
Peter Anthony Kincaid

The similarity of Kincaid and Crawford coat of arms

Introduction

The following was originally prepared by this author on December 1, 2005 and posted on a Clan Kincaid website that was subsequently dismantled. Since the article was originally written new evidence was located that relates to this subject.

First of all, DNA evidence indicates that Kincaids do not descend from Crawfords. The largest group of DNA results for Kincaids have no relevant Crawford matches. Thus, Kincaids almost certainly did not originate with a Crawford in the male line. However, it remains possible that one of the early Kincaids married a Crawford heiress, or were otherwise strongly associated with the Crawfords, and assumed a variation of a Crawford coat of arms.

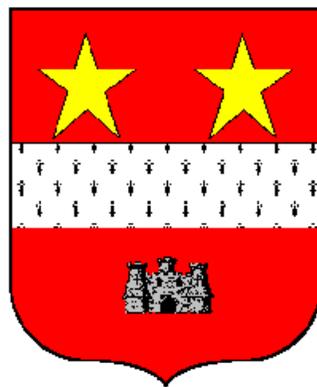
Second of all, a 19th century heraldic reference compiled by Robert Riddle Stodart has the following note relating to the Kincaid coat of arms in the Workman's MS. prepared about 1565/6:

"Kincaid of ye Touris (?). The last word has a line drawn through it, and "Ilk" is added in a different hand. L., there are three mullets in chief."¹

This suggests that the three mullets related to a cadet line. The Kincaids of Auchinreoch are suspected since the then Laird of Auchinreoch was married to Marion Touris. A latter descendant, Thomas Kincaid, surgeon of Edinburgh, also had the three mullets.

Regardless of these two points, the original article remains useful in determining the Kincaid origins. Thus, the article is presented again here in its entirety with the main change being with the sources. They are now given as footnotes and a couple are added or expanded on. Furthermore, since it can't be proven that Kincaids were a Clan, the author's three references of a Chief are now correctly given as Lairds of Kincaid or Kincaid of Kincaid. These changes are highlighted in yellow.

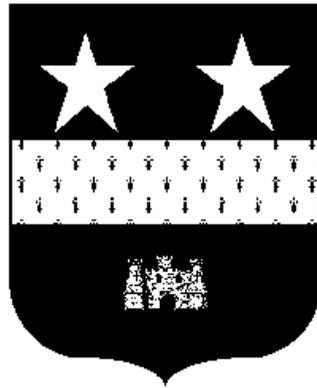
Original article



Kincaids of that Ilk (modern)

¹ Stodart, R[obert] R[idle]. *Scottish Arms being a collection of armorial bearings A.D. 1370-1678: Reproduced in facsimile from contemporary manuscripts with heraldic and genealogical notes.* Edinburgh: William Paterson, 1881. Volume second, page 117.

The modern coat of arms of the **Kincaid of Kincaid** is *Gules, a fess Ermine between two mullets in chief Or and a triple-towered castle in base Argent, masoned Sable*. A graphical representation of it is given above. These modern arms began with **John Kincaid of Kincaid** who matriculated his coat of arms on 29 July 1808 using the above blazon.² His son and heir, **John Lennox Kincaid**, was also the heir of the Lennox of Woodhead estates and thus, on 12 June 1833, matriculated the quartered arms of Kincaid of Kincaid and Lennox of Woodhead to give *Quarterly First and Fourth Argent a saltyr betwixt four Roses Gules barbed Vert; Second and Third Gules a fess Ermine between two mullets in chief Or and a triple-towered Castle in base Argent masoned Sable*.³ His great grandson, **Alwyne Cecil Peareth Kincaid-Lennox** was the next to matriculate. On 30 March 1960, he was granted coat of arms with *Gules, a fess Ermine between two mullets in Chief Or and a triple-towered castle in base Argent, masoned Sable*.⁴ These in turn went to his niece and successor, **Heather Veronica Peareth Kincaid-Lennox**, who matriculated on 16 August 1988.⁵ Heather, prior to her death, designated her granddaughter **Arabella Jane Lennox** her successor to these arms as Kincaid of Kincaid. Arabella matriculated on 20 January 2001 and she currently bears these arms.⁶



George Kincaid (1505/6)

The earliest record of coat of arms of this style given in printed sources is that attributed to **George Kincaid, senior, bailie for the barony of Broughton**. His seal given as "*A fess ermine between two stars in chief and a castle triple towered in base*" was appended to a document dated 10 January 1505-6.⁷ In 1521, **Edward Kincaid, sheriff-depute of Edinburgh** appended his seal bearing *a fess ermine, between two mullets in chief and a castle triple-towered in base* to a sasine of lands at Ratho in favor of William Halton.⁸

² Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 2, folio 23.

³ Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 3, folio 94.

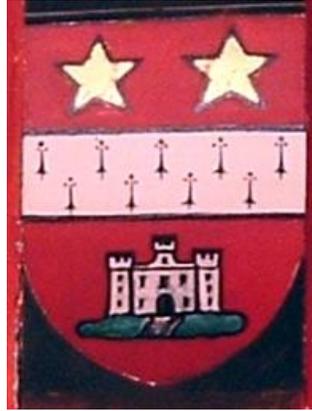
⁴ Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 43, folio 86.

⁵ Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 61, folio 115.

⁶ Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 82, folio 85.

⁷ Stevenson, John Horne and Marguerite Wood. *Scottish Heraldic Seals*. Glasgow, 1940. Volume II, p. 441.

