of Glas Bheinn ; in middle distance, Achmore ; in foreground, Ardvreck Castle (shown as square tower with round tower on east gable) and Calda House (ruined), with a rowing-boat and two fishers on banks of Loch Assynt.

- Plan 10. Inchnadamph and Tubeg: sketch of two houses (one rectangular and one round, with no chimneys but smoke issuing), with two horses, a goat and a fishing figure on banks of Loch Assynt.
- Plan 11. Stronechrubie and Lyne: sketch of house of Stronechrubie, with out-buildings; in foreground a kilted man ploughing with an iron plough drawn by a horse; on the hillside behind, a waterfall and a goat.
- Plan 12. Dubh Chlais, Poll à Gharbh Bhair, Druim Suardalain and Filin: distant sketch of Quinag, with a cattle beast in foreground.
- Plan 13. Cnoc nan Each, Culag, Inverkirkaig and Badnaban: sketch of Inverkirkaig Bay, with Suilven and Stac Polly in background; in the bay, two ships and two rowing-boats (one casting a net); on the shore, a corfhouse, with fish barrels outside.
- Plan 14. Ledbeg: sketch of house of Ledbeg (two-storied, with outbuildings); in foreground, Ledbeg River, crossed by a wooden bridge; in background, view of Canisp.
- Plan 15. Ledmore and Elphin: sketch of a lochan; on banks, a horse and a man with a gun, shooting at duck on the lochan.
- Plan 16. Knochan, Aultnachie and Cromalt: sketch of a round house; in foreground, three cattle (two fighting) and a goat.

PART I
THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

The text which follows is an alphabetical rearrangement of the tables and observations which accompany the sixteen plans in the bound volume of Home's Survey.* The arrangement of the tables has been simplified, but their internal order has been retained, except that in a few cases entries for 'Natural Woods' and 'Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture' have been grouped together. A very few arithmetical errors have been corrected.

Money is expressed in sterling unless otherwise indicated. Where pence Scots (reckoned at 12 to the penny sterling) are used, they are showed by raised figure, e.g. £1 2 6⁴.

* For a description of this volume, see *supra*, liii-lvi.

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

3

AUCHMELVICH

A. R. F.

Infield on each side of the marish Ground and Farmstead the greatest part of which consists of Rocky Baulks so that only about one half can be kept in tillage

49 3 32

Sheelings:

1. Glananter a bonny Sheeling adjoining Loch-an-oir and a Creek of the Sea North from the Farm-Houses	19	-	-
2. Lies West of the last and near the march with Clachtoll and the Sea Coast	9	1	29
3. Lies East of Loch-an-oir on the North side of a grassy Den in two places	7	2	32
4. Lies South East of the last and next Loch-an-asalt sloping South and East	15	-	20
5. Three disjoin'd Sheelings in a hollow Slack about the middle of the Farm	6	1	-
6. Three more disjoin'd Sheelings North of the last	8	1	16
7. Lies betwixt two Braes and near two large Lochs	4	2	-
Hilly pasture with Rocks and Moss, several Dens and Hollows, etc., yielding Grass	1178	-	14
Seven Lochs each being markt upon the Plan	52	1	17

Total Contents:

Infield	49	3	32
Sheelings	70	1	17
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1178	-	14
Lochs	52	1	17
Total	1350	3	-

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Auchmelvich is situated in a hollow Flat betwixt high rocky Grounds which screen it both from the South East, and South West; The large Bay and Ebb ly to the North West along a considerable tract of blowing Sands which one would be apt to imagine would render it obnoxious to an Inundation when the Wind blows from the North West. The onely close ground in tillage lies North from the Houses and disjoin'd from the other rocky Corn Lands by a low Marish which disembugues itself into the Sea at the Ebb.

The Rock on each side the long Branch of the Sea which runs up to Torbreck affords little or no convenience to their Navigation being rendered inaccessible by the steepness of the Rocks which bound it on both sides and also sundry Rocks in the middle of the Channel. The Sheelings in the Hollows opposite to Torbreck seem to be the most valuable for Corn and a good deal of the Braes might be improved along the march with Battachrianan. All the Hills and pasture grounds upon this Farm are pretty much similar to that of Clachtoll both as to quality and situation.

AUCHAMORE

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infields of upper Auchamore including the Stances of the Farmstead Cot Houses and rocky knows and Baulks yielding good Grass

78 - -

	A.	R.	F.
Infields of lower Auchamore comprehending all within the March line shaded red on the Plan of which about one third may be computed arable lying interspers'd among rocky Grounds which yield good Pasture	77	2	—
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies on the south side of a Brae next the Infield of upper Auchamore	13	—	—
2. A small Sheeling next the March with Unapool	—	3	—
3. A small Sheeling on the South side of Quinack Hill opposite to the West end of the Grounds pastur'd on by Ederhalda	1	—	10
4. Two Sheeling places presently in Corn at the West End of the Ground pastured upon by Ederhalda	2	1	2
5. Tumore lies next the West end of Loch Assint	5	2	27
6. Lies North of the last along the Edge of the Road to Little Assint	4	3	30
7. Lies next the March with Poltecarrican on a Bank hanging pretty much southward	1	1	20
8. Sheeling of Poltecarrican	2	—	—
Infield of Poltecarrican presently in Corn being subset by Mr. Scobbie including the Stances of the Houses	5	—	—
<i>Natural Woods:</i>			
Wood of Tumore consisting mostly of Birch with Hazel Poplar, Hollies etc., adjoining the North side of the Loch of Assint	71	1	—
Wood adjoining the West End of Loch Assint and North side of Loch-an-a-tea	122	3	—
Pasture Ground within the Dykes of Upper Auchamore supposing the unfinish'd part to run by the direction of the dotted Line about one half of which is good grass Ground interjected with Lime Rocks, the other half Moss cover'd with Heather	450	2	1
Hill Ground comprehending the South End of Quinack and a large tract of barren rocky Grounds on each side thereof together with the hill pasture belonging to the Sheelings of Tumore and Farm of Poltecarrican	3398	3	36
Nine Lochs within the marches of Auchamore Tumore and Poltecarrican	60	—	6
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	160	2	—
Sheelings	31	—	9
Natural Woods	194	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	3849	1	37
Lochs	60	—	6
Total	4295	—	12

OBSERVATIONS

The Farmstead of upper Auchamore is situated on the North side of Loch Assint and lies pretty high above it, at the West End of the Lime-

stone Craigs which run four Miles Eastwards to the foot of Connivel and as far Southwards towards Ledbeg above the Kirk Road; The Infields are very much interjected with rocky Baulks and Craigy Knows in so much that not one half of the Grounds within the Dykes can be reckon'd tillable; However these Lime-stone Craigs yield all the variety of sweet Grasses to perfection and most of the Baulks interjected with Corn are only for Hay. The lower Auchamore was formerly a seperate Tack from the upper, the former being bounded from the later by a small Burn to the North and West. The bank of Craigs upon the lower Farm next the Loch is more rocky and the Grass shorter even in the hollow parts, the best of the Grass and Corn lies at the North and East sides next Ederhalda where the Farmstead would have been more properly placed it being greatly lower and consequently much warmer and better sheltered by the side of the Burn which flows from the famous Spring liker a Rivulute than a Burn. The most valuable of the Hill pasture contiguous to Auchamore lies along the East Side of the Strath or opening betwixt the Hills to Unapool; The Hill to the Westward all around Quinack Hill being very barren and consists chiefly of Ridges of Rocks North from Quinack to the march with Unipool. All below the Road to Little Assint and West of the Road to Ardvare and Glenlirag belongs to the Sheelings of Tumore and Farm of Poltycarrican and are all mostly green swarded comprehending all the South side of the Hills of Clash-knock which are all of a greenish hue yielding benty Grass; The Sheelings of Tumore ly pretty low and mostly Inclos'd by Woods which yield fine Grass and shelter having a choice Aspect southwards.

AUCHNAGARNAN

	A.	R.	F.
Infield adjoining the Farm Houses mostly sloping gradually south and East pretty close	44	3	30

Sheelings:

1. Lies North from and next the Farmsteadings in a hollow adjoining the Sea Banks	3	-	-
2. Lies West of the Farmstead and along a hollow Slack on the West side of a small Burn	2	2	22
3. Lies North of the last adjoining the Sea Banks and March with Culkein	3	12	0
4. Lies upon the East side of the Burn along the March with Culkein	7	1	34
5. Lies in the West Corner adjoining the Marches with Culkein and Clashmore called Braecruie	6	-	8
6. A large Sheeling South of the Infield call'd Loch-an-skeirach next the Loch of that name	15	3	-

Hilly Moss cover'd with Heath and rocky Braes and Knows yielding good Short grassy pasture	335	1	24
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Loch-an-skeirach	5	-	-
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DETACHED PORTION OF AUCHNAGARNAN

Sheeling	14	1	24
Natural Woods	44	1	4
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	213	1	21

<i>Total Contents:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Infield	44	3	30
Sheelings	52	2	28
Natural Woods	44	1	4
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	548	8	5
Loch	5	—	—
Total	695	2	27

OBSERVATIONS

Auchnagarnan Farmstead with the Corn Land adjoining it, is situated among the Hills which surround it, like the hollow of ones hand; The most part of the Infield lies betwixt the Farmsteadings and the Sea, the small Creek or Ebb which serves as a Harbour for Boats and is well sheltered by the Rocks. This is comparatively a small Farm but lies very compact and almost equidistant from the Farmstead, the Corn Lands have a good Aspect southward and are very little Interjected with Baulks; This Farm has six Sheeling places lying along the Boundaries of the Farm: The pasture Grounds have a smoother Surface than Clashnessie and rather preferable for Sheep. This Farm is also occupied by two Tacksmen viz.: Duncan and John McLeods and their Subtenants.

ARDVARE

Infield:

	A.	R.	F.
Infield about the Farm possess'd by John McKenzie and Alexr. Campbel and Son including the Stances of Houses and Yards	35	2	18
Infields South of the last including the Steadings of four Tenaments of Houses and Yards	7	2	10
Infield on the South end of the Bay opposite to the last	4	2	—
Infield on the North side of the Bay and about the middle thereof in a Hollow	7	1	4

Sheelings:

1. Auch-na-vea-lard next the Loch of that name hanging to the Sun	10	1	32
2. Lies East of the last adjoining the bay	2	3	8
3. Lies next the last mentioned Infield at the north side of the Bay	5	—	3
4. Lies North of the last by the Edge of a Loch sloping to the West	6	3	—
5. Lies North of No. 4 at the Edge of a Creek or Bay of the Sea	2	2	3
6. Lies West of the last at the Sea Side presently in Corn	3	3	—
7. Lies above the natural Wood near Kyle's Cu	4	3	—
8. Lies in the middle of a Glen and on the south side of a burn next the Wood and march with Reintraid	6	3	—
9. Skeran lying East of the last above the bank of Wood at the above march	2	—	—
10. Clash a poor Sheeling where three Burns unite in the southmost Den	—	3	—
11. Lies on the West side of the Bay opposite to the Farmstead, in the Wood	6	1	—

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

7

<i>Natural Woods:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Natural Woods consisting chiefly of Birch and Hazel in the Braes of the southmost Glen next Glenlirag	7	-	-
Steep Braes extending from the Bay of Ardvare along the Sea Coast to the march with Reintraid cover'd with Birch and Hazel etc., yielding good Grass	90	-	-
Wood in the Braes south of Reintraid along the march burn yields Grass	51	-	-
Wood on the Hill south and West of the Bay yielding excellent pasture	165	-	-
Hill and Moss grounds mostly cover'd with heather yielding coarse and fine pasture	1617	3	30
Six lochs containing in all	30	3	12
 <i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	54	3	32
Sheelings	51	3	6
Natural Woods	213	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1617	3	30
Lochs	30	3	12
Total	1968	2	-

OBSERVATIONS

Ardvare Farmsteading lies in two disjoin'd places upon the East Side of the Bay and is pretty much exposed to the Westerly Winds as the Grounds lie higher than the Natural Wood which forms the opposite side of the Bay all the Infields are pretty much interjected with Rocks and Baulks but have the advantage of Sea-Ware.

The Sheeling places are all situated about the Edges of the extensive Natural Woods which abound with Grass. This Farm is excellent for grazing as it affords the best of shelter and a large extent of Coasting.

AULTNACHIE	A.	R.	F.
Infields next the Farmstead with three other disjoin'd Fields to the North adjoining the Burn	12	-	19
 <i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies in a Hollow at the South End of the Wood	6	-	-
2. Polland lies South of No. 1 on the South of a hollow Brae sloping South	2	2	20
3. Lies along the Burn at the March with Knockon	4	-	-
4. Lies at the East side of the Burn and towards the head thereof next Cromald	3	2	-
Good Meadow Grass on each side two Burns running into Loch Urgil across the Farm including Grass at the Edge of the Loch	34	-	-
Grass along the Burn being the March with Cromald including a hollow from said March above the Farmstead to the Eastmost Burn	10	2	-

<i>Natural Woods:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Natural Birch Wood on the South Side of Loch Urgil and betwixt the Burns and the March with Ailfin	105	-	-
A Brae cover'd with Wood South of the last along the March with Knockon	10	-	-
Wood at the March with Cromald adjoining the S:E: End of Loch Urgil	28	-	-
Remains of a large tract of Wood at the head of the burn of Cromald and betwixt two Grains thereof, of which there is only scatter'd Trees with a large Clump suppos'd to contain about	15	-	-
Hill above the Farmstead consisting mostly of Moss coverd with Heath and coarse benty Grass with a Flat and Wet Moss 'twixt the Hill and Loch Urgil	2426	1	1
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	12	1	19
Sheelings	16	-	20
Natural Woods:	158	0	0
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2470	3	1
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	2657	1	-

OBSERVATIONS

Aultnachie Farmstead is situated by the Side of the burn of Aultnachie about the middle of the Eastern branch of the Burn which unites a little above its Junction with Loch Urgil; Nothing can exceed the fine rich meadow Grass which grows on each Side the burn along both the Branches thereof upon the low parts and all along the flat Moss, but as it lies 3 or 4 feet below the surface of the Moss, it is almost quite conceald from the view, and scarcely perceptible but when one goes hard by it. The burn for a considerable way both above and below the Farmstead runs extremely rapid and makes great depredations upon the fine Grass on each side of it leaving nothing but stony Beach a little above the Houses and such was its violence that it carryed off one of the Houses belonging to the Farmstead; and the present Tenant is so apprehensive of its doing him more damage that he proposed to give a proportionable height for making a new cut for the burn thro' the Bank opposite to the Farmstead which would convey the whole of this rapid Burn into the Moss where it could not do any harm. All the pasture good for anything (besides the Grass along the Burn as above) is that among the Birch Woods. The low Moss is altogether a flow and very dangerous for Cattle in Winter.

BATTACHRIANAN	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infields about the Houses	4	-	20
Corn Fold with a yard adjoining it East from the Houses	2	-	4
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
A Sheeling South of the Houses	2	-	12
Two other Sheeling places in a hollow Slack North from the Houses	5	1	38

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

9

	A.	R.	F.
Natural Woods of Oak and Birch yielding good grassy pasture and cover for Cattle along the Braes and march to the South and East	54	3	4

High rocky hill Grounds with patches of Moss including the grassy Brae and rich Meadow along the marches with Torbreck and Loch Beanoch	381	3	25
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Total Contents:

Infield	6	—	24
Sheelings	7	2	7
Natural Woods	54	3	4
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	381	3	25
Lochs	—	—	—
Total	450	1	20

OBSERVATIONS

Battachrianan is a fine Grazing Farm having a pretty large Tract of Meadow Grass besides the fine Braes of Wood along the March with Torbreck which afford good Grass and is remarkably well shelter'd as all the Woods on it have a South Aspect.

BADDIDARROCH

	A.	R.	F.
Infield or Corn Land lying round the Farm-steadings very much broke with stony Baulks in so much that there is scarcely on half in tillage	40	—	—

Sheelings:

1. Lies West from the Farmstead and near the Coast	2	3	6
2. Lies North of the last	3	—	—
3. Lies next the Farmstead	3	—	20

Hill Pasture and Moss cover'd with Heather including grassy pasture in the Dens and Braes	284	3	14
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Loch-an-a-guith	4	—	—
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Total Contents:

Infield	40	—	—
Sheelings	8	3	26
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	284	3	14
Loch	4	—	—
Total	337	3	—

OBSERVATIONS

Baddidarroch, this small Farm lies along the side of Loch Inver. The Farm Steadings is situate near the best landing place along the march Burn at the East where Boats are drawn up. All the Infields are very much interjected with rocky Baulks on which there is also a fine stool of Oak. One half of the Infields may be computed tillable, but the ground is remarkably fertile yielding excellent Corn and Bear; besides the principal

Tacksmen, there are sundry others residing upon this Farm, whose chief Employment is at the Fishings.

BADINIMBAN

	A.	R.	F.
Infield lying about the Farm-Houses pretty much broke and interjected with Rocks and Stony Baulks	9	2	—

Grass and pasture on the Braes within the gross dotted line mark't on the plan	40	—	—
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Total Contents:

Infield	9	2	—
Sheelings	—	—	—
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	40	—	—
Lochs	—	—	—
Total	49	2	—

OBSERVATIONS

Badinimban, This small Farm on the South side of Loch Inver at the March with Cullack, is only a Subsett, belonging to Inver Chirkag; It is situate near a Creek of the Sea where Boats land safely and is occupied by two or three people who complain much of the small priviledge allowed them by their Landlord of the Hill pasture.

BELLACHLATTACH

	A.	R.	F.
Infields North and East of the Farmstead and along the Edge of Loch-an-a-clashmore having a pretty close sandy soil	67	3	—

Sheelings:

1. Lies West of the Farmstead and along the Sea Side	4	—	—
2. Loch-a-chroisk lies 'twixt the Sea and Loch of that name towards the Summit of the Hill next the March with Store	19	1	—
3. Lies at the March with Store and Clashmore including the adjacent Improvement presently in Corn South therefrom	11	2	3

Improveable pasture and Hill Ground mostly green-swarded with few rocks	480	2	37
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Loch-an-a-Clashmore	68	—	—
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Total Contents:

Infield	67	3	—
Sheelings	34	3	3
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	480	2	37
Loch	68	—	—
Total	651	1	—

OBSERVATIONS

Bellachlattach Farmstead is situated near the Bay in a Hollow where the Burn from Loch-an-a-clashmore falls into the Sea; The Corn Lands are pretty flat and close lying on each side the Burn; The Lands are of a dry sandy soil, which is easily manured from the great abundance of Sea Ware thrown up into the Bay on each side the junction of the Burn with the Sea; There are sundry Families residing on this Farm, but whether the whole is lett to one Tenant or belongs to Clashmore or Store, was not told to the Surveyor, as most of the people were employed at the Fishings when the Survey was made and those who were at home declined answering such Questions. All the Hillside along the March with the Farm of Store is a good free Soil hanging gradually Eastwards and could be easily brought into Tillage.

BRACKLOCH

	A.	R.	F.
Infield Grounds lying round the Farm Houses being pretty flat with very few Baulks	21	2	22

Sheelings:

1. Lies South from the Houses on the top of a Hill next the march with Inver	1	3	-
2. Lies upon the West side of a Burn North from the Farmstead	3	2	-
3. Lies North West of the last at the head of the said Burn sloping northward	3	-	-
4. Lies at the West side of the Hills next Loch-an-tuirrig	3	1	6
5. Lies next little Assint by the Edge of the Water of Assint	3	-	-
6. Lies betwixt the last and the Farmstead and by the side of the Water	4	-	-

Natural woods along the march with Battachrianan consisting chiefly of Birch and yielding good grassy pasture	10	2	20
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Rocky Hills interjected with Moss mostly cover'd with Heather	1155	2	34
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Eight Lochs as markt upon the Plan containing in all	92	1	10
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Total Contents:

Infield	21	2	22
Sheelings	18	2	6
Natural Woods	10	2	20
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1155	2	34
Lochs	92	1	10
Total	1298	3	12

OBSERVATIONS

Brackloch Farm is situated along the North side of the Water from Loch Assint and betwixt the Farms of Little Assint and Inver. The Farmstead is snugly situate betwixt Hills which screens it from the East, North and Westerly Winds.

The Infield is pretty close and flat about the Houses, and is a mossy light soil. Four of the Sheelings ly contiguous to the Farmstead and are frequently in Corn. These markt No. 4 and No. 5 are more commodiously situate for the best of the Pasture, and the Grassy Braes covered with Wood lying next the March with Loch Beanoch and Little Assint the Pasture next the Farmstead, is of a worse quality consisting chiefly of patches of Wet Moss coverd with Heather.

CLACHTOLL	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield on each side the Farmstead being close arable Land a good fertile sandy Loam	25	2	8
Arable Land in three detached places on the green Grounds call'd the Links	7	1	28
Corn Land interjected with rocky Baulks lying South-East of the Farmstead and Links among the Hilly Rocks about one third of which in tillage	10	—	—
Corn Lands much interjected with Rocks lying South-East of the Bay of Clachtoll about one fourth whereof is in tillage	13	—	—
Two patches of Corn Land East of the last disjoined by rocky Hills	2	3	—
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies at the Coast side on the East of a Hill sloping pretty much to the South and East	3	1	28
2. Lies at the march with Auchmelvich adjoining the Sea	3	1	8
3. Lies North East of the last at the Road side sloping southward	2	—	4
4. A Large Sheeling on each side a Burn about the middle of the Hill along side a Brae hanging South East markt in three places	30	3	27
5. Lies at the march with Auchmelvich by the Edge of a Loch hanging pretty much southwards	7	3	—
6. Lies by the Edge of Loch Croken sloping Eastward	4	2	20
7. Glack-challick lies on the South side of Loch let-a-veluir	1	2	16
Rugged rocky Hills interspersd with patches of Moss mostly coverd with Heath including Braes, Dens and hollow Slacks yielding grassy pasture with meadow Grass along the Burns	1415	—	5
Thirteen Lochs seperately calculated and their contents markt on the Plan	112	3	22
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	58	2	36
Sheelings	53	2	23
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1415	—	5
Lochs	112	3	22
Total	1640	1	6

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Clachtoll possess'd by Lauchlan Mackenzie and Murdoch McLeod and their subtenants. The Farmstead stands upon a Ridge betwixt two shades of Corn situate near two Ebbs or Landing places. These Corn Shades are quite free of Baulks and might be easily ploughed with Horses or Cattle, being a free sandy Loam.

All the detached Corn Grounds except these low Grounds about the Edge of the Links are extremely rocky, and so much interjected that ploughing with Horses or Cattle would be quite impracticable. The Hill part of this Farm like that of Store is remarkably rocky resembling it pretty much as to the figure and quality, but the Hills towards the East end, are considerably higher than many of the Coasting Farms.

CLASHMORE

	A.	R.	F.
Infield North and West of the Farm-Houses with Ault-an-roan formerly a Sheeling, now conjoin'd to the Infield and sundry rocky Baulks among the Cornlands	91	3	38

Sheelings:

1. Clash-a-chaar a bonny Sheeling on each Side a Burn sloping Southward	20	—	30
2. Rahoun a fine Sheeling in Corn on each side a burn sloping pretty much South	31	3	8
3. Cluishtyesh a small Sheeling near Braecruie of Auchnagarnan	3	—	24

Hill pasture mostly greenish swarded with patches of Moss coverd with Heather including a variety of improveable Braes and grassy Hollows

971	1	20
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Loch Culfruish	87	1	—
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Total Contents:

Infield	91	3	38
Sheelings	55	—	22
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	971	1	20
Loch	87	1	—
Total	1205	3	—

OBSERVATIONS

Clashmore Farmstead lies beautifully situate by the Edge of the Loch of that name; The Corn Lands have a good Aspect and declivity to the Sun and well shelter'd by the high Grounds and Braes which encompass it on all sides but the South. There are sundry Families on this Farm holding of John Mackenzie the principal Tacksman, as this Farmstead lies discontiguous to the rest of the pasture perhaps a Division of it might not be improper, The Dyke below Clash-a-char Sheeling might make a very natural Division, and would divide it pretty equally; A new Steading may be erected at the present Sheeling of Rahoun, which would make a large Shade of Infield having a convenient declivity, and well watered with a South Aspect and would have an easy access to the Sea and be well sheltered on the North East, and West sides by the rising Grounds; This situation would be central to about six hundred Acres a pretty large Tract of good

smooth and dry pasture on part of which considerable Additions might be made to the Corn Lands, and as the Fishings are become an object worth attention any part of the Coast having a convenient landing place has the fairest chance for Establishing new Settlements.

