

THEY WERE SCOTCH HIGHLANDERS

The first appearance of the name "Duguid" appeared in ancient chronicles in the 1300s in Scotland. From all evidence the family name originated in the Aberdeenshire area.

The Barony of Auchinrove has been held by the Duguids for hundreds of years and still is at the time of this writing (1972). The present Baron is living in New Zealand. He has a daughter, and the possibility of Auchinrove remaining a Duguid Barony depends on her progeny, i.e., having two sons. If her progeny does not include two sons, it will end Auchinrove as a Duguid Barony after all these hundreds of years... also Leslie of Balquhain.

The Barony of Balquhain which lies north of Auchinrove and is larger than Auchinrove was a Leslie Barony for hundreds of years but due to an advantageous marriage of a Duguid son to a Leslie daughter, it became a Duguid Barony also. This Barony contains the castle (just a shell and remnants... see sketch) today that was destroyed following the '45. Mary Queen of Scots slept in that castle.

Most unfortunately, the Duguid Barons joined the wrong side in the '45 and lost everything and were scattered overseas, etc. Their castles were destroyed. They had supported the Cause of Bonnie Prince Charles (The Pretender) and history has recorded the tragedy so well. Several of the Duguids went to France and later returned...hence, the legend here that the name was French...it is not..."it is Gaelic." The legend was a strong one and still persists today among well educated Scotlanders. I remember my grandfather, Barton, telling me about the origin of the name as being French and something about the Huguenots and again in his last years, when I had learned from the English author, Julian Duguid, that it was not French at all but Gaelic and that our people came from Scotland...that he seemed skeptical but did not argue the point. Of course, the legend has good basis in that Duguids had spent several years in France before it was safe to return to Scotland.

The name "Duguid" has always been a difficult one to spell. When I say always... I have observed it misspelled in many instances, ancient and modern. When the census taker of Brockville Township (later Fremont) did the 1840 Census, he spelled the three Duguid brothers...(pioneers)...surname..."DUCATT."

Guid in Scotch means "good" and I'm sure we've all taken a little kidding about the name, when it is pronounced "Do-good" as it quite commonly is. Actually in Scotland, it would be pronounced more closely to "Dugid."

L.S.D.