CLASHNESSIE

	A.	R.	F.
Arable Lands North and West of the Farmstead and 'twixt the Sea and a Brae which screens it from the North West including sundry interjected Rocks and Baulks	86	1	27

Sheelings:

1. Glack-fa-mené lies above the Bank next Auchnagarnan	6	2	—
2. Loch-an-ula-vaan adjoining the March with Clashmore and Loch of that name	15	—	6
3. A small Sheeling East of No. 2 on the South Side of a pretty steep Brae	1	2	30
4. Lies North of No. 3 on the side of a Brae declining Eastward	6	—	14
5. Lies North West from the remarkable Linn below the steep rocky Brae, is pretty flat	4	—	36
6. Lies above the Brae and adjoining the Linn	4	1	24
7. Lies on the Sea Bank betwixt two Rocks at the Ebb	2	2	32
8. A small Sheeling North East of the last 'twixt two Braes on the Road to Oldernay	—	3	—
9. A large Sheeling South from and adjoining Loch-nabrowa hanging pretty much North	7	3	—

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:

Interjected Rocks and Grass Grounds including the Houses, Steadings, and all below the steep Braes and within the square of the Arable Lands as bounded by the small pricked lines great part of which may be brought into Tillage	94	—	25
--	----	---	----

Pasture comprehending Moss, Muir and rocky Ground great part whereof yields good grassy pasture particularly from the remarkable Linn along the Sea Banks to the March with Oldernay	988	3	25
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Ten Lochs within the Boundaries of the Farm the Contents of each are markt on the Plan	85	1	21
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Total Contents:

Infield	86	1	27
Shcelings	49	—	22
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1083	—	10
Lochs	85	1	21
Total	1304	—	—

OBSERVATIONS

Clashnessie as possessed by William McLeod and Angus Kerr and their Subtenants of which there are a great many as appears by the number of Houses (adjoining the Farmstead) which accommodate about a Score of

Families situated hard by the Ebb being a sandy Creek lying within the Bay, where fishing Boats are drawn up; Although this place appears to be much exposed to the North Seas yet 'tis pretty much sheltered by the Rocks along the Coast and high Grounds which almost encompass it.

The arable Lands tho' much interjected with stony Baulks and rocky Hillocks are exceedingly fertile producing good Crops of Corn and Bear. All to the East of the Farmstead is a Tract of rocky Hillocks yielding good grassy pasture interjected with Lochs and Moss the last cover'd with Heather, and towards the South and West the hill Grounds are more rugged dry and rocky. North from the Corn Lands is the Remains of Old Castle Down which is Sea beat every high Tide. There are no less than nine Sheeling places upon this Farm one half or a third of which are annually in Corn; the Contents of each Sheeling are markt and number'd upon the opposite side hereto prefix'd and corresponding thereto, The Contents are likewise markt and number'd on the Plan.

KNOCKNEACH

	A.	R.	F.
Infield lying betwixt the Farmstead and Loch Drumsurdland being all close ground and well shelter'd with a fine S:E: aspect	18	3	16

Sheelings:

1. Lies at the South End of the Meadow adjoining the Farmstead	4	3	24
2. Lies in a hollow surrounded with Wood and Meadow Grass at the March with Drumsurdland	14	3	20
3. A small Sheeling East of the Last	1	-	-
4. Lies betwixt the Wood and Loch Torrigarif including the Meadow Grass along the Burn from Loch Drumsurdland	6	-	-

Natural Woods:

Wood along the Hill West from the Farmstead	60	-	-
Wood in the Braes East of the Farmstead	56	-	-

Hill Ground interjected with Rocks and Moss and rugged Hillocks along the North Side of the Sugar loaf Mountain, including the Grassy Braes towards the March with Drumsurdland

1700 2 37

Four Lochs containing in all

12 - -

Total Contents:

Infield	18	3	16
Sheelings	26	3	4
Natural Woods	116	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1700	2	37
Lochs	12	-	-
Total	1874	1	17

OBSERVATIONS

Knockneach Farmstead is most beautifully situated upon the East Side of the Hill of that name, the North and West Sides of which Hill, are cover'd with fine full grown Trees, consisting of Oak, Ash, Birch &c., Part of the Farms of Philin and Culaek lie betwixt this Farm and that Branch

of the Sea called Loch Inver. All the hilly Grounds East from the Farmstead, extending from the Summit of the Sugar Loaf Mountain to the East End thereof. The whole Hills have a North Aspect, and all the Highest Grounds are very rugged and rocky, yielding short Heather. All the Braes and Laigh Grounds along the March Burn with Drumsurdland yield good grassy pasture.

CROMALD

	A.	R.	F.
Infields about the Farmstead adjoining the Burn being all close haugh Ground	12	-	-

Sheelings:

Greens about the Sheeling at the Junction of two Burns on the March with Ledmore and betwixt the same and the Infields including both sides of the Burn	10	1	-
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Meadow ridges betwixt the above Sheeling and Loch Urgil	12	-	-
---	----	---	---

Greens upon each Side of the Burn of Cromald South from the Infields being haugh or Meadow Ground most part of which has been in tillage	15	-	-
--	----	---	---

Fine meadow Grass on each Side of two Burns in the Moss West from the Farmstead	12	-	-
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Wet Moss yielding Heath and Hill Grounds yielding coarse benty Grass	1258	1	32
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Total Contents:

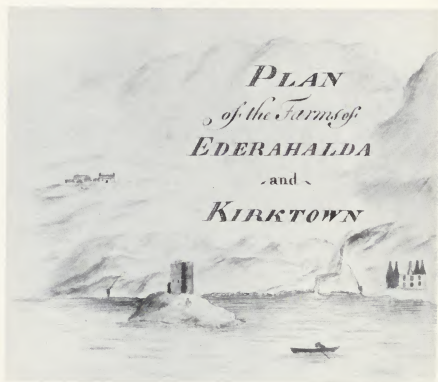
Infield	12	-	-
Sheelings	49	1	-
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1258	1	32
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	1319	2	32

OBSERVATIONS

Cromald, The Corn Land of this Farm consists of Haugh ground, lying along the Burn of Cromald, which is join'd by a variety of other Branches issuing from the Hill, above which is all Wet spoutty Moss Ground full of Springs, a little below where these several branches of the burn unite, The Channel of the Burn is pretty level all along untill it joins Loch Urgil, upon which Account great breaches are made in the Haughs by the Waters overflowing them in time of speats, by the burn shifting its course, so that one third of the most valuable of these Haugh Grounds are carryed away, and nothing left but large patches of stony beach, which one cannot see without regretting such a place, where Corn Grounds of so excellent a quality, are so very rare and scarce; but this place seems to remain subject to this inconvenience, as there is no other outlet for the instant swell of this large Water, being confined on each side of the Burn by the Hill on the one side and the Moss on the other, lying much higher than the Haughs when four or five feet under Water. Nothing can excell the fine Grass growing along the march burn with Aultnachie and the two Grains which run into it from the middle of the flat Moss.



Part of farms of Cnoc nan Each, Culag, Inverkirkaig and Badnaban
 (from Plan No. 13).



Ardvreck Castle and Calda House, with Achmore farmstead in background
(from Plan No. 9).

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

17

CULACK	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Milltown Infield West from the Houses along the Coast Ellagorratten a Croft at the March Burn with Inver Chirkag being close level Ground	12	2	14
Infield in the Hollow at the head of the Mill Burn adjoining Loch-an-torrigarif	2	—	—
Infield about the Houses occupied by Thirteen Subtenants the Stances of their Houses and Yards with some interjected Baulks	2	3	—
	35	—	—
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies at the End of Torrigarrif in a hollow betwixt two Braes	3	2	—
2. Lies East of No. 1 situated betwixt two Braes next the Wood	2	1	16
3. Lies in a hollow Slack at the North Side of Loch Patin-a-Morrichan	4	3	—
4. Lies also in a hollow adjoining a small Loch East of Loch Patin-a-marrichin	1	3	10
5. Lies at the South Side of a Steep Brae next the Fewan Loch	4	2	—
Wood in the Braes along the March with Inver Chirkag and Loch torrigarif in all	112	—	—
Hill Pasture consisting mostly of Moss and rocky Hill Grounds, yielding Short Heather with several Braes and Hollows yielding good grass	1856	—	24
Two Lochs containing	4	2	—
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	52	1	14
Sheelings	16	3	26
Natural Woods	112	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1856	—	24
Lochs	4	2	—
Total	2041	3	24

OBSERVATIONS

Culack, Farmstead and Milltown are pleasantly situated on the March of Philin, by the Side of a Burn running upon a very rugged rocky bottom, having a great many Linns or Water Falls in a very short Space, betwixt the fresh and Salt Water Loch called Loch-an-torrigarif. The Infield along the Sea Coast of Loch Inver is very much broke and interjected with patches of Wet Moss, and craigy Banks, so that one half of it can only be reckon'd tillable. Mr. Mackinzie of Ardloch is the principal Tacksman of this Farm which is all occupied by his Subtenants consisting of upwards of a Score of Families whose great business lies at the Fishing. South from the Milltown and towards the March with Inver Chirkag is a large Cluster of Houses occupied by thirteen Tenants, who have each a part of the Corn Lands next their Houses and Yards, which are snugly situate in a Hollow, on each Side a small Burn running into a small Creek or Ebb of the Sea,

where Boats are drawn up. These poor people are daily enlarging their Corn Lands by potatoe improvements so that the greatest part of the Grounds within the Dykes will soon be brought into tillage, which will be a great addition to the Corn Land. There is a great variety of Dens, hollow Slacks, and Braes, throughout all the Hill Grounds, which produce good Grass and coarse pasture, but especially next the March with Inver Chirkag where the braes have a very quick declivity and fine South Aspect.

CULKEIN	A.	B.	F.
Infields lying about the Farmsteadings mostly all close Ground and pretty level	73	-	3
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Dunan lying above the Rocks called Dunan Point almost surrounded by the Sea	11	-	30
2. Clar Loch next the Loch of that name much broke with Stones and rocky Baulks	18	1	14
3. Culfruich at the North End of Loch Culfruich sloping pretty much Eastward	29	-	36
4. Clashronick West from and almost adjoining the Infield Ground	5	2	-
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
Rich Meadow Grass extending from the Infield to Clar Loch Burn	12	-	-
Hill Pasture and Moss Grounds cover'd with Heather including the Hill call'd Shian-more yielding good greenish Pasture especially for Sheep	675	2	9
Clar Loch	14	-	-
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	73	-	3
Sheelings	59	1	-
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	687	2	9
Loch	14	-	-
Total	833	3	12

OBSERVATIONS

Culkein Farm is situated pretty much similar to Clashnessie but has a more extensive Bay or Ebb; The Farmstead lies detach'd in three places along the Bay, the Northmost of which is Sea Beat and greatly exposed to the North and East; the other two lie pretty much sheltered by a Hillock and the adjacent Braes; There are only four large Sheeling places on this Farm which are well accommodate with good pasture and meadow Grass adjoining the Infield Ground; the Hill of Shianmore yields short greenish pasture mixt with Heather and is excellent for Sheep especially in Winter being always dry and snow seldom lies on it. The rocks along the Sea from Dunan Point to the March with Clashmore at the West are steep and altogether innaccessible.

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

19

CULKEIN	A.	B.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infields in three disjoin'd places around the Farmstead with other two disjoin'd Fields next Oldernay Ebb, containing in all	39	1	6
Steadings of the Houses and Yards with interjected Pasture that may be brought into tillage	10	-	-
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lurrich-a-loisk at the march adjoining Loch Drunbeg sloping southward	5	-	-
2. Lies south from and next the last adjoining the Loch sloping South and East	8	-	-
3. Lies in a Hollow South of Loch Drunbeg	5	1	-
4. Lies on the North side of a Bank surrounded with natural Wood south of Loch-na-broig	3	1	-
5. A Large Sheeling South of the last next Loch Poule	14	3	13
6. Lies upon the South side of a craigy Hill opposite to the Burn betwixt Loch Poule and Loch Tomavante	3	2	16
7. Lies North of the last by the Edge of Loch Badin-laun	4	-	-
<i>Natural Woods: Birch Woods yielding good grassy pasture Vizt.:</i>			
A Bank south of and adjoining Loch Drunbeg hanging pretty much Northward	15	-	-
Steep Braes with hollow Slacks along the north side of Loch-na-brake	11	1	-
Steep Braes on the South Side of Loch-na-brake round the Sheeling markt No. 4 Comprehending sundry Braes and hollow Slacks yielding grassy pasture	64	-	16
Wood in the Brae East of the Sheeling markt No. 5	16	-	16
Wood in the steep craigy Brae along the North side of Loch Poule	3	-	-
Rocky Hills and Moss grounds cover'd with Heather with Braes, Dens and Hollows, yielding grassy pasture	666	2	10
Three Lochs containing in all	32	2	16
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	49	1	6
Sheelings	43	3	29
Natural Woods	109	1	32
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	666	2	10
Lochs	32	2	16
Total	901	3	13

OBSERVATIONS

Culkein, this Farm lies next Oldernay on a Neck of Land betwixt Oldernay Ebb and Bay of Culkein and is snugly situate under cover of a green Hill, which with the Boar Islands shelters it from the Northerly Winds. There is a vast number of People residing upon this Farm, who are daily adding to the Corn Grounds by potatoe Improvements; besides the two principal Tacksmen, whose chief support is by means of the Fishing: The Sheelings are very valuable, being situate by the Edge of the natural Woods; the Pasture is generally rich and good, and the rocky Parts are dry and excellent for Sheep.

DRUMSURDLAND

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infield about the Farmsteading sloping pretty much south including the Areas of Houses and yards as markt in two places

41 1 27

Haugh ground being close Arable Land surrounded by the burn

8 - 9

Sheelings:

1. Lies North of the last

5 3 -

2. Lies North from and next the Infield

1 - 20

3. Lies below Steep Craigs at the East End of a Loch at the march with Knockneach East from No. 1

3 - 10

4. Lies in a hollow East of the last upon the side of the Road from Inver to Ledbeg

3 2 19

5. Lies in a hollow 'twixt the Road and burn from Loch Ganeau

5 - 32

6. Lies at the East End of Loch Ganeau adjoining the March with Ledbeg below the top of Canusp Hill

4 - -

Hill pasture most part whereof consists of Braes and hollow Slacks yielding grassy pasture lying under the high Ground on the South West End of Canusp Hill

2245 2 3

Loch-an-Vaan

13 - -

Total Contents:

Infield

49 1 36

Sheelings

22 3 1

Natural Woods

- - -

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture

2245 2 3

Loch

13 - -

Total

2330 3 -

OBSERVATIONS

Drumsurdland is pleasantly situated at the North End of the Loch, having a fine Aspect and declivity to the South, and well sheltered by the Hills above it; The Corn Lands are full of Baulks with Roots of Trees so that one would be apt to imagine it had been altogether Wood some time ago. All along the March Burn with Knockneach and Braes above it, yields good Grassy Pasture, but the high Grounds next Duchlash are more barren and afford very little variety of Pasture besides short Heather.

DRUNBEG

A. R. F.

Infields round the Farmsteadings with two other dis-join'd Fields to the N: East

33 1 6

Sheelings:

1. Lies next the march and Bay of Nedd presently in Corn

23 1 24

2. Lies South of the last in a Hollow sloping South and East

17 - 16

3. Lynelirick a bonny green hillock South of Loch Tarn-uirie

2 - 16

4. Lies East of the last adjoining the Burn from Loch Lyne

7 - -

5. Lies at the East end of Loch Lyne with a good Aspect and declivity to the Sun

4 3 24

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

21

<i>Natural Woods:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Natural Wood upon the South Side of Loch Drunbeg	10	-	-
A Patch of Wood on the Edge of a Loch near the march with Culkein	2	-	-
Braes yielding Birch Wood along the South and West Side of Loch Tarn-ue	15	-	-
Hill pasture Grounds interjected with Rocks and patches of Moss mostly covered with Heath with Hollows, Braes, &c. yielding coarse Grass	994	3	12
Eight Lochs the Contents of each markt upon the Plan in all contains	105	-	22
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	33	1	6
Sheelings	54	2	-
Natural Woods	27	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	994	3	12
Lochs	105	-	22
Total	1214	3	-

OBSERVATIONS

Drunbag lies by the Edge of Loch Drunbag situate on the sun side of Hills which screen it from the Sea and Winds from the North and East. There is an excellent Landing for Boats, adjoining the Infields North from the Houses, which Infields, are remarkably close and free of Stones or Baulks; The Sheeling places are pretty extensive, and well shelter'd, having mostly all a South Aspect, these towards the march and Bay of Nedd, are a very rich soil. The Hill pasture is less valuable than that of Culkein in proportion to the Woods growing thereon.

DUCHLASH (including POLGARVIER)	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield around the Farmstead including Houses and Yards with interjected rocky Pasture among the Corn Lands	36	-	-
Infields about the Farmstead of Polgarvier another Farm possessed by the Tenant of Duchlash	13	1	10
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies next the Farmstead at the March with Philin	1	2	20
2. Lies on each side a Burn North from the Farmstead	7	-	-
3. Lies North from and next the last	8	-	-
4. Lies by the Edge of a Wood next Polgarvier	4	1	-
5. Lies at the West End of a Loch towards the head of a Burn	2	-	16
6. Lies East from and next the last, having a fine South aspect and declivity	4	2	-
7. Lies East from No. 6, upon the South side of a high Rock	8	1	-
8. Lies North from No. 7, at the foot of a hill and by the Edge of a Burn	3	3	28

	A.	R.	F.
9. Attenhuik lies in a Slack at the head of a burn sloping South	4	-	-
10. Lies at the junction of two Burns with Loch fie loidge upon the March with Tubeg	3	-	-
<i>Natural Woods:</i>			
Birch Wood at the March Burn with Tubeg	21	-	-
A Bank of Wood betwixt the Sheelings markt No. 3 and No. 4	24	-	-
Hilly Pasture Grounds interjected with Rocks and Patches of Moss with grassy pasture along the Braes upon the North West End of Canusp Hill	3808	-	6
Three Lochs as markt upon the plan containing in all	46	2	-
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	49	1	10
Sheelings	46	2	24
Natural Woods	45	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	3808	-	6
Lochs	46	2	-
Total	3995	2	-

OBSERVATIONS

Duchlash Farmstead is situated at the South Corner of the Farm and lies pretty well shelter'd by the hilly Grounds around it; The Infields are pretty close and free from Baulks and of a good quality being a deep Loam. All the Sheeling places are beautifully situate in the Hollow and Banks of the Burn which runs from the Heights about the middle of the Farm Westward to the Water of Assint. Polgarvier is situated below the Hills at the North Side next the March with Little Assint and Tubeg. The Infields of it are much broke with steep stony Baulks having a North Aspect and declivity. The hill Grounds are mostly cover'd with Heath as are likewise all the flat Mosses; The Hollow Dens abound with a mixture of Heath and Bents which afford pretty good pasturage for Cattle, as the rocky Hills do for Sheep and Goats.

EDERAHALDA	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield and Meadow Ground upon the East Side of the Burn and next Calda House	7	1	-
Garden and Ground plot of the House	2	-	10
Grass and Garden Ground about the Old Castle mostly encompass'd with Water	4	-	-
Infields interjected with Rocks and good grassy Baulks including the Steadings of Houses and Yards	44	-	-
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
Green Hills abounding with Lime Stone with a large patch of flat Moss lying below the Hill and within the Dykes	245	-	-
Hill high and rocky, partly cover'd with barren Heath	647	-	30

	A.	R.	F.
A detached Piece of Pasture Ground lying West of the Dykes of Auchamore, and between Loch Assint and the Road to little Assint	218	3	—
A Sheeling place belonging to the said Pasture by the Edge of the Loch	1	3	8
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	57	1	10
Sheelings	1	3	8
Natural Woods	—	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1110	3	30
Lochs	—	—	—
Total	1170	—	8

OBSERVATIONS

Ederahalda This small but well accommodate Farm lies pleasantly situate on the North side of Loch Assint equidistant from Calda House and the Old Castle. The greatest part of the Grounds within the Dykes stand upon Lime-stone and yield fine sweet Grass. The Hill above the Dykes is very barren being poorly cover'd with short Heath so that the Hill pasture local to this Farm being thought inadequate for its accommodation has occasion'd the giving off to it those detached Grounds betwixt Auchamore and Tumore, much complain'd of by Mr. Scobie whose Grounds it lies interjected with; The way to remedy this inconvenience complain'd of by both, would be, to extend the Pasturage of Ederahalda Westwards by striking off an equivalent from the head of the Strath of Auchamore next Unapool in lieu of the two hundred and eighteen Acres which lies more discontinuous along the Loch.

AILFIN

	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield North from the Farmstead including the Cot Town Houses, and Yards hanging pretty much Westwards	21	2	32
Infield South from the Farmstead in three disjoin'd pieces upon the N: side of the March Burn with Knockon declining gradually Southwards	17	—	11
Haugh Ground betwixt the Burn in the East Corner adjoining the Marches with Ledmore and Ledbeg	2	—	—
Rich Meadow Ground extending along the March with Ledbeg from said Haugh to Cama Loch most part of which has been tilled	6	—	—
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies upon the Edge of the Road to Ledbeg next Cama Loch presently in Corn	2	2	—
2. Lies South from the last on the N:W: side of the Hill adjoining the Wood	5	2	20
3. Lies East from No. 2 on the Edge of the Wood being close arable Land and in Corn	6	2	20
4. Lies on the South Edge of Loch Urgill presently in Corn	5	3	—
5. Lies at the Junction of the burn from the Cama Loch to the long Loch that divides Assint from Cogyoeh being haugh Ground disjoin'd by the Junction of the two Burns	2	—	—

	A.	R.	F.
Rocky green pasture on the Edge of the Loch and betwixt No. 4 and the Wood supposed to be Sheeling Ground	6	2	-

Natural Woods:

Natural Woods upon the North and East sides of Ailfin including a large Piece of Wood next Loch Urgill and Aultnachie	38	-	-
Wood on the South Edge of the Cama Loch	16	-	-

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:

Hill pasture mostly green Swarded yielding a variety of sweet Grass interspers'd with Lime Craigs including some Patches of Peat Moss partly covered with Heather	1024	-	14
High mossy Ground yielding short Heather upon the South Side of Cama Loch next the March with Ledbeg at the West disjoin'd from the rest of the Farm by the burn from Cama Loch to the long Loch	353	2	-

Total Contents:

Infield	46	3	3
Sheelings	29	-	-
Natural Woods	54	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1377	2	14
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	1507	1	17

OBSERVATIONS

Ailfin Farmstead lies below the West Side of the Hill about the middle of the Infield Grounds which hangs pretty steep above them; The Soil is very free and fertile and stands upon Lime Stone with which the whole Hill abounds. All the East and North Side of the Hill is cover'd with Birch Wood, which with the whole Hill yields excellent sweet grassy pasture, and (except the flate foggie Moss next the West End of Loch Urgil and the high Ground lying betwixt Cama Loch and the March Loch with Cogyoeh), nothing can excell the richness of the pasture upon the whole of this Farm which is esteem'd the best and finest grazing Farm, next to the Kirktown, upon the Heights of Assint.

PHILIN

Infield:

Infield adjoining the Farmstead being close Ground and pretty level having a dry sandy soil	9	2	-
Infield along the Shore South of the last	8	1	-
Corn Lands by the side of the Water of Assint between the Cruves and the Bridge	-	3	-

Sheelings:

1. Lies opposite to the Cruive Dyke on the Water of Assint	1	3	-
2. Lies in the East Corner adjoining the March with Duchlash	3	2	-
3. Lies South of and adjoining a Loch next Loch Drum-surdland	2	-	-

<i>Natural Wood:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Remains of Wood mostly Oak roots, above the Infields	2	—	—
Wood at the march with Drumsurdland next the Lochs	3	—	—
Rocky hill Pasture abounding with grassy Braes interspers'd with Moss	325	—	—
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	18	2	—
Sheelings	7	1	—
Natural Woods	5	—	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	325	—	—
Lochs	—	—	—
Total	355	3	—

OBSERVATIONS

Philin, This small, but excellent Farm for grazing is presently occupied by Ardloch who keeps it chiefly for wintering his Cattle. The Farmstead is situated at the Junction of the Water of Assint with Loch Inver. The Corn Lands along the Edge of the Loch are sea beat every high tide and are all close and flat being free of Baulks; The Soil is compos'd of Sand and Gravel and yields early Crops of both Corn and Bear. All the Braes and Hollows yield choice grassy Pasture, and there are many hollow places that would cut for Hay.

GLENLIRAG	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield very much interjected with rocky knows and stony Baulks almost one half not in tillage	26	—	—
Haugh along the Burn close ground with a rich black Soil	5	2	4
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Auch-na-more in two places lying above the Braes next the Bay well shelter'd with a good Aspect to the South and East	10	3	—
2. Lies North of the last in a Hollow mostly encompass'd with Wood adjoining the Bay presently in Corn	4	—	—
3. Dytachan next to and North from No. 2 upon a rising Ground sloping Eastward	4	2	—
4. Lies East from No. 1 upon the West side of a small Loch	2	—	16
5. Lies North from the Farmstead towards the head of a Den presently in Corn a good South Aspect	4	—	—
6. Reconiack lies south of the last and East from the Farmstead a good south Aspect	6	3	—
7. Lies South of the last on a rising hillock sloping pretty much South	11	2	16
8. Lies at the head of a Den East from Knockour	3	—	—
9. Nareverack lies at the march with Poltegarrynach on a Brae sloping southward towards the March Burn	5	—	—
10. Lies South from and next the Mill in a hollow at the end of a Loch North West from Loch Our	2	1	24

	A.	R.	F.
11. A large Sheeling next the march with Nedd at the West sloping pretty much to the South and East	10	3	8
12. Lies on a steep Brae below a craigy Hill adjoining the south End of Loch-an-loith hanging very steep Northwards	6	-	-
13. Auch-an-loith a bonny sheeling lying central to a large Tract of good grassy pasture betwixt Loch-an-loith and the Hill of Quinack	5	-	-

Natural Woods:

Natural Birch Wood south from the Farmstead and betwixt the Sheelings mark No. 10 and No. 11	13	1	-
Steep rocky Braes extending from the Infield along the East side of the Bay of Nedd cover'd mostly with Oak Wood yielding Grass intermixt with long Heath and patches of Ground sometimes in tillage	50	-	-
Two patches of Wood South from and next Loch-na-vea lard at the march with Ardvare	1	2	-

High rocky Hills along the South side of the Farm called Knockour with part of Clash knock mostly cover'd with Heather with a variety of Dens and Braes yielding coarse pasture

	3024	2	32
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Loch-na-loith and Loch-an-a-chiam with three other small lochs

	87	2	20
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Total Contents:

Infield	31	2	4
Sheelings	75	3	24
Natural Woods	64	3	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	3024	2	32
Lochs	87	2	20
Total	3284	2	-

OBSERVATIONS

Glenlirag, This Large Farmstead on which there are no less than sixteen Families residing all Subtenants of Kenneth Mackenzie. The Infields are very much interjected with Rocks and Baulks in which are a good many Trees. The Houses about the middle of the Infields which stand on the Sun Side of a pretty steep Bank couch'd under Hilly Grounds which protect it from the Winds, The Braes upon the South Side of the Burn of Nedd are cover'd with Wood yielding choice Grassy pasture particularly the large Hollow south from the Houses, and good Meadow-Grass in several Large Patches along the Burn on each side thereof below Quinack Hill.

All the Hills to the South of the Burn called Knock Our and Clash-Knock are by much the highest and most uneven Grounds upon the Farm. The Grounds to the North and along the March with Ardvare have a much smoother Surface resembling the Point of Store more than any of the other Hill Grounds upon the Coasting Farms.

If ever a Division of this Farm should happen, it might Naturally be drawn along the Hollow North and South from Loch-an-a-chian, And the most proper place for erecting a New Steading, East from Loch-an-Loith which would be central to a pretty large Tract of good grassy Pasture a considerable part whereof might be easily converted into Corn Lands.

INCHNADAFF	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield South East from and adjoining the Farmstead lying pretty Flat	17	-	-
Infield in the Braes bounded by stone Dykes Eastward from the Farmstead adjoining the Burn of Trarigil with stony Baulks hanging pretty steep Northwards	18	-	-
Haugh Ground at the junction of the Burns of Trarigil and Stroncruby in Sundry Windings on each side the Burn of Stroncruby being all close and level ground without Baulks	40	-	20
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies at the East End next Glendu on the top of a Brae pretty flat and close Ground	9	-	-
2. Lies near No. 1 and opposite to it on the West Side of a burn	3	2	20
3. Lies next the March with Tubeg by the Edge of Loch Assint and the Natural Wood	4	-	30
4. Lies at the March Burn with Duchlash called Ault-fie-loidge mark't in two places	5	1	-
5. Lies East of No. 3 opposite to Calda-house at the Edge of the natural Wood	2	1	20
Natural Wood in the North lying Braes along the South Side of Loch Assint yielding Birch and grassy pasture	165	-	-
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
Moss interjected with Patches of meadow Grass lying betwixt the steep hanging Rocks and the Burn of Stroncruby	142	-	-
Moss and pasture Grounds East of the Farmstead and steep hanging Rocks enclos'd by an Earthen Dyke and Ditch	300	-	-
Veingnarow and Led-Ladnach Hills cover'd with short Heath interjected with Rocks including the Braes around said Hills which abound with Springs and a variety of Hollow Slacks yielding good Grass all lying West from Stroncruby Burn	2467	1	30
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	75	-	20
Sheelings	24	1	30
Natural Woods	165	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2909	1	30
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	3174	-	-

OBSERVATIONS

Inchnadaff Farmstead lies pretty much exposed to the Westerly Winds coming off Loch Assint; The out-Skirts of the Infields adjoining the Houses are very Wet as they border upon the Moss, but the Haughs along the Burn from Loch Ha are pretty dry yielding good Corn and when in Grass make rich Meadow-Ground; The Brae Eastward from the Farmstead hanging Northward is a thin sharp Soil all upon Lime-Stone but a good deal broke with craigy Baulks and large Stones. The Sheelings next Glendu

are much in the same situation and quality with the last mentioned Infield. All the rocky Braes next Glendu both above and below the high hanging Craigs yield good Grass and Clovers intermixt with some piles of Heather, but there are many patches of Grass that are cut for Hay in the Braes betwixt the Infield and Sheelings. Veingarrow Hill and all the Braes around it yield good dry heathery Pasture with Greens about the Sources of the Springs and sides of the Braes; the East End of the Hill called Led-Ladnoch abounds with long heather.

In the lower Part of the Hill there are a great many Breaches made by the rapid course of the Waters issuing from the Hill and running upon a rocky Channel making great depredations and a hideous noise which is heard and seen on the Road from the opposite Side.

INVER	A.	R.	F
Corn Lands about the Farm Houses very much broke and interjected with Rocks and Baulks which last abound with a good stool of Oak	12	-	-
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies about the middle of the Farm and opposite to the Cruives on the Water of Assint markt in two places	11	3	-
2. Bad-na-con lies at the North end of the Farm adjoining a Loch on the March with Brackloch	2	2	-
3. A small Sheeling next Brackloch Farmstead	1	2	-
Birch Wood on the Braes along the marches with Battachrianan and Loch Beanoch yielding good grassy Pasture	42	-	-
Rocky Hills and Moss cover'd with short Heath including sundry Hollows and Braes yielding good Grass and coarse pasture	450	3	-
Sheelings lying to the West of Baddidarroch and south of Torbreck called Ard-roe markt in two places alongside of Loch Ardroe	25	2	20
Two other Sheelings adjoining the Salt Water Lake next Auckmelvick	6	2	20
Two small Sheelings at the march with Baddidarroch	4	-	-
Rugged, high and barren rocky Ground being the out-pasture of the above Six Sheelings	428	2	-
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	12	-	-
Sheelings	52	-	-
Natural Woods	42	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	879	1	-
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	985	1	-

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Inver lies pleasantly situated at the confluence of the Water of Assint with that Bay of the Sea called Loch Inver which next to Kyle's Cu is esteem'd the safest and most commodious Harbour upon the Western Coast.

The great resort of Shipping here, occasioned by the Herring Fishing, renders it at once both delightful and profitable. Mr. Campbell the present possessor seemingly enjoys it much, being an excellent Fisher himself and very communicative and obliging to all the seafaring people. Nothing can excell or rarely equal the great variety of the Fishing peculiar to this place; all the Sorts of both fresh and Salt Water Fish being got in the greatest perfection as well as Herring which has brought from Fifty to Eighty sail at once to the place and have been seen lying here three or four Months. The Corn Lands are indeed the poorest soil, and most interjected with Rocks and Baulks, the last is full of Oak Roots, which appears to have been it's Original production.

The Sheeling places North from the Houses are pretty close Ground, and better adapted for tillage than the Infields. The other detached Sheeling places about Loch Ardroe are pretty close, and free of Baulks and when in Corn yield double the quantity of the Infields about the Houses. This being by way of an Appendix to Inver might be let in a Farm by itself as there is a good landing place in the Creek at the march of Baddidaroch where there is a Sheeling on which a new Farmstead might be erected.

INVER CHIRKAG

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infield about the Farmstead at the East End of Loch Chirkag being close Ground 12 - -

Infield about the Subset Houses on the North side of the Loch and interjected with Stony Baulks 30 - -

Sheelings:

1. Lies in Hollow next the Sea Coast 3 - 29

2. Lies next the Farmstead above the Water of Chirkag 2 1 20

3. Lies East of the last 2 - -

4. Lies East of No. 3 in the middle of a bank of Wood above the Water Side 4 - -

5. Lies at the End of the Fewan Loch next the March with Culack 2 - -

Natural Woods:

Wood in the Braes along the March with Culack consisting of Birch and Oak 40 - -

Braes along the Water of Chirkag yielding tall thriving Oak, Birch Hazel &c. 45 - -

Rocky Hill Pasture interspers'd with Moss, with Braes yielding Grass 935 - 39

Four Lochs 12 - 32

Sheelings:

A Small Sheeling at the Junction of two Burns next the Fewan Loch 1 2 -

Sheeling at the East Corner adjoining Cama Loch and the March with Ledbeg 1 - -

Another Sheeling upon the said March with Brackloch 4 - -

Hill Pasture lying betwixt Culack and Ledbeg including all the South Side of the Sugar Loaf Mountain yielding good dry rocky Pasture for Sheep and Goats 1284 1 -

Total Contents:

	A.	R.	F.
Infield	42	-	-
Sheelings	20	-	9
Natural Woods	85	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2219	1	39
Lochs	12	-	32
Total	2378	3	-

OBSERVATIONS

Inver Chirkag lies at the Junction of the Water of Chirkag with that Branch of the Sea call'd Loch Chirkag. The Farmstead is almost Seat Beat every high tide; There is a pretty large Tract of Sands and Beach appearing at low Water, which together with the fine extensive Bank of natural Wood upon the Cogyoach Side of the Water and Loch, add greatly to the beauty of the Place. The Infields about the Farmstead are pretty level, and all close Ground, with scarce any Baulks, and of a dry sandy Soil. All the Subtenants Houses lye North from the Farmstead about the middle of Corn Fields, full of stony Baulks at the North End of the Loch where the Boats are drawn up. The Hill Pasture is generally very poor, but dry and good for Sheep and Goats, except about the outsides, and among the natural Woods, which afford good Pasture and shelter. The high Tract of rocky Grounds extending from the Farmstead to Inver Chirkag Point, is mostly barren but affords good Pasture about the Sheelings along the Sea Banks. There is a large Tract of Pasture detach'd from the Farm lying upon the South Side of the Soalving or Sugar Loaf Mountain and betwixt the Marches of Culack and Ledbeg, which 'tho' the greatest part be remarkably rocky, yet it affords a pretty good variety of pasture for Goats, Sheep, and all sorts of Bestial.

KIRKTOWN with the ox-gates of CULACK, CAMORE and GLENDU

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infield Ground around the Manse House including all below the Craigs and betwixt the Burn of Trarigil and the March Burn to the West, the most part of which is Arable, and Meadow Grass

38 - -

Infield in two Folds adjoining the Burns of Trarigil and Pollandrain yielding good Corn

8 1 -

Sheelings in three Folds East of the last along the North side of the Burn of Trarigil adjoining the Grass of Camore hanging pretty much Southward

25 3 -

Infield Grounds below the Ridge of Rocks including the Steadings of Three Tenements, and a piece of Arable Land at the Inver of the Burn of Trarigil with Loch Assint part of which belongs to the Glebe and was formerly in Run Ridge; These Grounds are so much interjected with Baulks and rocky Hillocks that only one fourth may be reckon'd Corn Land

70 - -

Grass of Camore East of the Sheelings and North of the Burn of Trarigil about one third whereof along the Burn yields good Grass but the Hill part is steep and rocky

461 - -

	A.	R.	F.
Sheelings in the Hollow of Glendu mostly arable yielding fine Grass	53	-	-
Moss interjected with Braes and Slacks cover'd mostly with Heather yielding grassy Pasture including the South Side of Connivel Hill being mostly inaccessible	944	3	-
<i>Sheelings belonging to the Glebe and Culack:</i>			
1. Lies above the Green Ridge of Rocks North from the Manse and Glebe markt in two places	3	2	32
2. Lies West of the last and North of Cullack	5	-	-
3. Lies next the March with Ederahalda called Poldubra	8	2	-
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
Fine sweet grassy Pasture interjected among the Lime Stone Craigs betwixt the Arable Land and the Hill	484	3	-
Rocky Hill with the Den upon each Side of the Burn of Pollandrain and Sheeling at the head thereof together with the Braes at the South Side of the Hill along the Marches with Lord Rae yielding Heather with sundry Patches of coarse gray Pasture	1022	-	8
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	116	1	-
Sheelings	95	3	32
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2912	2	8
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	3124	3	-

OBSERVATIONS

Kirktown comprehending the Manse, Culack, Camore, and Glendu, the Infield of which lies partly in Run Ridge with each other. The Glebe Infields lie about the Manse House and betwixt it and the high Ridge of Lime Stone Craigs which shelter it from the Northerly Winds. Part of the Corn Lands next the End of the Loch South from the Kirk are said to be in Run Ridge with the Oxgates of Camore, but as both Culack and Camore are presently let to the Parson and have been let to his predecessors these distinctions have not been much attended to.

Nothing can excell the goodness of the Grass throughout the Ridge of Lime Stone Craigs which extends along the whole length of the Farm: From the March at the West End to the head of Glendu at the East, the Pasture is remarkably fertile abounding with the finest sweet Grass; with a vast variety of hollow Slacks and grassy Banks like so many Terraces all hanging mostly Southwards.

The Sheeling places have all a rich and sharp Soil, with few parts in them so stony, as to prevent their being laboured with a Plough: They are also greatly enriched by toathing.

The only Hill Sheeling lies at the head of the Burn of Polandrain, where there is a spacious Corry bounded by the Connivel on the North and East; by the sides of which Mountain, and along the Burn of Polandrain, there are several Patches of Greens and coarse Grass, mixt with long Heather, lying betwixt the head of the Burn, and the remarkable Linn or Water Fall, which is surprisingly grand, and dreadfully awful. As the Corry lies a great way up the Hill it affords no grazing but in the summer Season. The Sheeling

at the upper end of this Corry likewise affords little or no Pasturage but in the Summer Season. There is no farm in the height of Assint that can weigh with the above possession if consider'd as a grazing Farm having the best Aspect to the Sun and being one continued Tract of Lime-Stone; The Snow lies less upon it than any of the neighbouring Farms, and if under the management of an industrious and skillfull Tenant might be of double I may safely say triple value to the Proprietor and yield a genteel living to such a Tacksman after all.

KNOCKON

Infield:

Infield a rich black Loam very much interjected with Lime Stone hillocks and Baulks yielding excellent Grass including the stances of Houses and all within the Dykes

A. R. F.

30 - -

Infields disjoin'd from the Farmstead by meadow and moss Ground and their Contents separately markt upon the Plan each of which are encl'o'd by Dykes declining pretty much Westward and pretty close with scarce any Stones or Baulks to interrupt the tillage

21 2 30

Sheelings:

1. Lies towards the West End of the blind Burn

2 2 -

2. Lies East of the last about the middle of the Burn

1 - 30

3. Lies at the East End of the blind Burn being low flate Ground

7 2 20

Natural Wood on the Braes along the March burn with Ailfin and Aultnachie

36 - -

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:

Wet meadow Ground South of the Farmstead

14 2 -

Grassy Pasture Ground interjected among the Infields including all to the N; and W; of the gross dotted Line being mostly all green swarded and interjected with Rocks and some patches of Moss mixt with Heath

261 - -

Hill Pasture consisting mostly of Moss coverd with short Heath and coarse Grass in the Dens and Braes including all from the above dotted line to the marches with the Farm of Aultnachie and the Crown*

1861 1 -

Total Contents:

Infield

51 2 30

Sheelings

11 1 10

Natural Woods

36 - -

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture

2136 3 -

Lochs

- - -

Total

2235 3 -

OBSERVATIONS

Knockon Farmstead lies among a Groupe of Lime Stone Craigs at the North End of the Farm next the March with Ailfin. The Corn Lands are very much interjected with Rocks and Baulks that yield excellent Grass

* The estate of Coigach, forfeited by George, 3rd Earl of Cromartie after the Forty Five.



A *cas-chròm* (from text accompanying
Plan No. 1).



Cottages by Loch Assynt (from Plan No. 10).

which is preserved and cut for Winter provender. The Corn Land is of an exceeding good quality being all of a black free loamy Soil. All that Part of the Hill Ground lying next the Corn Lands and within the dotted ink Line, is mostly all fine green sweet Grass with a very little mixture of Heath and Moss. The Blind Burn is so called because the Water runs in a subterraneous passage under Ground so that the Burn is only known in many Places by the prodigious noise it makes when one passes over it; This Burn separates into two branches which divides the Farm into four quarters.

All the Sheeling Places lye on the North Side of the above Burn and are pretty central to the hill Pasture, the greatest part whereof is very rugged barren Heath with very little mixture of other Grass excepting in the Hollows and Braes.

LEDBEG

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infields within the Dykes including improveable Braes and Meadow Grass Grounds with subset Houses and Yards, one half whereof may be computed Tillable	85	-	-
A Corn Field upon the South Side of the Hill to the N:W: of Ledbeg	12	2	16
Infield upon the South Side of the Burn opposite to the Lime Kiln	6	-	-
Infield or Croft Land along the March with Layn belonging to three Subtenants with the Stances of their Houses and Yards	10	-	-
Corn Lands South from the Infields, lying within new Dykes	4	3	22
A Croft East of the Houses possess'd by John Mackenzie and Niel Clemen	4	2	-
Meadow Ridges yielding excellent Grass and sometimes Corn extending along the Burn from Ledmore to Cama Loch	34	-	-

Sheelings:

1. Lies at the East End of the Cama Loch disjoin'd by a Hillock and markt in two places	5	3	12
2. Lies at the South End of the Cama Loch and next the March with Ailfin	1	-	-
3. Lies west of No. 1 on the North Side of the Cama Loch	-	3	-
4. Comprehends four disjoin'd Sheeling places called Ault-a-chroisk each of which are markt on the plan in all	9	2	5
5. Lies on the West Side of the Hill towards the N: End of the natural Wood	3	-	-
6. Lies next to and North from the Infields	4	-	-
7. Lies next Loch Ha adjoining the Remains of a Natural Wood	6	-	-
8. Lies N: from the Infields and betwixt the House of Ledbeg and Loch Ha	4	-	-
9. Comprehends four Sheelings upon the North Side of Crock-na-Stroan-Hill each of which are markt upon the plan containing in all	10	-	28
10. Ault-an-priest on the East side of the Burn	1	-	20

	A.	R.	F.
Brackloch subset to John Mackenzie who herds Ardloch's Cattle in the Western parts of the Farm	6	2	—
Fine Meadow Grass betwixt the Croft Land* and Cama Loch on each side the Burn	24	—	—
<i>Natural Woods:</i>			
Steep Braes yielding Natural Birch Wood along the Side of the Loch at the March with Cogyoeh	15	—	—
Wood on the Side of the Hill of Ledbeg next Ault-an-chroisk Burn	65	3	—
Wood a great part of which has lately been cut, on the North side of the Hill next Loch Ha	12	—	—
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
Pasture Ground comprehending that Ridge of Rocks lying S:W: of Cama Loch and 'twixt the burn of Brackloch and the march with Cogyoeh	1243	2	30
Good Grassy pasture Ground interjected with Rocks and patches of Moss comprehending all to the S: and E: of the gross dotted Line markt A,B,C, upon the Plan and lying 'twixt the same and the burn of Ledbeg 'till it joins the Cama Loch and from the W: End thereof by the Burn of Brackloch to the March with Inver-chirkag all which having a good aspect to the South and East	4734	—	—
Pasture Ground upon the N: Side of Crock na stroan Hill comprehending all E: of the burn of Ledbeg along the March with Layn to the March with Balnagowan the greatest part of which from the great abundance of Springs yields good Grass	846	—	—
High barren rocky Grounds within the gross dotted Lines and the Marches to the N:W: by Canusp and Sugar loaf Mountain being almost useless	3575	2	27
Sixteen Lochs containing in all	88	—	10
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	163	1	38
Sheelings	45	1	25
Natural Woods	92	3	—
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	10423	1	17
Lochs	88	—	10
Total	10813	—	10

OBSERVATIONS

Ledbeg Farmstead is situated by a Burn side near to and within sight and hearing of a very diverting Linn or Water Fall under a Wooden Bridge which gives access to and from the House possess'd by Ardloch the Factor, which is the Principal one in the Parish, consisting of two Stories, a view of which with the Offices is exhibited below the designation of the Plan. The Corn Lands, or Infields lye mostly all within the Dykes which enclose some rich meadow Grass and small Patches of Moss interjected with the Corn Lands but which Moss so interjected is daily diminishing by casting of the Moss, and planting Potatoes upon the worn out parts thereof, which afterwards yield good Corn. Great part of the arable Lands have lately

* i.e. infield of Brackloch immediately above.

been Limed, by quarrying and burning the Stones found upon the Grounds within the Dykes; see the quarry and Kiln above the Linn North of the House. The good Effects of liming appears very conspicuously from the great Crops both of Corn and Grass. 'Tis remarkably strange that there are no other instances of the utility of working the Lime Stone, for all the immense Tracts of it which run along the whole Height of the Country! Nothing could tend so much to the enriching of the Pasture than laying on lime upon the most barren parts of the dry heathy knolls and Braes.

All within the dotted ink Line mark't A,B,C,D, upon the Plan comprehends the most valuable of the Pasture and Grass Grounds and is little more than one half of the extent of the whole.

The Sheeling Places lye within the above Line, and have a fine Aspect and declivity to the South and East, except these upon the North Side of Crockna stroan Hill, which have a North Exposure, but situate among good grassy Pasture. All the North and West Side of the Hill above Ledbeg from Cama Loch to Loch Ha is cover'd with Birch Wood very much reduced by cutting, the whole of it is green yielding very fine sweet grassy Pasture.

The large Tract North and West of the dotted Line lying South East of the Sugar Loaf and Canusp Mountains are well known to be the most barren Grounds in the Whole Parish; That part North of Aultachroisk Burn consists almost intirely of Craigs and watery Lochs, on which there is scarcely one Pile of Heather to be seen. The high Ridge of craigy Hills betwixt the Sugar Loaf and Aultachroisk 'tho' remarkably rugged and uneven yet yields some coarse benty Grass and heather also very much interjected with Craigs and pools of Water.

That Tract of Ground South of Cama Loch and betwixt the March Loch and Burn of Brackloch yields a pretty thick swaird of short Heather and being mostly dry Ground is pretty well adapted for Sheep Pasture.

LEDMORE

A. R. F.

Infields:

Infields North from the Houses above the Road to Ledbeg upon the Hill Side having a good South Aspect in three disjoin'd Fields enclosed by Dykes the Contents of each are markt upon the Plan containing in all	10	1	7
Infields markt in five places next the Houses and betwixt the Burns from Ledbeg and Loch Boralan	9	2	-
Three Corn Folds next Loch Boralan below the Road	18	2	30
Infields in six Places on the South Side of the Burn from Loch Boralan	29	2	18
Infield subset to two Tenants next the March with Ailfin markt in three places	11	1	32
Meadow Grass along the Burn from the Infields next the Houses to the March with Ailfin yielding excellent Grass, and Corn when in tillage	15	-	-

Sheelings:

1. Lies on the North Side of Loch Boralan adjoining the March with Balnagowan	1	3	-
2. Lies on the South Side of Loch Boralan in the middle of the natural Wood	3	-	-
3. Lies on the North Side of Loch Urgill havng a fine South Aspect and declivity	10	3	12
4. Lies East of the last and upon the same side of Loch Urgill	6	-	-

	A.	R.	F.
Fine Sheeling Greens on the East Side of Loch Urgill and along the March Burn with Cromald	11	-	-
Patches of natural Wood on the South Side of Loch Boralan	24	-	-
<i>Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:</i>			
The South Side of Crock-na Stroan Hill including all the Pasture interjected with the Corn Land North from the Burn of Loch Boralan to the March along the summit of the Hill with Ledbeg the greatest part of which is green and excellent dry Pasture	679	-	-
Hilly Pasture Grounds to the N: and W: of the gross dotted Line including all from the West End of Loch Boralan to the March with Ailfin comprehending all the most valuable Pasture and Grass Grounds	583	3	21
Wet Moss to the S: and E: of the said dotted Line yielding very poor Pasture	600	-	-
Loch Boralan	97	-	-
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	94	2	7
Sheelings	32	2	12
Natural Woods	24	-	-
Hill, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1862	3	21
Loch	97	-	-
Total	2111	-	-

OBSERVATIONS

Ledmore Farmstead is very commodiously situated betwixt two Burns and on each Side the principal Road to Tain and Dornock; The Corn Lands or Infields lye on each Side the Burn from Loch Boralan and are of a rich black loamy soil having a gentle declivity and south [*sic*].

All the Sheeling Places except No. 3 and No. 4 upon the Side of Loch Urgil lye within the view of the Farmstead and have all a good South Aspect except No. 2 which lies among the Birch Wood on the Edge of Loch Boralan; All to the North and West of the dotted ink Line yields pretty good Pasture particularly the South Side of Knock-na-stroan Hill being all sweet green swairded Grass growing upon the Remains of a natural Wood; South and East of the dotted Line the pasture is good for nothing being all wet fogged Moss excepting about the Edge of the Loch and Burn where there is a narrow Strip of good Grass.

LITTLE ASSINT	A.	R.	F.
Infields about the Farmstead and Cot Houses	18	-	32
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies at the Edge of Loch Assint adjoining the Wood	2	-	-
2. Lies at the West End of Loch-an-atea on a bonny green know sloping mostly to the South and East	5	-	10
3. Lies South West from the last sloping gently southward	4	-	-
4. Lies next to and North from the Farmstead sloping South West	3	3	-

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

37

<i>Natural Woods:</i>	A.	R.	F.
Wood along the West End of Loch Assint extending from Loch-an-a-tea to the Farmstead as markt upon the plan in four places	105	1	4
Wood at the march with Loch Beanoch and Poltecarrian in the North West Corner between two Lochs	10	3	-
Green Hilly Pasture yielding good Grass, interjected with Moss cover'd with Heath and coarse Grass	801	1	34
 <i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	18	-	32
Sheelings	14	3	10
Natural Woods	116	-	4
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	801	1	34
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	950	2	-

OBSERVATIONS

Little Assint lies pretty much in the center of the Parish and is perhaps the lowest situation of any other Farm except those along the Sea Coast. The Farmstead lies very snug under Cover of a Tract of high hilly Grounds which protect it from the North and Westerly Winds. The natural Woods which stand upon a rising Ground to the North and East, screen it from that Quarter, that without it would have a strong effect, coming of the Water of the Loch; The opening towards the South is pretty spacious, as the Hills rise gradually upon the opposite side of the Water; This Farm 'tho' of small extent is well accommodate with a large proportion of rich grassy Pasture among the Woods, which afford excellent Shelter and makes a convenient Wintering to the present Tacksman Mr. Scobbie, who farms Auchamore and Tumore &c., being the highest Farms upon the North side of Loch Assint. The Infield or Corn Land adjoining the Farmstead is a rich fertile Loam yielding both Corn and Grass in the greatest Luxuriance; The first specimen of sown Grass that ever was made in the Country was made by Mr. Scobbie, in a small Inclosure adjoining the House, which does him and the Country great credit; for such stalks of red Clover the surveyor never saw, each Stalk being incredibly great, resembling the thickness of a large Bean when cut in the Month of July. 'Tho' this Country is allowed to be peculiarly famous for producing the greatest variety of fine natural Grass yet the advantage of sowing Grass would be no small improvement, as it makes an earlier Crop than the natural Grass, and if sown upon the Corn Lands might be Cut or mow'n in the ordinary way for Hay in Winter: for want of which thousands of Cattle have perished of late years in this Country: when this Gentleman saved his, by being more attentive and prudent.

When leases are granted it is not to be doubted but most or all the people will follow his Example.

LOCH BEANOCH	A.	R.	F.
Infields sloping gently southwards with some stony Baulks next the Farm steadings	20	2	32
 <i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies South of the Infields in a Slack betwixt two Hills	3	2	-
2. Lies at the South End of the Loch of Loch Beanoch	2	-	26

	A.	R.	F.
3. Lies at the North end of the Loch on the brow of a Hill sloping southward	2	3	28
4. Lies at the North West Corner in a Hollow adjoining the Loch	10	1	20
5. Lies South of the last on the West side of the Loch	5	1	10
6. Lies betwixt two Lochs West of Loch-an-tuirrig	4	-	32

Natural Woods:

Natural Wood in the Brae at the march adjoining Loch Lyne	16	1	-
Islands of Loch Beanoch cover'd with Wood	7	-	-
Rocky hill Pasture and Moss cover'd with Heather and Coarse Grass	1731	2	31
Six Lochs containing in all	215	1	21

Total Contents:

Infield	20	2	32
Sheelings	28	1	36
Natural Woods	23	1	-
Hill, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1731	2	31
Lochs	215	1	21
Total	2019	2	-

OBSERVATIONS

Loch Beanoch Farmstead lies at the End of the Farm at the March with Little Assint, The Infield has a convenient declivity and aspect towards the South and East and is pretty well shelter'd by the Hills which surround it. The Infields ly pretty compact with a few grassy Baulks and some Rocks interjected therewith, the Ground is a light black Soil and yields good Corn. This Farm is occupied by four Tacksman who have it Run-Ridge amongst them. There are Seven Sheeling Places upon this Farm about one half whereof is presently in Corn which is remarkably rich and luxuriant.

All the Sheeling Places ly near the Farm Houses except No. 7 which lies towards the South end about three Miles distant. All the hill pasture is generally coarse and abounds mostly with large Tracts of Wet Moss. The best Pasture lies next the Infields and around the Loch of Loch Beanoch from which the Farm takes its name. The Islands in this Loch are covered with Wood which are quite inaccessible as the Loch is very deep and no Boat on it.

LAYN A. R. F.*Infield:*

Infields adjoining the Farmstead including the Stances of Houses and Yards	7	3	-
Infield West from the last being a hillock surrounded by good Meadow Grass	4	1	-
Infield North of the last on each side the Kirk Road inclosed by an earthen Dyke	9	2	-

Sheelings:

1. Lies by the Edge of the Kirk Road next the Infield	1	3	-
2. Lies North of No. 1 and betwixt the Kirk Road and Loch Ha	7	-	34

	A.	R.	F.
3. Lies at the North End of Loch Ha	4	2	-
4. Lies at the South End of the Hill of Binuran	4	1	27
5. Lies South from the last adjoining the Burn of Layn	6	1	-

Part of the South and West side of the Hill of Binuran and South side of Braeback Hill yielding for the most part coarse greenish Pasture interjected with excellent grassy Hollows and Patches of meadow Grass upon the low Parts around the Farmstead and the Sheelings

1726	1	19
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Total Contents:

Infield	21	2	-
Sheelings	24	-	21
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1726	1	19
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	1772	-	-

OBSERVATIONS

Layn Farmstead lies upon the North Side of the Burn; The Infield Ground adjoining it and the other two disjoined Fields are a rich loamy Soil and have a gradual declivity and Aspect to the South and West. The pasture Grounds around the Sheeling places are exceeding good abounding with fine grassy pasture upon the South and West Sides of Binuran Hill, interjected with many excellent green patches along the Burn and Loch Ha to the March with Stroncruby.

The only barren Ground upon this Farm is that next the March with Balnagowan upon the South End of Braeback Hill being high rocky Ground yielding short Heather.

NEDD	A.	R.	F.
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Infields around the Farm-steadings markt in two places lying on each side of the Road a rich fertile soil with narrow Baulks

33	1	-
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Sheelings:

1. Lies North from the Infield at the Bay of Nedd	7	-	32
2. Lies South of the Infields on each side the Burn good close Land	17	2	-
3. Lies next to and South of the last on a rising Ground sloping South and West	10	2	-
4. Lies East of the Farmstead and adjoining the Wood	1	3	-
5. Lies at the West end of Loch-an-a-chalick at the march with Loch Beanoch	5	-	-
6. Lies in a hollow Slack West of No. 1	2	-	-

Natural Wood in the Braes above the Bay of Nedd adjoining the march with Glenlirag consisting of good thriving Birch and Hazel and yielding good grassy pasture

30	1	32
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Hill pasture Grounds mostly green swarded with rocky braes yields Grass

911	-	19
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Two Lochs

19	-	37
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Total Contents:

	A.	R.	F.
Infield	33	1	—
Sheelings	48	3	32
Natural Woods	30	1	32
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	911	—	19
Lochs	19	—	37
Total	1088	—	—

OBSERVATIONS

Nedd, the Farmstead lies remarkably snug by the Edge of the Bay, which is an excellent safe Harbour. The Infields ly in a hollow Slack, extending a considerable way to the East of the Houses. The beautiful Bank of Wood of Glenlirag along the opposite side, hanging over the Bay, is truly romantick, and adds greatly to the rural beauty of this Farmstead. The fine Brae of Wood next Glenlirag affords very rich Grass, as does also that beautiful Green Hill called Knock Goram lying at the East end of the Farm. All the other Hill Grounds are more barren but afford pretty good dry heathy Pasture.

OLDERNAY

Infield:

	A.	R.	F.
Infield next to and adjoining the Farmstead, including all West of the Mill Burn to the Ebb, with rocky Baulks, meadow Grass and Stances of Houses and Yards	18	—	32
A Bank of Corn Land South from and adjoining Loch Oldernay with few Baulks in it, and sloping pretty much Northward	8	2	—
Infield West from the Farmstead next Knock Oldernay being a flat in the Hill 'twixt two Braes and so close as might be easily ploug'd	4	—	—
Infield at the March with Culkein much broke with rocky Baulks and Hillocks	14	2	2
Corn Lands interjected with the Wood at the Ebb	5	—	—

Sheelings lying within the Dykes alternately in Corn and Grass:

- Lies near the Junction of the Burns from Loch na brake and Loch Poule exclusive of a pretty large Space of grass Grounds adjoining it part of which may be brought into tillage
- Lies at the West End of Loch na brake mostly inclosed with natural Wood affording excellent pasture and shelter for Cattle
- Lies near the Sea Coast at the South End of the Wood and along the Road to Store
- Lies at the upper End of the Den East from Loch na browa, having a fine Aspect and declivity southwards; by dividing this Farm it might be a proper place to erect a new Steading
- Lies by the Edge of a small Loch and 'twixt the last and Loch Poule
- Lies upon a hillock and below a Craig adjoining Loch Grianan
- Lies south of Loch Poule and on the North side of a hill East of Garro Loch

	A.	R.	F.
8. Is a bonny Sheeling East of the last also on the side of said Hill	10	3	8
9. Lies at the East End of Loch Poule where three Burns unite and about the center of a large Tract of grassy pasture and Moss Grounds	6	1	2
10. Lies East of the last and adjoining the natural Wood south of Loch tomavanté	4	—	8
11. Lies South of No. 8 on a hillock surrounded with good grassy pasture	3	2	4
12. Lies at the North End of Loch Crocken, hanging pretty much thereto	4	—	4
13. Lies at the North End of Loch Prestanie on which there is a house steading occupied by a Man sent to herd the Corn growing thereon	6	1	20

Natural Woods yielding good grassy Pasture &c.:

Steep Braes and hilly Grounds along the Bay of Oldernay cover'd with good thriving Birch with some few Oaks and Hazel	72	1	—
Steep Braes on each side of Lochnabrake at the March with Culkein, cover'd mostly with Birch pretty thick	10	—	—
Rocky Braes adjoining Loch Poule also at the March Culkien mostly Birch, but in many places very thin	10	2	—
Steep rocky Braes at the West End of Loch Poule pretty thick Birch	18	—	—
Steep rocky Brae at the south side of Loch-an-tomavanté thin Birch	15	—	32
Natural Wood consisting partly of Oak, Birch and Hazel 'twixt the Island and Ebb almost encompass'd by the Sea at every high Tide	38	2	—

Island of Oldernay:

Infield on the East End of the Island near to which is Mackaskel's House who herds Cattle in the Island; This Field is pretty close and could be easily plough'd with Horses, there being few or no rocky Baulks in it	15	3	—
Sheeling called Auchakyle situate at the South End of a hollow which yields rich Grass a great part whereof might be cut for Hay, This hollow extends over the whole breadth of the Island	5	2	—
Natural wood North of Auchakyle Sheeling	18	2	—
Uneven Hill Ground mostly cover'd with heath on the heights, and on the hollows and braes various sorts of coarse and fine pasture and patches of meadow Grass all yielding good pasture for Sheep and Cattle, reserved mostly for Wintering on as the Snow lies less on it, than on the main Land	412	3	—
Interjected Grass and pasture lying within the Square of the Infields	38	—	—
Rocky Hills, Moss and Muir grounds comprehending all within the bounding of the Farm exclusive of the above and in which are included a variety of different sorts of pasture great part whereof is valuable especially about the Sheelings and the Sea Banks 'twixt the wood and March with Clashnessie	2268	3	20

	A.	R.	F.
Island of Puna yielding good pasture	19	3	30
Eighteen Lochs not included in the above	155	2	20

Total Contents:

Infield	65	3	34
Sheelings	72	3	11
Natural Woods	177	3	32
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2739	2	10
Lochs	155	2	20
Total	3211	3	27

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Oldernay is held in repute to be the most commodious on the Assint Estate and is so in the Surveyor's opinion, as it excels almost all the other coasting Farms, both in the quality and extent of the Grass and Pastures; The large Tracts of natural Woods upon it add greatly to its value for grazing by breeding young Cattle and sheltering them in Winter. The Farmstead stands snugly situated under the Cover of a pretty high and rocky Hill, the Coast sides of which are cover'd with a fine thriving Wood, which screens it from the North and Westerly Winds; This Wood extends along the Sea Banks about a Mile and a half yielding all along good grassy pasture and affords the greatest protection in time of storms, as the snow seldom lies upon the shore, nor upon the Island, which affords the choicest Pasture for both Sheep and Cattle. All the other disjoin'd Woods abound with good grassy Pasture, but less valuable in storms, when the snow lies, in proportion to the distance they are at from the Shore. The Corn Lands or Infields contiguous to the Farmsteadings are all of a light black soil, and such like are the whole Grounds in tillage along the Coast of Assint; These Fields markt No. 1 and No. 4 upon the Plan are remarkably fertile which may be owing to their vicinity to the Sea Ware, that excellent Manure being easily got in great plenty from that large sandy Creek of the Sea called the Ebb adjoining these Grounds; All the Corn Lands are more or less much broke and interjected with Rocks, and Stony Baulks, which last yield excellent crops of Grass, which by the most industrious people is cut and made into Hay when the Seasons are favourable for winning it, but much larger quantities might be made, if due attention were given, did not the Fishings interfere much with this usefull Work, particularly the herring Fishing, which has of late ingross'd their chief attention: but which must be allowed to be of general benefit to all the Country, as both Servants and Masters reap their advantage in it, the one for their labour, and the other by the Sale of Cattle, especially Sheep, which sell very high to the Sailors, and others employed at the Fishery.

Nothing can exceed the richness and luxuriance of both Corn and Bear, which this and all the Coasting Farms upon the Estate produce, both growing to the height of an ordinary Man, particularly Bear which is the principal Crop, yielding no less for common than sixty pecks from sowing one, which however incredible to people unacquainted with the Country is allowed to be the case by all who reside in it. But that which would most astonish a Stranger is, the manner of labouring their Grounds, which they do by a Machine call'd a Carscroam being a crooked stick like the Coulter of a Plough like the figure here prefix'd and thus pushing before him with both hands and his foot performs the Work like an ebb ploughing; in this severe and tedious manner their tillage is carryed on throughout all the coasting Farms, and it would surprise a Stranger who knew nothing of the strength and number of the people so that they would not readily believe so great an extent of Ground as they have in tillage could be done in this way.

Much labour and time is consumed here for want of labouring Tools and other Implements necessary for carrying on with facility the ordinary business of life, for there is neither Tools Mechanic's [*sic*] in all the Country and none but themselves who have been accustomed to no other could be reconciled to their way of labouring.

There are thirteen Sheeling places upon this Farm which are no less remarkably fertile than the Infield Ground being richly toathed and when in Corn yield as luxuriantly; There are several places about the Dykes of the Sheelings so much enriched by toathing that considerable additions might be made to them but cannot be an object so worthy of attention 'till ploughing such Grounds as will admitt of it be introduced among them; There is on this possession six Tenemants or Cot-houses for Servants besides the Miller and Herd who resides in the Island, and also one who moves from one Sheeling to another, now living at the remotest Sheeling belonging to the Farm call'd Prestanie, taking care of the Corn growing thereon; These people all hold of their Landlady and are bound to serve her at pleasure according to the practice of the Country.

(POLGARVIER: see DUCHLASH)

REINTRAID	A.	R.	F.
Infield about the Farmstead on each side the Burn adjoining the Sea	18	-	-
<i>Sheetings:</i>			
1. Lies South from the Houses surrounded with Wood	2	1	24
2. Lies East from the Farmstead on the top of the Bank adjoining the Wood	2	3	-
Woods along the March with Ardvare covering both sides of the Farm including the Dens and Braes along the Coast and march with Unapool yielding Birch and good grassy Pasture	254	3	24
Hill Pasture including the great grassy Hollow called the Byre of Quinack	962	3	32
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	18	-	-
Sheetings	5	-	24
Natural Woods	254	3	24
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	962	3	32
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	1241	-	-

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Reintraid is situate near the Sea Bank in a Hollow surrounded by Wood; It is presently let to Mr. Gordon who keeps it for grazing all the Year round for which it is very naturally adapted. There is no more Ground kept in tillage but the Infield about the Houses which is laboured by the People who herd the Cattle for their Master, who allows them to labour so much as pays them for their trouble. The Woods along the Coast at the South and West End of the Farm yielding excellent grass and Shelter, And also the Braes and hollow slacks particularly the great Flat called the Byre of Quinack which makes a large Summer Sheeling.

STORE

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infield or Croft Land next to and adjoining the Farmstead being good close Ground with stances of Houses and Yards containing in all

15 2 19

Infield South of and disjoin'd by rocky Hillocks from the Farmstead part of which appear to have been lately improved from Moss and is much broke with watery Baulks and Rocks inclosed by Dyke and Ditch

30 - 28

Infields West from the Farmstead in a Hollow Slack 'twixt it and Bellachlattach in two disjoin'd places

10 3 24

Infields East from the Farmstead in other two disjoin'd places

9 3 -

Infields in three disjoin'd Fields North of the Farmstead on the Edge of the Loch East of the Road to Clashnessie

12 3 12

Sheelings:

1. Tutach lies at the North End of the Farm and West of the Road to Clashnessie on the side of a Brae hanging pretty much Eastwards

8 2 18

2. Loch-an-hullick South of the Loch of that name

7 1 6

3. Clach-challick lies in two places on the North side of Loch-let-aveluir hanging pretty much southwards

9 1 32

4. Trechan lies East of the last sloping pretty much southwards

3 - 24

5. Loch-an-fruich 'twixt the Loch of that name and Loch Grianan

4 3 6

6. Knock Grianan next Loch Grianan in a slack north of the Hill of that name

6 - -

Rocky hills interjected with patches of Moss cover'd with Heather with several Slacks and green Hollows yielding both coarse and fine grassy pasture

1600 3 31

Fourteen Lochs interspers'd among the Hills and pasture

182 1 10

Total Contents:

Infield	79	1	3
Sheelings	39	1	6
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	1600	3	31
Lochs	182	1	10
Total	1901	3	10

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm of Store lies upon the South side of the point of Store, and opposite to Store Ebb; The Farmstead lies snugly situated under Cover of the rising Hills which protect it from the Winds on all sides. The principal Tenants are Alexander and John Monro's but there are above a dozen of Families besides residing upon it who are chiefly employed at the Fishing. The Store Ebb appears to be a safe Landing Place for Boats. The Infield Grounds ly in sundry places disjoin'd from the Houses and have been enlarged of late by potatoe improvements which are annually increasing upon the Worn out Mosses. The Sheelings ly scatter'd among the Hills and are very rich and fertile by toathing but full of Rocks and Stones, and as they

ly at too great a distance from the Farm-Houses they are seldom in Corn. The Hills throughout this Farm are remarkably craigy and abound with a vast variety of rocky Hillocks and large Lochs. Towards the North and East there is pretty large Tracts of Moss, mostly covered with Heather. All the Braes and craigy Grounds yield the sweetest pasture, and good Strips of meadow Grass along the Burns at the march with the Farm of Culkein.

STRONCRUBY

A. R. F.

Infield:

Infields in sundry Windings disjoin'd by grassy Baulks South-East from the Farmstead including four Tenaments or subset houses	62	-	-
Infields in two Enclosures in the Brae below the hanging Craigs North from the Farmstead sloping southward being markt in two places	8	1	-

Sheelings:

1. Lies next the March with Inchnadaff adjoining the Burn being flat Meadow Grass	4	3	-
2. Lies South of the last and next the Farmstead on a green Hillock	6	-	-
3. Lies opposite to the Mill and on the North side of the Burn having a fine South aspect	2	2	-
4. Lies East of the last and betwixt it and the remarkable Spring also on the North side of the Burn	2	2	30
5. Lies in a hollow surrounded with a large Tract of Moss	4	2	-

Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture:

Hilly Pasture Ground including part of the Hills of Binuran and Braeback and all to the East of the Burn from Loch Ha to the March with Balnagowan	3969	2	30
Part of the North East End of the Canusp Hill extending Westward from the Great Burn to the highest Top of Canusp Hill being rugged rocky and barren Ground with some patches of Moss towards the foot of the Hill	2434	2	-
Six Lochs as markt upon the plan containing in all	43	3	20

Total Contents:

Infield	70	1	-
Sheelings	20	1	30
Natural Woods	-	-	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	6404	-	-
Lochs	43	3	20
Total	6538	2	10

OBSERVATIONS

This Farm is esteem'd the best for Corn of any in the Heights of Assint; The Farmstead is situated on a rising Hillock pretty central to the Corn Fields about it; The Soil is an exceeding rich fertile black Loam, and is easily ploughed, having a gentle declivity except the two inclosed Fields in the Brae next the rocks, in which there are some stony Baulks; All the Grounds interjected with the Corn Lands and all within the square of them yield the finest natural Grasses, which are cut and made Hay of, for Winter

provender. There are sundry pieces of fine Meadow Grass on each Side the Burn from Loch Ha and all from the Top of the Brae above the Kirk Road abounds with greenish pasture, likewise the Braes on each side of the Mill Burn to the head thereof along the March with Balnagowan.

The Top of Braeback Hill is almost one continued Cairn of loose Stones along the Summit of the Hill, which is reckoned the March with Balnagowan. There is not so much as a Pile of Grass, or Heather, among the Stones but here and there a few Plants of Sea thrift, and a sort of slimy Weed like Dulse, which the Country People say has remained there since Noah's Flood. Although this great Hill is much lower than either Connivel Canusp Quinack, or the Sugar Loaf, it commands a vast extent of view, of part of the several Counties of Ross, Inverness, Murray, and the head of Banf Shire, as well as the East and West Coasts of Sutherland. The Air is so thin and pure that there is no possibility of approaching the Top of the Hill except in the heat of Summer, and even then when the Surveyor travell'd along the Top of the Hill, he and those along with him found it as cold and penetrating, as the most intense frost in Winter, and this Survey of the Hill was made on the seventeenth of July about mid-day, when the Weather was fair and serene.

There are sundry fine green patches of Grass towards the North End of Braeback Hill and upon the Side thereof; The three Coves below Craig-nan-uvagan are remarkably curious extending for about fifteen feet under the Rock: both Sheep and Goats resort to these Coves in Winter where they remain in the Stormy Weather. The famous Spring above the Mill is the principal Source of Water which keeps the Mill a-going, as the Bed or Channel of the Burn above this Spring is almost quite dry all Summer except in very great Rains.

All the Hill Ground West of the Burn from Loch Ha to the Top of Canusp is very barren and rocky, cover'd with short Heather affording the poorest sort of pasture.

TORBRECK

	A.	R.	F.
Infield Grounds round the Houses on each side a Den which almost divides it equally	35	-	-

Sheelings:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1. Lies in a Hollow West of the Infields and 'twixt them and the Natural Wood | 2 | 3 | - |
| 2. Riach-lachan North from the Houses in a Hollow upon the South side of Loch-an-avoir | 7 | - | - |
| 3. A small Sheeling in the Brae opposite to the Infield hanging south | 1 | - | - |

Braes and grassy Slacks cover'd with Natural Birch Woods yielding excellent pasture for Cattle	252	2	24
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Rocky Hill pasture Grounds	125	2	-
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Total Contents:

Infield	35	-	-
Sheelings	10	3	-
Natural Woods	252	2	24
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	125	2	-
Lochs	-	-	-
Total	423	3	24

OBSERVATIONS

The Farmstead of Torbreck is situated upon the South side of an extensive Natural Wood and is presently in the Parsons possession who keeps it as a Wintering for his Cattle for which it is exceedingly well adapted as the Whole Woods affords excellent shelter and Grass.

TUBEG	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infields about Eastmost Steadings South of the round Hillock of Wood at the Side of the Loch	10	-	-
Infields upon each Side a Burn about the middle Steadings by the edge of Loch Assint	9	1	-
Infield betwixt the Westmost Steadings and Loch Assint	4	2	30

Sheelings:

1. Lies at the Edge of a Burn next the March with Inchnadaff markt in two places	6	-	36
2. Lies South of the Eastmost Farmstead	4	-	-
3. Lies South West of the Westmost Farmstead	2	3	-
4. Lies in a Hollow South West of the last, being good close land adjoining the Natural Wood	9	2	16
5. Lies South from and near No. 4 sloping Westward	7	-	-
6. Lies in a Hollow towards the south End of Loch Assint	5	-	2

Natural Woods:

Steep Braes cover'd with natural Wood consisting of Birch and Beach &c., upon the East side of the south End of Loch Assint	106	3	-
A Round Hillock of Wood upon the Edge of the Loch adjoining the Eastmost Farmstead	7	2	-

Hill Pasture and Moss mostly cover'd with Heather including a variety of Braes, Dens and Hollows, yielding Grassy Pasture	2873	1	16
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Five small Lochs	13	3	20
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Total Contents:

Infield	23	3	30
Sheelings	34	2	14
Natural Woods	114	1	-
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	2873	1	16
Lochs	13	3	20
Total	3060	-	-

OBSERVATIONS

This Farm is occupied by the Tenant of Inchnadaff who possesses sundry other Farms along the Coast and in the Heights of Assint, this of Tubeg is locally connected with Inchnadaff which last is the Place of his personal residence and most central to his other possessions.

There is at present upon Tubeg three Tenaments of Houses lying detached from each other upon the South side of Loch Assint, the Corn Lands about which have a North Aspect and declivity.

The Sheeling places of which there are six, are all situated very commodiously for the hill Pasture around them; Three of these Sheelings lye upon the West End of the Loch adjoining the Woods, which afford excellent Grass. The vast variety of Braes, Glens and hollow Slacks yield good pasturing Grass 'tho' of a coarser quality than among the Woods having a mixture of Heath and Bents.

UNAPOOL	A.	R.	F.
<i>Infield:</i>			
Infield upon the West Side of the Mill Burn sloping Eastward	35	3	24
Infield on the East Side of the Mill Burn including the Stances of the Houses and Yards	19	3	8
Infield south of the last upon the West side of the Mill Burn	8	—	22
<i>Sheelings:</i>			
1. Lies upon the Sea Bank East from and near the last Infield	5	1	26
2. Lies at the East end of the West Den with other two disjoin'd places in Corn along the Edge of the Sea Banks	14	—	—
3. Lies in the Den West of the Infield	1	2	—
4. Torregan lies West of a steep Brae hanging North	9	1	4
5. Lies at the East end of Loch-an-in-a-bag hanging South	5	3	10
6. Lies in a hollow slack East of the Mill Burn	4	—	—
7. Lies on the Road to Auchmore below a Linn on the Edge of a Burn from Loch-an-tene-veack	4	2	—
8. Lies in the Brae adjoining Loch-an-tene-veack	2	1	16
<i>Natural Woods:</i>			
Wood in the Braes next the march with Reintraid yielding good Grass	175	2	26
Steep Rocky Braes North from the West Den yielding Birch and Grass intersper'd with long Heather	25	—	—
Steep Braes on the South Side and towards the head of Kyle's Cu covered with Birch Wood	80	—	—
Hill Pasture intersper'd with Rocks and Moss covered with Heather with a variety of Braes and slacks yielding coarse pasture	3822	2	8
Seven Lochs containing in all	108	3	16
<i>Total Contents:</i>			
Infield	64	3	14
Sheelings	46	3	16
Natural Woods	280	2	26
Hills, Moss and rocky Muirish Pasture	3822	2	8
Lochs	103	3	16
Total	4318	3	—

OBSERVATIONS

The Farm Stead of Unapool is beautifully situated on each side the Mill Burn and Banks of the Kyle, The Corn Lands 'tho' interjected with steep Baulks are remarkably fertile yielding rich Crops of both Corn and Grass. The Infields which ly all around the Farmsteadings are well shelter'd by the high rising Grounds which surround them. All the steep Banks along the Kyle both North and West are cover'd with Wood which affords an extensive good Pasture and fine Shelter. The Natural Wood upon the opposite side of the Kyle belonging to Lord Rae contributes greatly to the natural Beauty of the place. There is no such Harbour for safty as the Kyle upon the whole Western Coast and it is not inferior to Loch Inver for the Herring Fishing.

The upper part of the Hilly Pasture is remarkably Rocky, but affords a great variety of Grassy Pasture on the Braes for all sorts of Bestial.

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

SUMMARY

Farm	Infield			Sheelings			Natural Woods			Hills, Moss & rocky Muirish Pasture			Lochs			Total		
	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	F.	R.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.
Achmelvich	49	3	32	70	1	17	—	—	—	1178	—	14	52	1	17	1350	3	—
Achmore	160	2	—	31	—	9	194	—	—	3849	1	37	60	—	6	4295	—	12
Achnacarnin	44	3	30	52	2	28	44	1	4	548	3	5	5	—	—	695	2	27
Ardvar	54	3	32	51	3	6	213	—	—	1617	3	30	30	3	12	1968	2	—
Aultnachie	12	1	19	16	—	20	158	—	—	2470	3	1	—	—	—	2657	1	—
Bad à Ghrianan	6	—	24	7	2	7	54	3	4	381	3	25	—	—	—	450	1	20
Baddidarach	40	—	—	8	3	26	—	—	—	284	3	14	4	—	—	337	3	—
Badnaban	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	49	2	—
Balchladich	67	3	—	34	3	3	—	—	—	480	2	37	68	—	—	651	1	—
Brackloch	21	2	22	18	2	6	10	2	20	1155	2	34	92	1	10	1298	3	12
Clachtoll	58	2	36	53	2	23	—	—	—	1415	—	5	112	3	22	1640	1	6
Clashmore	91	3	38	55	—	22	—	—	—	971	1	20	87	1	—	1205	3	—
Clashnessie	86	1	27	49	—	22	—	—	—	1083	—	10	85	1	21	1304	—	—
Cnoc nan Each	18	3	16	26	3	4	116	—	—	1700	2	37	12	—	—	1874	1	17
Cromalt	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1258	1	32	—	—	—	1319	2	32
Culag	52	1	14	16	3	26	112	—	—	1856	—	24	4	2	—	2041	3	24
Culkein	73	—	3	59	1	—	—	—	—	687	2	9	14	—	—	833	3	12
Culkein Drumbeig	49	1	6	43	3	29	109	1	32	666	2	10	32	2	16	901	3	13
Drum Suardalain	49	1	36	22	3	1	—	—	—	2245	2	3	13	—	—	2330	3	—
Drumbeig	33	1	6	54	2	—	27	—	—	994	3	12	105	—	22	1214	3	—
Dubh Chlais	49	1	10	46	2	24	45	—	—	3808	—	6	46	2	—	3995	2	—
(with Poll à Gharbh Bhair)																		
Eadar à Chalda	57	1	10	1	3	8	—	—	—	1110	3	30	—	—	—	1170	—	8
Elphin	46	3	3	29	—	—	54	—	—	1377	2	14	—	—	—	1507	1	17
Filin	18	2	—	7	1	—	5	—	—	325	—	—	—	—	—	355	3	—
Glenleraig	31	2	4	75	3	24	64	3	—	3024	2	32	87	2	20	3284	2	—

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

Farm	Infield			Sheelings			Natural Woods			Hills, Moss & rocky Muirish Pasture			Lochs			Total		
	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.	A.	R.	F.
Inchnadamph	75	-	20	24	1	30	165	-	-	2909	1	30	3174	-	-	3174	-	-
Inver	12	-	-	52	-	-	42	-	-	879	1	-	985	1	-	985	1	-
Inverkirkraig	42	-	-	20	-	9	85	-	-	2219	1	39	2378	3	-	2378	3	-
Kirkton	116	1	-	95	3	32	-	-	-	2912	2	8	3124	3	-	3124	3	-
Knockan	51	2	30	11	1	10	36	-	-	2136	3	-	2235	3	-	2235	3	-
Ledbeg	163	1	38	45	1	25	92	3	-	10423	1	17	10813	-	10	10813	-	10
Ledmore	94	2	7	32	2	12	24	-	-	1862	3	21	2111	-	-	2111	-	-
Little Assynt	18	-	32	14	3	10	116	-	4	801	1	34	950	2	-	950	2	-
Loch Beannach	20	2	32	28	1	36	23	1	-	1731	2	31	2019	2	-	2019	2	-
Lyne	21	2	-	24	-	21	-	-	-	1726	1	19	1772	-	-	1772	-	-
Nedd	33	1	-	43	3	32	30	1	32	911	-	19	1038	-	-	1038	-	-
Oldany	65	3	4	72	3	11	177	3	32	2739	2	10	3211	3	27	3211	3	27
Poll à Gharbh Bhair: <i>see</i> Dubh Chlais																		
Rientraid	18	-	-	5	-	24	254	3	24	962	3	32	1241	-	-	1241	-	-
Stoer	79	1	3	39	1	6	-	-	-	1600	3	31	1901	3	10	1901	3	10
Stronechrubie	70	1	-	20	1	30	-	-	-	6404	-	-	6538	2	10	6538	2	10
Torbreck	35	-	-	10	3	-	252	2	24	125	2	-	423	3	24	423	3	24
Tubeg	23	3	30	34	2	14	114	1	-	2873	1	16	3060	-	-	3060	-	-
Unapool	64	3	14	46	3	16	280	2	26	3822	2	8	4318	3	-	4318	3	-
Total	2202	2	8	1506	2	23	2902	3	2	81576	3	36	90033	3	1	90033	3	1

PART II

HOME'S ACCOUNTS

The Accounts and memorial printed below are preserved in the Sutherland Law Agents' Accounts for 1774-6.

Accompt The Right Honorable The Countess of Sutherland and her Tutors To John Home Surveyor of Land for making a Survey and Plans of the Parish of Assint, with a part of the Parish of Golspie.

N.B. In stating the following accompt Mr. Home Charges for trouble no more than is allowed by the Duke of Gordon for Work of this kind altho' it is farr below the prices he Advertized in respect of the extent of Grounds, And which rates allowed by the Duke are as follows, vizt.:

For the Arable or Corn Lands with the Grounds therewith Interjected at 20/- per Hundred.

And for Hill and pasture Grounds 5/- per Hundred.

And which is in full of all expences Travelling Charges and Extending and drawing out the Plans of each Separate Estate or Parish.

	£	s.	d.
To making a Survey of a part of Golspie parish as divided and Laid out into Lots from said Survey, being the subject of one full month's work of my self with two Lads	21	12	
To Extending a Plan of the above Survey	5	5	
To making a Survey of all the Arable Lands in Assint Amounting to 3694 Acres I Rood and 17 Falls at 20/- per Hundred	36	19	2
To the Amount of Grassy Pasture, comprehending the Natural Woods, &c., Moss Grounds with Hilly Muirs and Rocky Mountains at 5/- per Hundred Containing 90481 Acres 1 Rood and 4 Falls	226	4	6
To Drawing Out a Book of Plans of the Parish of Assint upon Sixteen separate Sheets with particular Contents and Explanatory Notes upon Eight sheets wrote on both Sides	33	12	
To Linnen for covering the General plan of Assint		6	6
To Mr. Smeaton for binding the Book of Plans		7	6
To a Woodin Rollar for the General Plan		2	6
Sum	£324	9	2

From which deduct Cash paid by Mr. Mackinzie and Ardloch, vizt.:

May 2nd 1774	By Cash advanced by Mr. Mackinzie at Edinburgh per Receipt	12	12
September 17th	By Cash from Ardloch in Ledbeg at sundrie times contained in one general Receipt	42	7
November 14th	By Cash from Mr. Mackinzie at Edinburgh per Receipt	30	
November 30th	By Cash from Mr. Mackinzie at Edinburgh per Receipt	10	
February 26th 1775	By Cash from Mr. Mackinzie per Receipt	50	
May 20th	By Cash from Mr. Mackinzie per Receipt	10	

From which also Deduct Bill at the publick house at Golspie during the time of the above survey of part of that Parish	4	14	
By Ten Bolls of Meal sent to Assint suppose		6	13
By Men sent from Golspie by Capt. Sutherland to Lead the Chain suppose		10	
Sum	£176	6	
Balance	£148	3	2

Edinburgh, 24th June 1775. Received from Mr. Alexr. Mackinzie Writer to the Signet Cashier for the Countess of Sutherland and her Tutors One

hundred pounds Sterling. And I hereby agree to Referr to Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bart., the Remaining £48.3.2 Sterling. And if he shall not think me entitled to the same, I am to make no demand for more than what I have now and formerly Received.

JOHN HOME

Accompt of Expenses Laid out by John Home Surveyor with Two Lads who assisted him in making a Survey of the Parish of Assint with a part of the Parish of Golspie from the 4th of May until the 16th September 1774.

		£	s.	d.
May 9th	To Travelling Expenses from Edinburgh to Dunrobin with two Lads, and Two Horses	6	6	
June 8th	To Expences paid at the publick house in Golspie over and Above the Bill given in to the Factor by Capt. Sutherland's order	10	9	½
	To One night's Entertainment at the publick house in Dornoch when on the way to Assint waiting the delivery of Ten Bolls of Meal sent by Boat to Rosehall	10		
	To Entertainment and Drink to the Men who Assisted at Loading and Unloading said Meal at the Ferry and Rosehall	5		
	And to one Night's Entertainment for myself and the two Lads with One of the Lads left with the Charge of the Meal till sent for from Ledbeg	10	6	
	To Cash paid the Tenants of Assint by Ardloch's Agreement for Carriage of said Ten Bolls Meal from Rosehall to Ledbeg as per Receipt	1	2	
	To Cash paid Lady Ardloch for Lodging of myself and two Lads from June 9th till 7th July Two Guineas in Cash besides sundrie Articles purchas'd from Tain and Dornoch to value of £1.10 in all with One Boll and Two pecks meal	3	13	
	To Spirits bought from Leut. Maclaud at different times during the above stay at Ledbeg charg'd at 2/- per Bottle to the amount of £1.7 for the use of self and Assistants who Led the Chain to enable them to endure the fatigue of widing through Lochs and Mosses from Morning early till Late at night was by experiance found Necessarie	1	7	
	To Cash paid for Carriage of 7 Bolls of Meal from Ledbeg to the Manse and Auchumore and Little Assint	15	6	
	To Cash given the Parson to Account for Entertainment at his house at different times from 7th July till the 28th do., with one Boll and 3 firlots Meal	4	13	6
	To Cash given him for my Horse Grass from June 10th Until the 16th September when I left Assint	2	2	
	To Cash paid Mr. Scobie for Spirits for the use of self and assistants from 7th July till 19th August per Accountt	3	14	9
	To Mr. Scobie for Lodging at Little Assint for self and Two Lads for the space of two weeks	1	8	6
	To Carriage of Meal to Store and Oldernay as per Receipt from Mr. Scobie's Servant, who went with it along with his Master's Horses	2	6	

	£	s.	d.
To Expences for Lodging at Alexr. Munro's in Store 7/6 necessaries bought from thence per Accountt 7/6		15	
To Carriage of Bed Cloaths from Store to Clashnessie and from thence to Oldernay		3	6
To Spirits bought when at Oldernay from Mrs. Mackay at 2/- and 1/8 per Bottle to Amount of Left with Mrs. Mackay one Boll of Meal and half a Guinea's value by way of presents to herself and Children for trouble She had in Accommodating of myself and the two Lads 10 Nights	1	11	6
To paid John Mackinzie's Wife for three nights' Lodging 6/- and Necessarie provisions and Drink to myself and the Lads and Tenants for showing their Marches as they could not be prevaild with to do so without it 15/- in all	1	1	
To Entertainment at Ned 2/6 and also at Rionchard 2/6		5	
To Carriage of a Trunk and Bed cloaths from Oldernay to Inver		5	
To Carriag of Meal from the Manse to Inver		2	6
To Drink and Entertainment furnishd at Inver by Mr. Campbel and to his Wife for trouble two Weeks Lodging	2	12	6
To Carriage from Invercheerkag to Bracklack of Ledbeg and from thence to Inver		2	
To Expences for my self and the two Lads with two Horses returning back to Edinburgh	6	6	
To the Amount of a separate Accountt of Debursments* paid by Mr. Home for the Men who Assisted him at Leading the Chain &c., per particular Accountt hereto reffer'd	3	18	9
To Expences paid for Milk at the Sheelings for myself and the two Lads and the whole of the Men who Assisted at Leading the Chain But for which Mr. Home could have no particular Vouchars	1	1	
To Cash paid for paper Used in Sketching on the field and Protracting		1	5
	Sum	£46	2 0½
		(rectius	£47 0 2½)

An Accompt of Cash paid by John Home to the Men who Assisted him at Leading the Chain and pointing out the Marches Upon the Estate of Assint After two of the four Lads Captain Sutherland Sent from Golspie return'd from Ledbeg refusing to undergo the fatigue and complain'd for want of the accommodation they Expected to have got.

	£	s.	d.
July 18th Paid Donald Mackwilliam in Manse of Assint for Eight days leading the end of the Chain per Receipt		6	6
Paid William Mackinzie Son in Law to Inchnadaff		2	
Paid to the Parson for one week of the Kirk officer's son		4	6
Paid Norman Maclaud in Auchumore one day			9
Paid Murdoch Maclaud in Auchumore for a day			9

* See *infra*, 57-8.

		£.	s.	d.
	Paid James Kellie in Auchumore boat town a day			6
	Paid Kenneth Mack-donald in Poltyearican a day			9
August	5 Paid Don: Mackroarie in Little Assint 4½ days	3	6	
	6 Paid George Maclaud in Little Assint			9
	9 Paid Alexr. Maclaud in Oldny, for 3½ days	2	6	
	20 Paid William Kellie per Receipt for 15 days	10	6	
	22 Paid Alexr. Graham Tenant in Culkean	1	9	
	23 Paid Angus Maclaud in Oldney			9
	26 Paid John Mackinzie son in Ardware 3 days	2	3	
	27 Paid Walter Ross in Glenlearag 1½ day	1	6	
	30 Paid John Bain for 2 days	1	6	
Sept.	1 Paid John Mackascal for a Week and Carriage to Auchumore from Inver of a Trunk		5	
	Paid—Macleane Servant to Mr. Campbell for two Weeks Leading the Chain &c.	10	6	
	Paid a Servant of Mr. Campbel's for 3 days and carriage of Meal from Little Assint	4	6	
	Paid Mr. Mackenzie's Servant at Invercherkag for showing his Marches and going to Bracklack of Ledbeg		3	
	Paid a Tenant in Dewchlash for showing the Marches of that Farm			6
	Paid the Lads from Golspie per Receipt in part of their Wages 5/- which Receipt contains their Receipt for 3 Bolls 3 firlots and 2 pecks of the ten Bolls of Meal		5	
	Paid Leut. Maclaud's Servant in Ledmore for Carriage of Chains and Necessarie Baggage from thence to Dingwall with his Maintainence back and fore			10
	Sum	£3	18	9
		(rectius	£3	9 3)

June 1775. Unto The Tutors of the Right Honorable The Countess of Sutherland The Memorial of John Home Surveyor of Land Humbly Sheweth:

That the Memorialist having had the honour to be Employ'd In making a Survey of the Countess' Estate in the Year 1774. He was order'd by the Tutors and the Agent for the Family to go first to Dunrobin where he would get particular Instructions from Captain Sutherland, where he was first to begin. That sometime before his leaving Edinburgh, And being Employ'd in his works; he was inform'd by Mr. Alexander Mackinzie that as the Estate of Assint was out of Lease, And to be sett that Year; that the Tutors expected he would finish the Survey thereof last year And before his return.

As the Memorialist knew this was a very Extensive work, And not possible to be done by one hand He Engaged for a year, and carryed along with him one William Crawford An able hand in the Surveying way, as his Assistant, At no less rate, than £25 Sterling per Annum of Sallery with Bed Board &c. and Travelling Charges: And he also Engaged another Lad John Anderson to go along with him as another Assistant And the Memorialist with the Assistance of these two Lads, did Survey the whole Estate of Assint And part of the Lands of Golspie But he had no convenience of Protracting in that Country; And if he could have done that there It would have been the Operation of two years in place of one.

From the time the Memorialist returnd to Edinburgh in the beginning of November 1774 to the first of May last, He was himself and the saids two Lads constantly Employ'd in protracting said plan And in drawing sixteen

separate plans besides a general plan or Map of the Assint Estate All which were Lodged with Mr. Mackinzie sometime ago, Along with the Account for Executing the same of which there remain'd a Ballance of £158.3.2 Sterling, But of which there was since paid £10 Sterling So that there now remains £148.3.2 Sterling which he hopes the Tutors will now order payment off As he hopes the work is perform'd to their satisfaction.

The Memorialist is sensible that the Account given, may at first sight appear high, to the Tutors But when they consider it Minutely, he is confident they will think it very Moderate.

This work is really in Effect the work of two years And if it had been to be finish'd in Assint he behoved to have spent the whole of the Sum Charged before it could have been done.

The Tutors will please observe that in Executing this work he has debursed of Expences as per particular Accountt given in to Mr. Alexander Mackinzie no less than £46.3.2 Sterling. He paid William Crawford £25 Sterling of Sallery, and besides his Board Travelling Charges &c. which was not under other £25 Sterling. He paid also John Anderson £10 Sterling Besides his Board reckoned also at £25 Sterling so that he has paid of real Expences £131.3.2 Exclusive of the Memorialist's Mantainance since the first of November 1774 to May 1775 which cannot be Less than £80 Sterling. So that there is now £161.3.2 Sterling which falls to be deducted in compting the Memorialist's profits which is all he has in Effect for two year's Labour, As he Survey'd in one season as much as he could have done and protracted in any two Years upon the Ground—being frequently press'd by Captain Sutherland to spare neither Travel nor expences to complete the Survey of Assint, So that being Uncertain when he could finish the protraction of so Extensive a Work he could not Undertake any other business in the Mean time until that was finish'd before which the time for Engaging in other operations of this kind was past. Therefore upon the whole the Accountt will appear very Moderate And that in fact the Memorialist has no more than about £160 Sterling for the work of Two years.

The Memorialist begs pardon for troubling the Tutors with this Memorial, As he is anxious that they should see a just state of his Accountt which apparantly is high; And that they should be satisfied it is in realty very moderate He humbly hopes they will forgive this trouble.

APPENDIX A

TENANTS AND INHABITANTS OF ASSYNT

Two important sources of information which complement Home's Survey are also preserved at Dunrobin Castle. These are the 'Particular Rental of the Estate of Assint, as set on 15th May 1775', and the 'List of Inhabitants of the Parish of Assint, November 1774'. The material contained in these, and in two summary rentals relating to the sets of 1759 and 1766, is here set out in a series of tables.

- Table 1: Rental of Assynt: 1759, 1766 and 1775 (a comparison of the rents of individual farms at three successive sets.)
- Table 2: Rental of Assynt, as set on 15th May 1775 (a summary by farms of the information in the 'Particular Rental').
- Table 3: Tenants of Assynt Farms: 1766 and 1775.
- Table 4: Inhabitants of Parish of Assynt: November 1774 (a summary by farms of the information in the 'List of Inhabitants').
- Table 5: Consolidated List of Tenants and Inhabitants (a detailed summary of all the information in both sources relating to individuals).

TABLE 1

RENTAL OF ASSYNT: 1759, 1766 and 1775

Farm	Set of 1759			Set of 1766			Set of 1775		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Achmelvich	17	10	0	17	10	0	17	10	0
Achmore	31	10	0	38	0	0	30	0	0
Achnacarnin	11	5	0	14	5	0	12	0	0
Ardvar	17	5	0	18	10	0	24	0	0
Aultnachie	<i>see</i> Ledmore			7	0	0	7	0	0
Bad a' Ghrianan	4	15	0*	4	15	0	4	0	0
Baddidarach	<i>see</i> Inver			6	0	0	6	0	0
Badnaban	<i>see</i> Inverkirkaig			3	0	0	4	4	0
Balchladich	<i>see</i> Stoer			6	12	10 ⁹	6	12	10 ⁹
Brackloch	5	0	0	7	0	0	5	2	0
Clachtoll	18	0	0	20	0	0	22	8	0
Clashmore	18	18	0	23	0	0	23	0	0
Clashnessie	17	10	0	19	0	0	19	0	0
Cnoc nan Each	7	15	0	9	5	0	10	0	0
Cromalt	6	6	0	8	0	0	8	0	0
Culag	12	0	0	8	0	0	10	0	0
	with Filin								
Culkein	10	10	0	13	10	0	10	16	0
Culkein Drumbeg	11	0	0	14	0	0	14	0	0
Druim Suardalain	7	7	0	9	0	0	9	0	0
Drumbeg	12	10	0	15	10	0	15	10	0
Dubh Chlais	16	0	0	16	0	0	16	0	0
	with Poll à Gharbh Bhair								
Eadar à Chalda	8	10	0	8	10	0	8	0	0
Elphin	22	4	5 ⁴	27	19	5 ⁴	27	15	0
Filin	<i>see</i> Culag			8	0	0	8	0	0
Glenleraig	18	10	0	20	0	0	24	0	0
Inchnadamph	15	0	0	15	0	0	15	0	0
Inver	14	0	0	11	10	0	11	10	0
	with Baddidarach								
Inverkirkaig	12	0	0	12	0	0	12	8	10 ⁸
	with Badnaban								
Kirkton	18	0	0	21	0	0	21	0	0
Knockan	15	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	0
Ledbeg	20	0	0	26	0	0	26	0	0
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$	14	10	0	10	10	0	10	10	0
	with Aultnachie								
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$	14	10	0	17	10	0	21	11	0
Little Assynt	6	15	0	8	0	0	8	0	0
Loch Beannach	6	15	0	8	0	0	8	0	0
Lyne	12	0	0	16	0	0	14	0	0
Nedd	9	10	0	12	0	0	12	0	0
Oldany	28	0	0	34	0	0	30	0	0
Poll à Gharbh Bhair	<i>see</i> Dubh Chlais			4	0	0	4	0	0
Rientraid	7	15	0	9	0	0	9	0	0
Stoer	21	0	0	16	12	1 ³	16	12	1 ³
	with Balchladich								

* This rent only fixed in 1763 as an augmentation on rent of Stoer.

TABLE 1—*continued*

RENTAL OF ASSYNT: 1759, 1766 and 1775

Farm	Set of 1759			Set of 1776			Set of 1775		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stronechrubie	18	0	0	22	10	0	26	13	4
Torbreck	5	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0
Tubeg	14	10	0	14	10	0	15	0	0
Unapool	23	10	0	27	15	0	27	15	0
Retailing of spirits	5	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0
Salmon fishings	16	13	4	16	13	4	27	0	0
Miln of Glenleraig				1	15	0			
Miln of Auldneach				5	0	0			
Miln of Clashnessie				4	10	0			
Dry multures to replace miln rents							21	17	11 ⁴
Augmentation of Inver and Stronchrubie in 1763	5	0	0						
Total	576	13	9 ⁴	688	2	9 ⁴	711	16	2

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

TABLE 2

RENTAL OF ASSYNT, as set on 15th May 1775

Farm	Old Rent merks Scots	Conversion per 5 merks		New Rent		Multure		Total	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Achmelvich	120	0	14 7	17	10 0	0	11 8	18	1 8
Achmore	200	0	15 0	30	0 0	1	0 0	31	0 0
Achnacarin	60	1	0 0	12	0 0	0	8 0	12	8 0
Ardvar	120	1	0 0	24	0 0	0	16 0	24	16 0
Aultnachie	40	0	17 6	7	0 0	0	4 8	7	4 8
Bad à Ghrianan	20	1	0 0	4	0 0	0	2 8	4	2 8
Baddidarach	40	0	15 0	6	0 0	0	4 0	6	4 0
Badnaban	30	0	14 0	4	4 0	0	2 97	4	6 97
Balhladhich	40	0	16 73	6	12 10 ⁹	0	4 8	6	17 85
Brackloch	30	0	17 0	5	2 0	0	3 49	5	5 49
Clachtoll	160	0	14 0	22	8 0	0	14 113	22	2 113
Clashmore	120	0	19 2	23	0 0	0	15 4	23	15 4
Clashnessie	120	0	15 10	19	0 0	0	12 8	19	12 8
Cnoc nan Each	50	1	0 0	10	0 0	0	6 8	10	6 8
Cromalt	40	1	0 0	8	0 0	0	5 4	8	5 4
Culag	60	0	16 8	10	0 0	0	6 8	10	6 8
Culkein	60	0	18 0	10	16 0	0	7 25	11	3 25
Culkein Drumbeig	80	0	17 6	14	0 0	0	9 4	14	9 4
Drum Suardalain	50	0	18 0	9	0 0	0	6 0	9	6 0
Drumbeig	80	0	19 4 ⁶	15	10 0	0	10 4	16	0 4
Dubh Chlais	80	1	0 0	16	0 0	0	10 8	16	10 8
Eadar à Chalda	50	0	16 0	8	0 0	0	5 4	8	5 4
Elphin	100	1	7 9	27	15 0	0	18 6	28	13 6
Filin	60	0	13 4	8	0 0	0	5 4	8	5 4
Glenleraig	120	1	0 0	24	0 0	0	16 0	24	16 0
Inchnadamph	100	0	15 0	15	0 0	0	10 0	15	10 0

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

Farm	Old Rent marks Scots	Conversion per 5 marks		New Rent		Maltures		Total	
		£ s. d.	Sterling	£ s. d.	Sterling	£ s. d.	Sterling	£ s. d.	Sterling
Inver	90	0 12 94	11 10 0	0 7 8	11 17 8				
Inverkirkaig	70	0 17 94	12 8 10 ⁸	0 8 87	12 17 2 ³				
Kirkton: Cullin	100	0 14 0	14 0 0	0 9 4	14 9 4				
Kirkton: $\frac{1}{2}$ Camore*	50	0 14 0	7 0 0	0 4 8	7 4 8				
Knockan	100	1 0 0	20 0 0	0 13 4	20 13 4				
Ledbeg	200	0 13 0	26 0 0	0 17 4	26 17 4				
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$ †	70	0 15 0	10 10 0	0 7 0	10 17 0				
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$ †	110	0 19 7	21 11 0	0 14 4 ⁵	22 5 4 ⁵				
Little Assynt	50	0 16 0	8 0 0	0 5 4	8 5 4				
Loch Beannach	50	0 16 0	8 0 0	0 5 4	8 5 4				
Lyne	80	0 17 6	14 0 0	0 9 4	14 9 4				
Nedd	80	0 15 0	12 0 0	0 8 0	12 8 0				
Oldany	150	1 0 0	30 0 0	1 0 0	31 0 0				
Poll à Gharbh Bhair	20	1 0 0	4 0 0	0 2 8	4 2 8				
Rientraid	60	0 15 0	9 0 0	0 6 0	9 6 0				
Stoer	100	0 16 7 ³	16 12 1 ³	0 11 14	17 3 27				
Stronechrubie	160	0 16 8	26 13 4	0 17 9 ⁴	27 11 1 ⁴				
Torbreck	40	0 16 0	6 0 0	0 4 0	6 4 0				
Tubeg	100	0 15 0	15 0 0	0 10 0	15 10 0				
Unapool	120	1 3 1 ⁶	27 15 0	0 18 6	28 13 6				
Total	3830		656 18 2 ⁸	21 17 11 ⁴	678 16 2				

Priviledge of retailing spirrits set on Kenneth Mackenzie Inchnadamff

Salmond Fishings, Set on John Mackenzie Merchant in Inverness

Total

6 0 0
27 0 0
711 16 2

* The remainder of Camore formed the minister's glebe proper.

† The difference in old rent between the two halves of Ledmore is only apparent. Lt. Alex. McLeod held Aultnachie, rented at 40 marks, with his portion of Ledmore; Alex. Mackenzie of Ardloch's portion included Riancrevich, also rented at 40 marks. Aultnachie was reckoned as a separate farm, but Riancrevich was not.

Extracts from Report on Setting of Rental by CAPTAIN JAMES SUTHERLAND
 . . . The rule I laid down (without raising the rents) was to learn where Farms had been formerly set at unequal values, and to set the whole as much as possible on an equality. And to do this I was assisted by taking the Old Rent as a Medium which the people themselves agreed was the best rule to be followed in doing this. Tho' I did not mean to raise the rents yet £37.14 has turned out of Augmentation upon the whole, over and above £10.12.11³ by converting the Miln Rents into a Dry Multure.

The reason for setting the Milns on Dry Multure was that the tenants in general complained of the great inconveniences they suffered by the distance of the Milns they were thirled to, and the Badness of the Roads; and willingly submitted to pay $\frac{3}{4}$ of Dry Multure, out of ever £5 of rent, so as to have the liberty of Grinding where most Convenient for them, rather than be tyed down to the Milns they were formerly asstricted to. And by this the Augmentation of these Miln Rents have come out to £10.12.11³ ¹. This Miln Augmentation may be applied for some years in assisting to erect Milns in convenient places for the tenants which may in time be returned by their paying an adequate consideration for them.

The Minutes of Set are herewith sent, by which the present possessors agree to take a lease of their different possessions for such number of years as the Tutors think proper to give from and after Whitsunday 1775, and submit to the several clauses in the former tacks, the small tenants in each town being bound for one another.

* * * * *
 The Old Rent is prefixt in a separate Column in the preceeding rental to show the plan I have followed agreeable to the opinion of the most intelligent people in that part, and the Dry Multure are distinguished in another Column therein.

On the whole, the present Set in my opinion is a just and equal one with which the people themselves are fully satisfied, and removes their former Complaint of being subject to Tacksmen and thereby being obliged to emigrate.

JAMES SUTHERLAND

¹ The total charged for dry multure in the Rental for 1775 was £21.17.11³, but against this the rents of the three mills of Glenleraig (£1.15), Auldneach (£5) and Clashnessie (£4.10) were discontinued. The net increase was thus £10.12.11³.

TABLE 3

TENANTS OF ASSYNT FARMS: 1766 and 1775

Farm	Set of 1766	Set of 1775
Achmelvich	conjoint tack	same
Achmore	Kenneth Scobie (of Achmore)	Kenneth Scobie and son John
Achnacarnin	conjoint tack	same
Ardvar	Robert Gray of Creich	conjoint tack
Aultnachie	Lt. Alex. McLeod (of Ledmore)	same
Bad à Ghrianan	Lt. Alex. McLeod (of Ledmore)	same
Baddidarach	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inch-nadamph)	conjoint tack
Badnaban	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inver-kirkaig)	conjoint tack
Balchladich	conjoint tack	same

Farm	Set of 1766	Set of 1775
Brackloch	conjoint tack	same
Clachtoll	conjoint tack	same
Clashmore	conjoint tack	same
Clashnessie	conjoint tack	same
Cnoc nan Each	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inchnadamph)	conjoint tack
Cromalt	Robert Gray of Creich	John Scobie
Culag	Alex. Mackenzie of Ardloch	conjoint tack
Culkein	conjoint tack	same
Culkein Drumbeg	conjoint tack	same
Druim Suardalain	conjoint tack	same
Drumbeg	conjoint tack	same
Dubh Chlais	conjoint tack	same
Eadar à Chalda	Robert Gray of Creich	Alex. Mackenzie
Elphin	Lt. John Gray (of Elphin: dead by 1774)	Kenneth and William Mackenzie
Filin	Alex. Mackenzie of Ardloch	same
Glenleraig	Robert Gray of Creich	conjoint tack
Inchnadamph	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inchnadamph)	same
Inver	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inchnadamph)	Ensign Alex. Campbell
Inverkirkaig	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inverkirkaig)	conjoint tack
Kirkton	Rev. William Mackenzie	same
Knockan	conjoint tack	same
Ledbeg	Alex. Mackenzie of Ardloch	same
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$	Lt. Alex. McLeod (of Ledmore)	same
Ledmore: $\frac{1}{2}$	Alex. Mackenzie of Ardloch	conjoint tack
Little Assynt	Kenneth Scobie (of Achmore)	Kenneth Scobie and son John
Loch Beannach	conjoint tack	conjoint tack
Lyne	Lt. John Mackay (of Oldany: dead by 1774)	conjoint tack
Nedd	conjoint tack	same
Oldany	Lt. John Mackay (of Oldany: dead by 1774)	Mrs. Jean Mackay
Poll à Gharbh Bhair	conjoint tack	same
Rientraid	Lt. Charles Gordon (of Skelpick)	Kenneth Scobie (of Achmore) and son John
Stoer	conjoint tack	same
Stronechrubie	Murdoch Mackenzie (of Stronechrubie)	conjoint tack
Torbreck	Rev. William Mackenzie	same
Tubeag	Kenneth Mackenzie (of Inchnadamph)	$\frac{1}{2}$: Kenneth Mackenzie of Inchnadamph $\frac{1}{2}$: Murdoch Mackenzie (of Stronechrubie) $\frac{1}{2}$: Murdoch Mackenzie
Unapool	Lt. John Gray (of Elphin: dead by 1774)	conjoint tack

TABLE 4
INHABITANTS OF PARISH OF ASSYNT: November 1774

Farm	Households	Men	Women	Children	Servants	Unidentified	Total
Achmelvich	16	15	16	42	6	—	79
Achmore	8	7	8	13	12	—	40
Achnacarnin	9	8	6	20	5	8	42
Ardvar	16	16	16	51	7	—	90
Aultnachie	4	3	4	7	2	—	16
Bad à Chrìanian	2	2	1	3	2	—	8
Baddidarach	7	8	7	11	7	—	33
Badnaban	5	4	6	7	8	—	20
Baichladich	5	4	4	18	2	—	28
Brackloch	2	2	2	8	2	—	14
Clachtoll	16	12	16	43	7	—	78
Clashmore	15	15	15	32	10	—	72
Clashnessie	20	17	20	49	12	5	103
Cnoc nan Each	4	4	4	4	5	—	17
Cromalt	1	1	1	4	1	—	7
Culag	16	16	14	30	12	—	72
Culkein	12	12	15	25	4	—	56
Culkein Drumbeag	11	11	11	18	9	—	49
Druim Suardalain	4	4	4	6	5	—	19
Drumbeg	7	6	7	23	7	—	43
Dubb Chlais	6	6	6	6	10	—	28
Eadar à Chalda	2	2	2	6	8	—	13
Elphin	6	5	6	9	13	—	33
Filin	1	1	1	5	2	—	9
Gleneraig	18	18	18	36	18	—	90
Inchnadamph	2	2	2	7	6	—	17
Inver	2	2	2	4	4	—	12
Inverkirkaig	8	6	9	19	11	—	45

Farm	Households	Men	Women	Children	Servants	Unidentified	Total
Kirkton	9	9	9	19	11	—	48
Knockan	9	8	7	16	8	—	39
Ledbeg	8	7	8	8	17	—	40
Ledmore	17	16	17	30	13	—	76
Little Assynt	1	1	1	3	—	—	5
Loch Beannach	5	5	5	18	1	—	29
Lyne	4	4	2	11	8	—	25
Nedd	9	8	9	21	5	4	47
Olddany	6	5	5	16	9	3	38
Poll à Gharbh Bhair	2	2	2	5	2	—	11
Rientraid	2	2	2	3	3	—	10
Stoer	14	13	12	48	5	5	83
Stronechrubie	12	10	12	22	8	—	52
Torbreck	4	5	4	9	—	—	18
Tubeg	1	1	1	3	1	—	6
Unapool	11	10	11	21	9	7	58
Total	339	315	330	759	287	27	1718

In arriving at these totals the following rules have been used:

1. An individual mentioned by name has been counted as a head of a household. The number of households is thus equal to the number of named persons.
2. Members of a household specifically designated (e.g. sister, brother, son) have been counted as adults and not children.
3. Ambiguous entries have been placed in the 'Unidentified' column. The precise details of each case will be found in the footnotes to the consolidated list of tenants and inhabitants (*infra*, 71-88).
4. Minor errors in the original list have been corrected, and omissions have been supplied where the totals there given make it possible.

Explanatory Note

This list has been drawn from the 'Particular Rental of the Estate of Assint, as set on 15th May 1775', and from the 'List of Inhabitants of the Parish of Assint, November 1774'. The proper names given in the two sources have been 'matched' as far as reasonably possible. The limited range of Christian and family names, and the frequent but not invariable use of patronymics, make this a difficult process. Further, the two sources differ in their presentation of names; whereas the Rental makes comparatively little use of patronymics, the 'List of Inhabitants' uses them frequently. In the circumstances, no finality is possible and therefore only these identifications for which good reasons exist in the evidence have been admitted. With greater information many more would certainly be possible, and the frequent divergences between the two sources are therefore more apparent than real.

In a number of cases indistinguishable names create ambiguity. These are indicated thus:

- §, + : indistinguishable names in both Rental and 'List of Inhabitants'; in these cases each group of details from the 'List of Inhabitants' could apply to any of the marked tenants, and the arrangement made in the text is necessarily arbitrary.
- γ, = : two names in 'List of Inhabitants', but only one corresponding name in Rental; in these cases again the arrangement in the text is arbitrary.
- # : two names in Rental, but only one corresponding name in 'List of Inhabitants'; again the arrangement in the text is arbitrary.

The text shows all available information concerning individuals that can be drawn from the two sources. The names are arranged in the order given in the Rental, and thereafter in the order of the 'List of Inhabitants'. The spelling is as in the Rental, with significant variations in the 'List of Inhabitants'. All such variations, as well as all names found in the 'List of Inhabitants' only, are shown in brackets. Where an individual is shown in the text as appearing in both sources, but no variant name is given, it can be assumed that the two sources agree on the matter. No notice has been taken of small differences of spelling (e.g. Kerr and Ker; Niel and Neil), nor of certain contracted forms (Murdo and Murdoeh; Rory and Roderick), nor of variants of 'Mac', except when a name is given twice for other reasons.

TABLE 5

Name	Rental: 1775		Named Relative	List of Inhabitants: 1774	
	Old	New		Children	Servants Total
	merks	£ s. d.			
ACHMELVICH (ACHMALVICH)					
Alexander Kerr (Alex. Ker McEan)	15	2 3 9	wife	6	8
Kenneth Kerr	15	2 3 9	wife	8	10
Alexander McCurchy (Alex. Ker McCurchy) and father	15	2 3 9	wife	5	7
Alexander Mcconelvain (Alex. McLeod McKolvan)	10	1 9 2	wife	4	6
Donald Macleod	10	1 9 2	wife	2	4
John Kerr (John Ker McNeill)	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	1	5
John Macleod γ	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	2	4
Neil Munro	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	—	4
Alexander Munro	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	4	6
John Kerr junior (John Ker McEan)	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	3	5
Donald McInnes	7½	1 1 10 ⁶	wife	3	5
Norman McLeod	5	0 14 7	—	—	—
John McOneil (John McLeod McKonil)	5	0 14 7	wife	—	—
(John McLeod McHornad) γ	—	—	wife	2	4
(Caul Ker)	—	—	wife	3	5
(Marion Ker widow)	—	—	wife	1	3
(Mary Ker widow)	—	—	—	1	2
	—	—	son	—	2
AUCHMORE (ACHAMORE)					
Upper Auchmore: Mr. Kenneth Scobie and son	100	15 0 0	wife	7	15
Lower Auchmore: do.	100	15 0 0	—	—	—
(Normand McDonald)	—	—	wife	1	4
(Angus McLeod McCurchy)	—	—	wife	1	4
(Angus McLeod McAlister)	—	—	wife	—	2
(Murdoch McLeod)	—	—	wife	2	4

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		List of Inhabitants: 1774				Total
	Old marks	New £ s. d.	Named Relative	Children	Servants	Total	
<i>AUCHMORE (ACHAMORE)—continued</i>							
(Kenneth Ker)	—	—	wife	—	1	1	8
(John Kelly)	—	—	mother	—	1	1	8
(Ann MacCra widow: at Pollakarkan)	—	—	—	2	2	2	5
<i>ACHNACARNAN (ACHNAKARNAN)</i>							
Kenneth Mackenzie	20	4 0 0	—	3	unidentified *	4	4
John Nicolson (John McNicol)	12½	2 10 0	wife	1	2	5	5
Murdo Mackenzie (widower)	10	2 0 0	—	6	—	7	7
Neil Nicolson (Niel McNicol)	7½	1 10 0	wife	5	—	7	7
Angus Macleod †	5	1 0 0	wife	1	1	4	4
Mary McLean (widow)	5	1 0 0	—	5	—	6	6
(Donald McDonald)	—	—	—	—	2	3	3
(Roderick McLeod and John McLeod his son-in-law: at Dearlan)	—	—	wife	2	—	4	4
—	—	—	wife	—	—	—	2
<i>ARDVARE</i>							
Donald Campbell and father	40	8 0 0	wife	4	2	8	8
Alexander McCurehy (Alex. Mckenzie) and mother	15	3 0 0	mother	4	1	7	7
Alexander Mackenzie	10	2 0 0	wife	2	—	4	4
Finlay Munro	10	2 0 0	wife	5	—	7	7
John Mackenzie	10	2 0 0	wife	8	2	7	7
Malcolm Mathieson	6	1 4 0	wife	4	—	6	6

* Entry runs: 'Kenneth Mackenzie a Batchelor and 3 of a Family.'

† The 'List of Inhabitants' has been here conjecturally corrected, as it duplicates the name Murdoch Mackenzie, apparently in error. The details given have been assigned to Angus Macleod.

ARDVARE—continued

Murdo MacEan (Murdoch Mackenzie) §	5	1	0	0	wife	3	—	5
Donald MacLeod (alias McLedich)	5	1	0	0	wife	—	—	2
William McLean	5	1	0	0	wife	3	—	5
Donald Morrison	5	1	0	0	wife	4	—	6
Murdo Mackenzie §	5	1	0	0	wife	1	—	3
Rory Morrison	4	0	16	0	wife	5	—	7
(Niel Campbell)	—	—	—	—	wife	4	2	8
(Robert McDonald)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	4
(Roderick Mackenzie)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	4
(John McDonald)	—	—	—	—	wife	5	—	7
AULDNACHY (AULTNACHY)								
Lt. Alexander McLeod in Ledmore	40	7	0	0	—	—	—	—
(Alexander McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	1	2	5
(Donald MacLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	1	—	3
(Hugh McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	3	—	5
(Katherine McLeod widow)	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3
BADGRINAN (BADDY-GRINAN)								
Lt. Alexander MacLeod in Ledmore	20	4	0	0	—	—	—	—
(Murdoch Mackenzie)	—	—	—	—	wife	3	2	7
(Alexander Mackenzie his brother)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
BADDARROCH (BADDY-DARRACH)								
Alexander McLeod McNeil	10	1	10	0	wife	5	—	7
Kenneth McLeod (alias Roy)	10	1	10	0	wife	—	2	4
Alexander McLeod	7	1	1	0	wife	—	1	3
Alexander McLeod McRory	7	1	1	0	—	—	—	—
Donald McLeod	6	0	18	0	wife	2	—	4
(Alexander Mckenzie)	—	—	—	—	wife and father	—	2	5
(Alexander Mckenzie)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(Hugh Matheson: at Little Baddyardroch)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	5

TABLE 5—continued

Name	Rental: 1775		List of Inhabitants: 1774	Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.		
BADINABAN (BADDINABAN)				
Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie in Inverkirkraig	15	2 2 0	—	—
Neil Macleod (Niel MacLeod McInnashdown)	7½	1 1 0	wife	—
John Watson	7½	1 1 0	wife	1
(Murdoch MacLeod alias McCurehy)	—	—	wife	2
(Katherine MacLeod)	—	—	daughter	—
(William Sinclair)	—	—	wife	3
BALCHLADICH (BALCLADICH)				
Donald MacLeod	15	2 9 10	wife	6
John Munro (widower)	15	2 9 10	—	6
Donald Mackenzie	5	0 16 73	wife	5
Alexander MacLeod	5	0 16 76	wife	1
(Kathrine MacLeod) widow	—	—	daughter	—
BRACKLOCH (BRAKLACH OF INVER)				
Alexander Macleod	30	5 2 0	wife	5
and John Macleod	—	—	wife	3
CLACHTOLE (CLACH-TOLL)				
Murdo MacLeod #	17½	2 9 0	wife	4
William MacLeod (William MacLeod McEan)	15	2 2 0	wife	2
Lachlan Mackenzie	15	2 2 0	wife	8
John Mackenzie	13½	1 17 4	wife	4
Ann Kerr (An Ker widow)	13½	1 17 4	—	4

CLACHTOLE (CLACH-TOLL)—continued

Alexander Fraser and Alexander Mckenzie	13½	1	17	4	wife	2	4
John Macleod §	12½	1	15	0	wife	—	4
John Macleod (John McLeod McKenneth) §	10	1	8	0	wife	2	5
Margaret Kerr (widow)	10	1	8	0	wife	3	5
Murdo Macleod †	10	1	8	0	—	3	5
Murdo Mackenzie	10	1	8	0	—	—	—
Normand McLeod	5	0	14	0	wife	—	3
Christean Ker (Christian Ker widow)	5	0	14	0	—	—	5
William Mackenzie (William Mackenzie McRory)	5	0	14	0	wife	—	4
Kathrine Mackenzie (widow)	2½	0	7	0	—	3	4
Alexander Kerr	2½	0	7	0	wife	—	4
(Murdoch Ker)	—	—	—	—	wife	—	2

CLASHMORE

John McAllister (John Mckenzie McAlister)	15	2	17	6	wife	3	6
John Mackenzie (John Mckenzie Hector's Son)	15	2	17	6	wife	3	5
William Mackenzie	15	2	17	6	wife	1	4
Kenneth Mackenzie (Kenneth Mckenzie McAchan) §	10	1	18	4	wife	1	5
Alexander Mackenzie	10	1	18	4	wife	—	5
Kenneth Mackenzie (Kenneth Roy Mckenzie McAlister) § +	10	1	18	4	wife	1	4
Henry Mackenzie (Harry Mackenzie)	10	1	18	4	wife	5	7
Kenneth Roy (Kenneth Roy Mckenzie) +	7½	1	8	9	wife	3	5
Rory McLeod	7½	1	8	9	wife	2	4
Angus McLeod	5	0	19	2	wife	—	6
Angus McRory	5	0	19	2	wife	3	5
Angus Mathieson	5	0	19	2	—	—	—
John McCurehy (John Mackenzie McCurehy)	2½	0	9	7	wife	3	5
Kenneth Hectorson (Kenneth Mackenzie) §	2½	0	9	7	wife	1	3
(Roderick McEwer)	—	—	—	—	wife	1	3
(Hector Mackenzie Cathedist supported by the Bounty of the people alenarly)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	4
	—	—	—	—	wife	4	6

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		List of Inhabitants: 1774		Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.	Named Relative	Children Servants	
CLASHNESSIE (CLASHNESSY)					
Angus Kerr	15	2 7 6	wife	2	6
William Mackenzie	15	2 7 6	wife	3	7
William McLeod	15	2 7 6	wife	6	8
Colin Mackenzie	10	1 11 8	2 sisters	—	3
Kenneth Mackenzie	10	1 11 8	wife	6	8
John Macleod §	10	1 11 8	wife	5	7
John Munro	7½	1 3 9	—	—	—
Alexander Mackenzie	5	0 15 10	wife	3	5
Donald Mackenzie γ	5	0 15 10	wife	5	7
Donald MacLeod =	5	0 15 10	wife	1	3
John McLeod (John McLeod McNiel) §	5	0 15 10	wife	2	5
Neil McLeod	5	0 15 10	wife	3	6
John Nicolson	5	0 15 10	—	—	—
Ann Sinclair	5	0 15 10	—	—	—
Angus Macleod	2½	0 7 11	—	2	3
(John McLeod miller of miln of Clashnessy)	—	—	—	—	—
(Donald Mckenzie) γ	—	—	wife	3	8
(Donald Macleod McInnash) =	—	—	wife	2	4
(Alexander McLeod, son-in-law of Donald MacLeod McInnash)	—	—	wife	2	4
(Kathrine Mckenzie)	—	—	—	—	—
(Angus McDonald)	—	—	wife	2	3
(Donald McDonald)	—	—	wife	1	4
	—	—	wife	1	4

* One household of 5 persons has been missed in the 'List of Inhabitants'; the individual entries total 19 households of 98 persons, but the total given is 20 households of 103 persons.

KNOCKNACH

Rory McLeod	25	5	0	0	wife	—	2	4
John Bain	12½	2	10	0	—	—	—	—
Rory McLeod Johnson (Roderick McLeod Oag, son of Roderick MacLeod)	12½	2	10	0	wife	—	—	2
(John McKenzie McAlister)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(Roderick McLeod McAngus)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	2	6

CROMAULD

Mr. John Scobie in Achmore (Simon Fraser)	40	8	0	0	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	wife	4	1	7

CULAG (CULAG)

Kenneth Mackenzie	7½	1	5	0	wife	2	2	6
Neil Mackay	7½	1	5	0	wife	4	—	6
Alexander Doun (Alex. Down McLeod)	7½	1	5	0	wife	2	1	5
Alexander McLeod	5	0	16	8	—	—	—	—
Neil MacRory (Niel McLeod McRiory)	5	0	16	8	wife	1	1	4
Alexander Roy (Alex. McLeod Roy; at Elgvrodin)	5	0	16	8	wife	3	—	5
Rory McEan (Roderick McLeod) γ	5	0	16	8	wife	4	1	7
Donald Macleod (Donald McAlister-roy McLeod)	5	0	16	8	wife	1	1	4
Donald McLeod weaver	5	0	16	8	wife	—	2	4
Angus McLeod (Angus McLeod McAlister widower) =	2½	0	8	4	—	4	—	5
Angus Dow McLeod	2½	0	8	4	—	—	—	—
Janet Sinclair widow (Christian Campbell)	2½	0	8	4	—	—	—	—
(William Mackay)	—	—	—	—	son	—	—	2
(Angus Bethune miller of miln of Culag)	—	—	—	—	wife	1	—	3
(John Grahame)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(Angus McAlister vicInnash McLeod; at Culag) =	—	—	—	—	wife	1	2	5
(Roderick McLeod alias Kile) γ	—	—	—	—	wife	3	1	6
(Alexander Mckenzie traveling Padler)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	4
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		Named Relative	List of Inhabitants: 1774		Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.		Children	Servants	
CULKEIN ACHNACARNAN (CULKINACHNAKARNAN)						
Duncan Macleod elder	12½	2 5 0	wife	4	1	7
Normand McInnes (Normand McLeod)	5	0 18 0	wife	6	—	8
Angus Mathieson	5	0 18 0	wife	4	—	6
Rory Mackenzie γ	5	0 18 0	wife	3	—	5
John Mackenzie	5	0 18 0	—	—	—	—
Duncan McLeod (Duncan McLeod McCurehy)	5	0 18 0	wife	1	—	3
Angus McAllister	5	0 18 0	—	—	—	—
Donald McCaskie	5	0 18 0	brother, mother, 2 sisters & grandmother	—	—	—
Normand McLeod (Normand McLeod Mckonil)	5	0 18 0	wife	1	1	6
John Macdonald	5	0 18 0	wife	1	—	4
Angus McLeod (Angus McLeod McInash) =	2½	0 9 0	wife	1	1	4
(Roderick Mckenzie McNiel) γ	—	—	wife	1	—	3
(Angus McLeod McCurehy) =	—	—	wife	1	1	4
(Mary Mckenzie widow)	—	—	—	2	—	3
CULKIN DRUMBAIG						
Murdoch Mackenzie (Murdoch Mackenzie McAlister)	10	1 15 0	wife	—	1	3
Annabel Mackenzie (widow)	10	1 15 0	—	2	2	5
Alexander Graeme (Alex. Grahame)	7½	1 6 3	wife	—	2	4
Donald Graeme (Donald Grahame)	7½	1 6 3	wife	5	—	7
John Mackenzie	7½	1 6 3	wife	1	1	4
Murdo McCurehy	7½	1 6 3	—	—	—	—
John McHutcheon	5	0 17 6	—	—	—	—
Donald McLeod	5	0 17 6	wife	2	1	5
Donald Mackenzie	5	0 17 6	wife	—	1	3

CULKIN DRUMBAIG—*continued*

John McLeod (John McLeod McHormad Og)

Kenneth McLeod

Christian Mackenzie

Alexander Morrison

(Kenneth Ker)

(John Morison)

(Angus Morison)

DRUMSWORDLAND

John McLeod

Hugh McLeod

Alexander Mackenzie

(William McLeod)

(Murdoch McLeod)

DRUMBAIG

Murdo Kerr

Donald Greame (Donald Graham)

Alexander Morrison

Angus Kerr

Murdo Mackenzie

John MacLeod

Lachlan Ross

Donald McLeod

(Margaret McLeod widow)

DUCHLASH

Rory Bain

Angus MacLeod †

Alexander Macleod

John Macleod

5	0 17 6	wife	4	—	6
5	0 17 6	—	—	—	—
2½	0 8 9	—	—	—	—
2½	0 8 9	—	—	—	—
—	—	wife	8	—	5
—	—	wife	1	—	4
—	—	brother & sister	—	—	8
20	8 12 0	wife	4	2	8
15	2 14 0	wife	—	2	4
15	2 14 0	—	—	—	—
—	—	wife	—	—	2
—	—	wife	2	1	5
15	2 18 16	—	—	—	—
12½	1 8 53	wife	4	1	7
12½	2 8 53	wife	4	1	7
10	1 18 9	wife	4	—	6
10	1 18 9	wife	4	—	4
10	1 18 9	wife	2	1	5
5	0 19 46	wife	4	—	6
5	0 19 66	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	2	8
20	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
20	4 0 0	wife	—	8	5
10	2 0 0	wife	1	1	4
10	2 0 0	wife	1	1	4

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		Named Relative	List of Inhabitants: 1774		
	Old mers	New s. d.		Children	Servants	Total
DUCHLASH—continued						
William Roy McLeod (William McLeod)	10	2 0 0	wife	-	1	3
Angus MacLeod #	7½	1 10 0	-	-	-	-
Hugh McCaskile	2½	0 10 0	wife	2	2	6
(Donald MacLeod smith)	-	-	wife	2	2	6
(Roderick MacLeod)	-	-	-	-	-	-
EDRACHALDA						
Alexander Mackenzie	50	8 0 0	wife	4	3	9
(Duncan McLeod)	-	-	wife	2	-	4
ELPHINE (ALPHIN)						
Kenneth Mackenzie and	100	27 15 0	wife	-	6	8
William Mackenzie	-	-	wife	-	4	6
(John Mckenzie)	-	-	wife	3	-	5
(Angus Macleod)	-	-	wife	1	1	4
(Roderick McLeod)	-	-	wife	2	2	6
(Marion Ker widow)	-	-	-	3	-	4
FILIN (FILIN)						
Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch	60	8 0 0	-	-	-	-
(Kenneth Sinclair grasskeeper)	-	-	wife	5	2	9
GLENLERAG						
Roderick Mackenzie (miller of Glenlerag)	40	8 0 0	wife	2	4	8
Murdo Mackenzie	10	2 0 0	wife	2	2	6

GLENLERAG—continued

Alexander Mackenzie and Donald Mackenzie §	10	2	0	0	mother wife	2	5	—	4	7
Donald MacLachlan	7½	1	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Murdo MacRae (Murdoch McCra)	7½	1	10	0	wife	1	8	3	6	6
Alexander McLean +	5	1	0	0	wife	2	1	—	5	5
Alexander Stewart	5	1	0	0	wife	2	—	—	4	4
Alexander Macdonald	5	1	0	0	wife	2	—	—	4	4
John McIver (John McEwer)	5	1	0	0	wife	4	—	—	6	6
Donald Mackenzie (Donald Mackenzie McKuney) §	5	1	0	0	wife	1	1	—	4	4
John Mackenzie	5	1	0	0	wife	2	—	—	4	4
Rory Urquhart	5	1	0	0	wife	2	1	—	5	5
Alexander McLean (Alex. McLean McAlister) +	5	1	0	0	wife	3	—	—	5	5
Collin Mackenzie	5	1	0	0	wife	1	—	—	4	4
(Donald Robertson)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	—	5	5
(Angus McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	—	—	—	1	8
(Donald McCra)	—	—	—	—	wife	1	—	—	1	4
(Alexander McCrae)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	—	2	6

INCHNADAMFF (INCHDAFF)

Kenneth Mackenzie	100	15	0	0	wife	4	5	—	11	11
(Alexander McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	3	1	—	6	6

INVER

Ensign Alexander Campbell	90	11	10	0	wife	2	8	—	7	7
(Kenneth McLean)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	—	5	5

INVERKIRKAG (INVERKIRKAG)

Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie	35	6	4	54	wife	4	5	—	11	11
Normand McLeod	7½	1	6	8	wife	3	1	—	6	6
Angus Roy (Angus Roy MacLeod)	7½	1	6	8	wife	4	1	—	7	7
Kenneth McLeod (weaver)	5	0	17	94	wife	1	2	—	5	5

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		List of Inhabitants: 1774			Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.	Named Relative	Children	Servants	
INVERKIRKAG (INVERKIRKAG)—continued						
Normand Watson						
John McLean	5	0 17 94	—	—	—	—
Barbara McLean widow	5	0 17 94	—	—	—	—
(Mary McIntosh)	5	0 17 94	—	—	—	—
(Kenneth McLean alias Bayne)	—	—	mother & grandchild	2	1	3
(Donald Watson)	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(Annabel Watson widow)	—	—	wife	2	1	5
	—	—	—	2	—	3
KIRKTON*						
Cullin: Mr. William Mackenzie, minister of Assynt	100	14 0 0	wife	3	8	13
½ Camore: do.	50	7 0 0				
(Donald MacLeod: at Camore)	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(Normand McLeod: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	2	—	4
(William Mckenzie: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	—	1	3
(Murdoch Mackenzie: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	3	—	5
(Donald Mckenzie: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	2	—	4
(Duncan Sinclair: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	1	—	3
(Donald McDonald: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	6	—	8
(Roderick McKay: at Cullin)	—	—	wife	—	1	3
KNOCKAN						
Neil MacLeod	30	6 0 0	wife	—	2	4
Angus Bain MacLeod (Angus MacLeod Bayne)	15	3 0 0	wife	3	1	6

* Kirkton comprised Cullin and Camore; one-half of Camore was the glebe proper, and therefore not included in the Rental.

KNOCKAN—*continued*

Angus McLeod (Angus MacLeod Roy) γ	12½	2	10	0	wife	4	—	6
Kenneth Mackenzie taylor	12½	2	10	0	wife	1	1	4
Rory Bain McLeod (Roderick McLeod)	10	2	0	0	wife	—	1	3
Alexander Mchutcheon (Alex. McLeod)	10	2	0	0	wife	2	1	5
Widow McLean	10	2	0	0	—	—	—	—
(Angus MacLeod McThornad widower) γ	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	5
(Angus MacLeod McNiel batchelor) γ	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
(An McLeod widow)	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4

LEADBEG (LEDBEG)

Alexander Mackenzie of Ardlloch	200	26	0	0	wife	—	9	11
(Angus McLeod MacRory)	—	—	—	—	wife	—	2	4
(Angus Dow MacLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	4	—	6
(Angus Dow McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	1	5
(John Dow McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	—	1	3
(John McLeod Roy)	—	—	—	—	wife	2	—	4
(Kathrin Munro)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
(Murdoch MacLeod; at Bracklach of Ledbeg)	—	—	—	—	wife	—	3	5

LEADMORE (LEDMORE)

½ Leadmore; Lt. Alexander McLeod (Normand McLeod)	70	10	10	0	wife	3	5	10
(Murdoch McLeod)	—	—	—	—	wife	4	1	7
	—	—	—	—	wife	3	—	5
½ Leadmore; tenants as under:	15	2	18	94	—	—	—	—
Lt. Alexander McLeod for his mother	15	2	18	94	wife	3	1	6
Neil Lamond (Niel McLemin; at Riancrevich)	10	1	19	22	wife	2	4	4
John Macdonald	10	1	19	22	wife	—	2	4
Kenneth McLean (at Glaskoil)	10	1	19	22	wife	2	—	4
John Bain McLeod (John Bayne MacLeod; at Glaskoil)	10	1	19	22	wife	—	—	—
Duncan McLeod (at Riancrevich)	10	1	19	22	wife	3	—	5

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		Named Relative	List of Inhabitants: 1774			Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.		Children	Servants		
LEADMORE (LEDMORE)—continued							
John Mackenzie (at Riancrevich)	10	1 19 22	wife	1	1	4	
Neil McLeod	5	0 19 71	wife	1	—	3	
John Roy McLeod (John MacLeod Roy)	5	0 19 71	wife	3	—	5	
Rory McLeod (Roderick MacLeod younger)	5	0 19 71	wife	1	—	3	
Rory Roy McLeod (Roderick MacLeod alias Roy)	5	0 19 71	wife	1	1	4	
Hugh McLeod (Hugh MacLeod alias Bayne)	5	0 19 71	wife	1	1	4	
Flora McLeod (Florence McLeod Bayne; at Riancrevich)	2½	0 9 96	—	—	1	2	
Donald Mackenzie (Alexander McLeod)	2½	0 9 97	—	—	—	—	
(Donald MacLeod)	—	—	wife	2	—	4	
	—	—	wife	—	—	2	
LITTLE ASSYNT							
Mr. Kenneth Scobie in Auchmore and son (Donald McRory McLeod graskeeper)	50	8 8 0	—	—	—	—	
	—	—	wife	3	—	5	
LOCHBANNOC							
Donald MacCaskile	12½	2 0 0	wife	7	—	9	
Angus Ker (Angus Ker alias McKilparick)	12½	2 0 0	wife	4	—	6	
Angus MacCaskile	10	1 12 0	wife	—	1	3	
Donald MacLeod	7½	1 4 0	wife	4	—	6	
Normand Ker	7½	1 4 0	wife	3	—	5	
LAYNE (LAING)							
William Mackenzie (widower)	40	7 0 0	—	2	4	7	
Robert MacLeod	20	3 10 0	wife	4	2	8	

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		List of Inhabitants: 1774	Total
	Old merks	New £ s. d.		
POLGARVIE (POLAGARVER)				
Hugh McCaskile	10	2 0 0	wife	3 1
William McCaskile	10	2 0 0	wife	2 1
RHINTRAID (RYANTRAID)				
Mr. Kenneth Scobie in Auchmore and son (John McKenzie)	100	15 0 0	—	— 1
(Donald Mackenzie)	—	—	wife	3 1
	—	—	wife	— 2
STORE				
John Kerr carpenter (John Ker senior)	20	3 6 5	wife	8 1
John Kerr his son (John Ker junior)	10	1 13 26	wife	6 —
John Munro	10	1 13 26	wife	1 2
Alexander Munro	10	1 18 26	wife	5 —
Rory Kerr	10	1 13 26	wife	4 —
— William Mathieson	10	1 13 26	wife	6 —
John Rory McNeil (John McLeod McRory-kneil)	7½	1 4 11	wife	6 —
Gatholus Kerr (Ca-ul Ker widower)	7½	1 4 11	—	3 —
Murdo Kerr	5	0 16 73	wife	4 —
John McLeod McRory	5	0 16 73	wife	4 —
Alexander Macleod	5	0 16 73	wife	3 1
(Alexander Ker)	5	0 16 73	wife	3 1
(Kenneth McLeod)	—	—	5 unidentified*	4 —
(Erick McLeod('s) widow)	—	—	wife	1 1
	—	—	—	4 —
	—	—	—	2 3

* Details of this household omitted.

STRONCHRUBIE (STRONCHRUBY)

Murdo Mackenzie	80	18	6	8	3	4	9
John Osg Macdonald	12½	2	1	8	—	1	3
Alexander Macdonald	12½	2	1	8	4	—	6
John Mackintosh	12½	2	1	8	3	—	5
Angus Roy McLeod	10	1	13	4	2	—	4
Angus McLeod	10	1	13	4	—	—	—
Angus Mackenzie	10	1	13	4	—	1	3
David Ross (miller of mill of Stronchruby)	5	0	16	8	3	—	5
Alexander Mackenzie	5	0	16	8	1	—	4
Christian Douglas	2½	0	8	4	—	1	2
(Donald McLeod)	—	—	—	—	3	—	5
(Ann McDonald widow)	—	—	—	—	2	—	3
(Donald McLeod)	—	—	—	—	1	—	3

TORBRECK

Mr. William Mackenzie minister of Assynt	40	6	0	0	—	—	—
(John McLeod)	—	—	—	—	3	—	5
(John McLeod McRory)	—	—	—	—	4	—	6
(Angus Campbell)	—	—	—	—	2	—	4
(Donald McDonald grasskeeper)	—	—	—	—	—	—	3

TUBEG

Upper Tubeg: Kenneth Mackenzie in Inchnadamff	50	7	10	0	—	—	—
Lower Tubeg: Murdo Mackenzie in Stronchrubie	33½	5	0	0	—	—	—
Do.: Murdo Mackenzie (Murdo Mackenzie MacAlister)	16½	2	10	0	3	1	6

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

TABLE 5—continued

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF TENANTS AND INHABITANTS

Name	Rental: 1775		Named Relative	List of Inhabitants: 1774		Total
	Old marks	New £ s. d.		Children	Servants	
UNAPUL (UNAPOOL)						
Hector Mackenzie	20	4 12 6	wife	5	2	9
Donald McRae (Donald MacCra)	12½	2 17 94	wife	7	unidentified*	9
James McEan (James Mackenzie)	10	2 6 3	wife	2	1	5
John Mackenzie and Donald Mackenzie	10	2 6 3	—	—	—	—
John Greame (John Grahame)	7½	1 14 83	wife	—	—	—
Murdo Mackenzie	7½	1 14 83	wife	3	1	8
Alexander Bain	7½	1 14 83	—	—	—	—
Neil Abrach	7½	1 14 83	wife	1	1	4
John Mackay	7½	1 14 83	—	—	—	—
James Urquhart	7½	1 14 83	mother	—	—	—
Iue Mackay	7½	1 14 83	—	—	—	—
John McLean	5	1 3 16	wife	—	1	3
Donald Bain	5	1 3 16	—	—	—	—
Farquhar Buy (Farquhart Mckenzie alias Buy)	2½	0 11 69	wife	—	—	—
Kenneth Bain's widow (Roderick MacLeod)	2½	0 11 69	—	—	—	—
(Barbra Mckenzie widow)	—	—	wife	6	1	9
	—	—	—	4	—	5

* Entry runs: 'Donald MacCra wife and 7 children and servants.'

APPENDIX B

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE OF ARDLOCH'S ACCOUNTS AS FACTOR OF ASSYNT, 1764-1773

The following figures have been abstracted from the Factor's Accounts for the individual Crop and Martinmas accounting periods. This has involved some rearrangement of the individual details. All the figures are given in sterling money.

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

Year	1764		1765		1766		1767		1768	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Debit:</i>										
Rent ¹	576	13 94	576	13 94	688	2 94	688	2 94	688	2 94
Sundries							1	2 64		
Arrears carried forward ²									10	15 0
Debit carried forward									698	17 94
Total	576	13 94	576	13 94	688	2 94	689	5 28	698	17 94
<i>Credit:</i>										
Credit carried forward	197	10 9	14	16 48	76	7 11	40	6 94	3	12 0
Deductions from rent ³	16	13 4	16	13 4	16	13 4	16	13 4	18	13 4
Feu-duties ⁴			3	17 94			1	15 62		
Cess and public burdens	16	2 6	19	5 0	16	2 6	13	6 99	13	4 48
Stipend and heritor's expenses	44	8 108	57	4 54	52	4 54	52	4 54	52	4 54
Salaries ⁵	17	4 54	17	4 54	17	4 54	17	4 54	21	13 34
Correspondence ⁶	3	8 9	3	16 8	2	15 0	3	6 0	3	17 6
Works ⁷	29	17 1	60	0 0					46	7 10
Salmon fishings ⁸	13	14 9	7	0 8	33	6 11				
Surveyors ⁹									140	0 0
Interest ¹⁰									0	12 0
Sundries	2	9 8	3	3 0					10	15 0
Arrears carried forward ²									4	10 0
Arrears written off ²	250	0 0	450	0 0	509	5 0	360	0 0	470	0 0
Remitted to cashier ¹¹	591	10 2	653	1 84*	728	9 68	692	17 38§	777	14 28
Total	14	16 48	76	7 11	40	6 94	3	12 0	78	16 54
Credit carried forward										
Date fitted	4 Decr.	1767	4 Decr.	1767	4 Decr.	1767	20 July	1770	28 Decr.	1770
	& 15 Jan.	1768.	& 15 Jan.	1768.	& 15 Jan.	1768.	& 10 Aug.	1769.	& 2 Feb.	1771.

* Error of 04d. § Error of 23d.

THE SURVEY OF ASSYNT

	1769		1770		1771		1772		1773	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<i>Debit:</i>										
Rent ¹	688	2 94	688	2 94	688	2 94	688	2 94	698	9 54
Sundries										
Arrears carried forward ²	112	9 54	107	12 7	102	10 34	92	11 110	50	3 11
Debit carried forward					65	13 118	7	1 102	0	6 89
Total	800	12 28	795	15 44	856	7 04	787	15 94	748	19 81
<i>Credit:</i>										
Credit carried forward	78	16 54	48	7 56						
Deductions from rent ³	17	6 8	17	6 8	17	6 8	17	6 8	0	13 4
Few-duties ⁴										
Cess and public burdens	12	9 46	12	9 46	16	2 6	13	6 99	14	10 5
Stipend and heritor's expenses	52	4 54	52	11 54	52	4 54	52	4 54	52	4 54
Salaries ⁵	21	13 4	21	13 4	21	13 4	21	13 4	17	4 54
Correspondence ⁶	3	16 0	4	3 0	4	4 6	6	5 0	3	15 0
Works ⁷										
Salmon fishings ⁸	85	12 10	50	4 3	53	5 0				
Surveyors ⁹									21	3 86
Interest ¹⁰	35	0 0	35	0 0	35	0 0	35	0 0	35	0 0
Sundries										
Arrears carried forward ²	107	12 7	102	10 34	92	11 110	50	3 11	11	10 92
Arrears written off ¹¹							56	15 0		
Remitted to cashier ¹¹	434	8 0	385	15 7	556	17 6	513	10 7	418	19 3
Total	848	19 82	730	1 48	849	5 22*	787	9 57	596	4 81§
Credit carried forward	48	7 56	65	13 118	7	1 102	0	6 39	152	15 0
Debit carried forward										
Date fitted	3 & 19 Feb.		3 & 19 Feb.		6 & 15 July		27 July, 15		26 Decr.	
	1772.		1772.		1773.		Aug. & 6		1774.	
							Sept, 1774.			

* Error of 1d. § Error of 03d.

NOTES

1. Rent. The variation in the total is explained by the new set of Whitsunday 1766. A further £10.6.8 was added in 1773, when the salmon fishings were set to John Mackenzie, merchant in Inverness, at £27, as against the old rent of £16.13.4.

2. Arrears. The greater part of these arrears involved Robert Gray of Creich, tacksman of Ardvar, Cromalt, Eadar à Chalda and Glenleraig from 1766 to 1775. He was due £56.15 in 1768, and although he paid this off he incurred the same in 1769. This £56.15 remained due in 1770 and 1771. It was written off in the Factor's Account for 1772, when it was noted as having been submitted to arbitration between the Countess' Tutors and Gray. A decret arbitral of 26 July 1773 settled this dispute, together with others involving lands in East Sutherland; after various deductions (not affecting the Assynt rents) Gray was found liable to pay this arrears. In the meantime, however, Ardloch had become involved in a separate lawsuit with Gray (*supra*, xxxviii-xl).

The remaining arrears were miscellaneous, and seldom carried over from one year's account to the next. But the slowness with which the accounts were settled makes any deduction from this rather misleading. The accounts for 1774 and 1775 have not survived, but in a letter of 21st February 1774 Ardloch gave the total arrears outstanding on 17 February as £382.10.5, including Robert Gray's disputed £56.15, which he had apparently not yet been instructed to write off. The fitted accounts show nothing of arrears of this magnitude. When Capt. James Sutherland accounted for 1776 there were arrears of £98.13.2² only outstanding.

3. Deductions from rent. During the years 1764 to 1772 £16.13.4 was deducted from the rent, as the salmon fishings were in the Countess' hands. From 1768 onwards a further deduction of 13/4 was allowed, on account of an error in thirling Achmelvich to the mill of Clashnessie, when the tenants already ground at the mill of Culag; the actual allowance given in 1768 was £2, to cover the first three years of the set of 1766.

4. Feu-duties. In 1761 Earl William created seven superiorities in Assynt, so designed as to enfranchise the holders under the provisions of the Statute of 1742 (16 Geo. II, c.11), which stipulated that every claimant of a vote in elections in the county of Sutherland should be infeft in £200 Scots at least of valued rent, held either of the King, the Prince, or a Peer or Body Politick incapable by themselves of voting in elections. The feu-duties in the accounts represent 3/4 yearly, paid to the Hon. James Wemyss of Wemyss, Eric Lord Duffus, Major George Sutherland of Rearquhar, Capt. James Sutherland of the 38th Regiment (the Countess' commissioner in Sutherland), William Mackenzie of Belmaduthy, Major Charles Ross, and Capt. John Sutherland of Forse.

5. Salaries. Ardloch received an annual salary of £15. A ground-officer was paid £2.4.5⁴, and between 1768 and 1772 two wood-keepers also received the same sum each.

6. Correspondence. Ardloch had an annual allowance of 10/- for paper, pen and ink, and in addition paid postages and also runners for journeys to the east coast. Thus in 1767 Finlay Macra, runner, received 30/- sterling 'for going Twelve times from here to Different places in the Low Country of Ross and Sutherland with Letters', and John Macleod, runner, 15/- for going six times to the post office at Tain. In 1768 Macra was retained at a fee of 1/- per week. Capt. Sutherland appointed a new post to run between Assynt and Dornoch and Dunrobin in 1773, at a fee of £2.

7. Works. Under the terms of the tacks given by Earl William in 1759, four mills were erected, at Aldnuagh, Culag, Clashnessie and Eadar à Chalda, the tenants of the various farms being thirled to them. In the set of 1775 the thirlage was replaced by a dry multure.

8. Salmon fishings. The fishings on the Inver and the Kirkaig, with an old rent of 300 merks (£16.13.4 sterling), were in the proprietor's hands in 1764. Letters in *Nat. Lib. Scot. MS.1319* suggest that they had been retained since the set of 1759. In 1773 they were set to John Mackenzie, merchant in Inverness, for seven years, at an augmented rent of £27. Ardloch's accounts do not state the receipts from the fishings, but the Sutherland Law Agent's Accounts give the following figures: 1766—£28; 1767—£64.14; 1768—£61.12; 1769—£51.16; 1770—£95.18. The net profit, when set against the expenditure in the Factor's Accounts, was therefore small. Only in 1767 and 1770 did it exceed the old rent, whilst in 1769 there was a heavy loss.

MS. 1319, and the correspondence of the Sutherland factors and Edinburgh agents, contain many references to the difficulties of the Assynt fishings. Their yield was only moderate, and markets were difficult to find at so great a distance. A proposal to combine the yearly catch with that of the Sutherland fishings on the Naver proved impracticable; fish from the latter river were more easily taken overland to Helmsdale and shipped there. Even the introduction of fishers from the Moray Firth, and heavy expenditure on the cruives and other installations, failed to improve the situation, and it was probably in the light of this that the decision was taken to set the fishings again. Many years' neglect during the sequestration had not improved matters, for the tenants on the forfeited estate of Coigach had persistently fished the Kirkaig (by spearing) without authority. The rent was not increased when the fishings were re-set in 1780.

9. Surveyors. These expenses relate to the visits to Assynt by John Kirk in 1773, and John Hume in 1774. The rents of Assynt were 'behindhand rents', being due for the crop and year at Martinmas, but not being paid until six months later, when the cattle had been sold. Expenses incurred up to the following Martinmas were therefore set against the revenue for the preceding crop and year.

10. Interest. This interest was paid under a bond for £700 sterling given by Earl William to Ardloch on 7 June 1764, in return for a cash loan. When Ardloch was relieved of his factory in June 1776, a process for payment of his arrears was raised against him, containing a declarator of extinction of this bond (Tutors' Minute of 15 January 1777). The case had not been settled when Ardloch died on 21 May 1778.

11. Remittances to cashier. The transmission of money from the Highlands to Edinburgh was always troublesome. In the case of an estate such as Assynt, where the proprietor did not reside and the whole free revenue had to be sent to Edinburgh, the difficulties were considerable. Capt. Sutherland wrote to Alexander Mackenzie, W.S., the Edinburgh law agent and cashier, on 20 June 1771 that 'Ardloch wrote to yow and me last year or the year before that he wanted opportunity to remit the Rents South, and both yow and I thought that his sending the money here (i.e. Dunrobin) was his safest and most speedy way.' An analysis of the receipts in the Law Agent's Accounts shows that this was in fact sometimes done, but unfortunately precise details are not consistently given. On other occasions bills drawn by the Assynt tacksmen on correspondents in the South were used. But Ardloch's letters show that the normal method was to draw on the proceeds of the droving trade. On 30 May 1760, shortly after the Earl had taken possession, Ardloch advised John Mackenzie of Delvine, then law agent and cashier, that 'if his Lordship would have Compleat Payments let him (as all

Highland Masters do) Order Preference to the Factor on Some Drover of Credit in the Rent Cattle, for when the Tennents are at full freedome as now here they squander a good deal of the Ready Money they get' (*Nat. Lib. Scot. MS.* 1319). During the difficult year 1774, he wrote to Capt. Sutherland (18 February 1774): 'Ever since the Year 1765 the Tennants on this Estate have been falling gradually back in their payments So as the Rents 1772 were only clear'd by the Droving of this year 1773, and the Rents of 1773 shall only be clear'd by the Droving of this year 1774.' Many of the Sutherland tacksmen, including Lieut. Charles Gordon of Skelpick (tacksmen of Rientraid, 1766-75), were engaged in the droving trade, and a study of the Factor's Accounts for the main Sutherland estate suggests that the failure of the droving in 1772, and the consequent inability of the drovers to pay any money to the cashier in Edinburgh when they came north again in November and December, was the immediate cause of a very serious financial crisis on the estate. A. R. B. Haldane, *The Drove Roads of Scotland* (Edinburgh, 1952), chapter 3, discusses the economics of droving.

An analysis of these accounts shows that the local expenses of the Assynt estate were not high. With one exception, Ardloch was always able to remit over £350 to Edinburgh, on a rental of under £700. There is, however, a degree of artificiality in these figures. The accounts were made up well after the close of the year to which they refer, and remittances entered in any given year were often made long afterwards. Thus the payments for 1771 included two sums of £221.5 on 11 September 1772 and £234 on 11 March 1773. The loss of the accounts for 1774 and 1775 prevents any assessment of the cumulative effect of this delay, but it is significant that the Law Agent's Accounts record only four payments, amounting in all to £440, between the last payment set against the 1773 account (made on 23 November 1774) and the end of Ardloch's factory in June 1776. This suggests that Ardloch was probably a whole year in arrears when the end came.

Further, under the terms of Lady Strathnaver's purchase of Assynt (*supra*, xvii), the estate was burdened with an annual tack duty of £600, which represented the interest on the purchase price of £12,000 sterling. Together with stipend and public burdens this created a charge of some £660 on a rental which until 1766 came to substantially less than this figure. Although the tack duty lapsed on Lady Strathnaver's death in 1765, the capital outlay on Assynt considerably reduced the inheritance which Earl William received from his grandmother. If the tack duty be taken into account, it is clear that Assynt was not a profitable purchase.

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Note.—Where two versions are given of a place-name, that in brackets is the Ordnance Survey (One-Inch, Popular Edition) equivalent of the eighteenth-century name. Where a single place-name is given in inverted commas, no equivalent exists on the Ordnance Survey map. Single place-names not in inverted commas are given in modern spelling.

Personal names which appear only in Appendix A, Table 5, are not indexed. In indexing personal names no distinction has been made between variant forms of 'Mac'.

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REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH HISTORY SOCIETY

THE SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of the SCOTTISH HISTORY SOCIETY was held in the Rooms of the Royal Society on *Saturday, 14th December 1957* at 3 p.m.

Dr. H. W. Meikle, C.B.E., D.Litt, LL.D., President of the Society, was in the Chair.

The Report of the Council was as follows :

At the beginning of October members received as the Volume for 1954-55 *Early Records of Aberdeen, 1317 and 1398-1407*, edited by Professor W. Croft Dickinson. Consisting mainly of the proceedings of the Burgh Court, these records constitute a mine of information for the social and economic history of Scotland in the fourteenth century, while the scholarly introduction is a major contribution to constitutional studies of mediaeval Scotland. The valuable index was prepared by Mr. M. R. Dobie, who refused to accept more than a small fee for this arduous work. Towards the cost of the volume, which slightly exceeds £1000, the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland has generously made a grant of £200.

Miscellany Volume IX, which will follow, is in proof and should be ready for issue next autumn. As intimated in the last Report it will consist of the following five items : *Papers Relating to the Captivity and Release of David II*, edited by Dr. E. W. M. Balfour-Melville ; *Accounts of Sir Duncan Forestar of Skipinch (Comptroller to James IV)*,

1495-1499, edited by Mr. P. Gouldesbrough ; *Report by De La Brosse and D'Oysel on Conditions in Scotland, 1559-60*, edited by Miss G. Dickinson ; *Diary of Sir James Hope*, edited by Mr. P. Marshall ; and *An Account of Proceedings from the Landing of Prince Charles Edward to the Battle of Prestonpans*, edited by Mr. D. Nicholas.

The Miscellany Volume will be followed by a volume of *Wigtown Charters*, which Mr. R. C. Reid is engaged in editing. Another volume of *Scottish Supplications to Rome* is being edited by Dr. Annie I. Dunlop, of which the cost will be met from the special fund which she is generously contributing. For a future volume the Council have under consideration *John Home's Survey of Assynt, c. 1774*, to be edited by Mr. R. J. Adam. They are also negotiating with the University of St. Andrews regarding a proposal to purchase and issue to members copies of the forthcoming Faculty of Arts *Acta*, edited by Mrs. Dunlop.

Members of Council who retire in rotation at this time are Professor Croft Dickinson, Dr. C. A. Malcolm and Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, Bt. The Council recommend their re-election.

During the past year 8 members have died and 3 have resigned. The names of 2 others have been removed from the list on failure to pay their subscriptions ; 48 new members have joined the Society. The total membership, including 162 libraries, is now 450, a net increase of 35.

An Abstract of the Accounts, as audited, is appended.

In presenting the Annual Report, Dr. E. W. M. Balfour-Melville, Chairman of Council, said that there were too many readers who preferred to consult the Society's volumes in a library rather than pay a guinea a year to make their production possible. The large proportion of

members who were not primarily scholars but had a general interest in Scottish history might prefer fewer charters and mediaeval records and rather more 'chatty' volumes. The Council was always glad to hear of manuscripts of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries suitable for publication. There had been a net increase of 35 members during the year chiefly due to 29 members of the Third Spalding Club having joined.

Professor G. S. Pryde, in seconding, said that they deplored the cessation of the Third Spalding Club, they wished continuing life to such local publishing Societies as were left, but if any had to wind up their affairs he thought the Scottish History Society was the proper residuary legatee.

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

The President then delivered an address entitled 'Scotland without the Covenanters'. He said that this was a supplement to his David Murray lecture at Glasgow University on 'Some Aspects of later seventeenth-century Scotland'. In it he had adduced several features of that period which tended to modify at least the accepted view that it was 'the most pitiful in our annals'. One characteristic of the government of the later Stewarts was the gradual extension of the scope of its activities. The 'Drunken' Parliament of the Restoration, for example, enacted statute labour which improved the maintenance of the roads. More important were the four Enclosure Acts, passed between 1661 and 1686. For the first time in Scotland a co-terminous proprietor was compelled to share the expense of a mutual fence or dyke. As a result, proprietors of the larger estates in the Lowlands began to enclose their lands and plant trees, which eventually effected a complete change in the appearance of the

countryside. These Acts were also part of the means whereby the improving landlords of the next century brought about an agricultural revolution. John Reid in his delightful *Scots Gard'ner* (1683), the first book on gardening published in Scotland, pointed out to 'the Ingenious Planters in Scotland' the 'inexpressible' need for enclosing and planting. He gave practical details for the construction of a formal garden, then common in England. His imaginative view of a suitable house with its dining room, two withdrawing rooms, a library and several bedrooms was typical of a time when the fortified tower or keep of earlier days was being adapted for a more comfortable and gracious way of life. Palatial mansions in the classical style, originating in France, were also being erected. They necessitated an architect, a new profession in Scotland, replacing the master mason working on traditional lines. Such buildings showed that Scotland in this as in other respects was within the orbit of European culture despite bitter religious strife and tyrannical government. In conclusion Dr. Meikle said that a general social history of the seventeenth century was a clamant need of Scottish historiography.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the President.

ABSTRACT ACCOUNT of CHARGE and DISCHARGE
of the INTROMISSIONS of the HONORARY
TREASURER for the year from 1st November
1956 to 31st October 1957.

I. GENERAL ACCOUNT.

CHARGE.

I. Cash in Bank at 1st November 1956 :—	
1. Sum at credit of Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	£482 17 6
2. Sum at credit of Current Account with Bank of Scotland	245 2 8
3. Cash in hands of Bank of Scotland to meet postages	0 6 11
	<hr/>
	£728 7 1
II. Subscriptions received	477 12 4
III. Past Publications sold (including postages recovered from purchasers)	30 8 4
IV. Interest on Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	13 14 2
V. Refund of Income Tax	63 11 0
VI. Grant from Carnegie Trust for the Uni- versities of Scotland towards Volume 49	200 0 0
VII. Miscellaneous	0 4 1
VIII. Sums drawn from Bank Current Account	<u>£800 8 6</u>
IX. Sums drawn from Bank Savings Account	<u>—</u>
	<hr/>
	<u>£1513 17 0</u>

DISCHARGE

I. Cost of Publications during year . . .	£691 18 8
Cost of printing Annual Report, Receipt Forms and Printers' postages, etc. . .	35 17 7
	<hr/>
	£727 16 3
II. Miscellaneous Payments	71 17 2
III. Sums lodged in Bank Current Account	£771 15 9
IV. Sums lodged in Bank Savings Account	<u>£13 14 2</u>
V. Funds at close of this Account :—	
1. Balance at credit of Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	£496 11 8
2. Balance at credit of Current Account with Bank of Scotland	216 9 11
3. Cash in hands of Bank of Scotland to meet current postages	<u>1 2 0</u>
	714 3 7
	<hr/>
	<u>£1513 17 0</u>

II. DR. ANNIE I. DUNLOP SPECIAL FUND ACCOUNT.

CHARGE.

I. Cash in Bank at 1st November 1956 :—

1. Sum at credit of Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	£200 0 0
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2. Sum at credit of Current Account with Bank of Scotland	20 11 6
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	£220 11 6
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II. Fifth payment received under Deed of Covenant dated 16th January 1953 .	100 0 0
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III. Interest on Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	8 10 6
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IV. Refund of Income Tax	73 18 3
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V. Sum drawn from Bank Savings Account .	<u>£128 0 0</u>
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VI. Sums drawn from Bank Current Account	<u>£129 5 6</u>
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	<u>£403 0 3</u>
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DISCHARGE.

I. Cost of Publication during year	£128 15 6	
II. Miscellaneous payment	0 10 0	
III. Sums lodged in Bank Savings Account	<u>£128 8 9</u>	
IV. Sums lodged in Bank Current Account	<u>£128 0 0</u>	
V. Funds at close of this Account :—		
1. Balance at credit of Savings Account with Bank of Scotland	£254 8 9	
2. Balance at credit of Current Account with Bank of Scotland	<u>19 6 0</u>	
		<u>273 14 9</u>
		<u>£403 0 3</u>

EDINBURGH, 6th November 1957.—I have examined the General Account and Dr. Annie I. Dunlop Special Fund Account of the Honorary Treasurer of the Scottish History Society for the year from 1st November 1956 to 31st October 1957, and I find the same to be correctly stated and sufficiently vouched.

HENRY M. PATON,
Auditor.

Scottish History Society

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1st November 1957

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