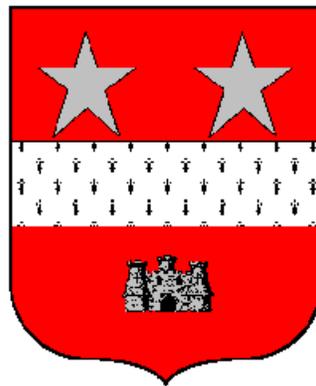
⁸ Laing, Henry. *Supplemental Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Scottish Seals: royal, baronial, ecclesiastical, and municipal: embracing the period from A.D. 1150 to the eighteenth century: taken from original charters and other deeds preserved in public and private archives*. Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas, 1866. p. 97.



Kincaid coat of arms in Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle

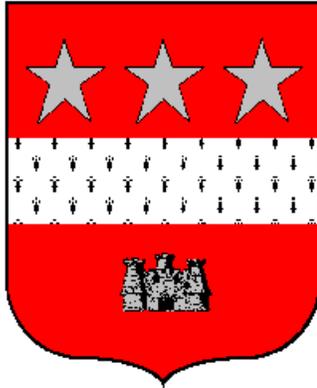
Kincaid coat of arms are also displayed on a corbal in the Great Hall of the Castle of Edinburgh. They are represented there as *Gules, a fess Ermine between two mullets in chief Or and a triple-towered castle in base Argent on a mount averdant*. The tradition is that the coat of arms in the Great Hall are that of the Governors of Edinburgh Castle. However, an examination of all 66 coats of arms by the author found that they represent both former Governors and Constables of the castle. There is an order to the shields. They are in chronological order with the earliest on the window side of the Hall and farthest away from the fireplace. Based on the order, the coat of arms were likely meant to represent **David Kincaid of Coates** who was Constable in 1542. The difference between his arms and that of the modern Kincaids of that Ilk is that the castle in base is not masoned and is on a green mount.

Located on the official website of *The Heraldry Society of Scotland* is a section titled "The Mitchell Rolls." This includes the transcription of the blazons in many of the early Scottish armorials. They are largely the wonderful contribution of Alex Maxwell Findlater. In the armorials in the Mitchell Rolls are a number of Kincaid and Crawford references which will be given below. Henceforth, unless otherwise cited, the source for any blazons from a noted armorial is "The Mitchell Rolls."

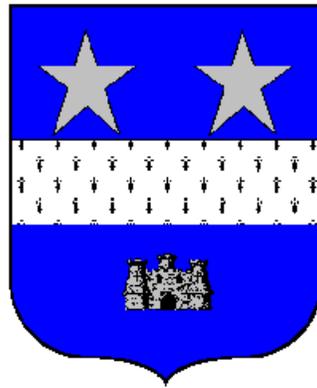


Kincaid of that Ilk (1542 & 1565)

The Armorial of David Lindsey of the Mount in 1542 gives for **kyncaid of yat ilke** *Gules, a fess Ermine between two mullets Argent in chief and a castle triple-towered also Argent in base*. Slains Armorial of 1565 has for **Kincaid of yt ilk** basically the same arms but blazoned as *Gules, a fess Ermine between two mullets Argent in chief and a castle triple-towered Argent masoned Sable in base*.



Kincaid of that Ilk (1562, 1599)



Keinkeid (1591)



Kincaid of that Ilk (1599)

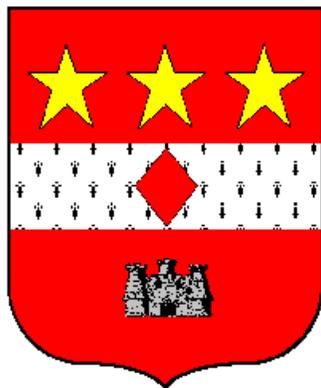
The Queen Mary's Roll of 1562 attributed to Sir Robert Foreman has for **Kincaide of yat ilk** *Gules a fess Ermine between three mullets in chief and a castle triple-towered in base all Argent*. These same arms are attributed to Kincaid in the Dunvegan Armorial owned by The McLeod of McLeod and dated circa 1600. Forman's Armorial of 1563 in the Advocates Library does not have any Kincaids. The Seton Armorial of 1591 has for **keinkeid** *Azure, a fess Ermine between two mullets in chief and a castle triple-towered in base all Argent*. The armorial David Lindsay of the Mount secundus of 1599 has for **Kincaid of that Ilk** *Azure a fess Ermine between three mullets Or in chief and a castle triple towered Argent in base*.



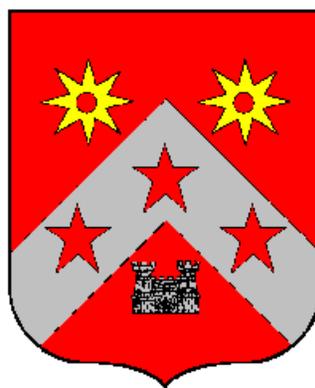
In the Clachan of Campsie cemetery is a large tomb which is sealed with the gravestones of the Kincaids of that Ilk in the early 1600s. The first stone bears the coat of arms of James Kincaid of that Ilk who died 13 February 1604 along with that of his wife. The inscription reads "HEIR LYIS ANE HONORABIL MAN JAMES KINKAID OF THAT ILK QVHA DESISIT YE 13 OF FEBROVAR ANNO 1604." His arms, shown above, clearly carries the fess between two mullets in chief and a triple-towered castle on a mount in base. It can be shown from surviving records that he was Kincaid of that Ilk from at least 1570 so this arms is at odds with that given in the armorial of David Lindsey of the Mount, secundus in 1599.



The next stone bears the coats of arms of the next two **Lairds of Kincaid**. Both are impaled coats. The inscription around this stone reads "HEIR LYIS ANE HONORABIL MAN JAMES KINCAID OF THAT ILK QVHA DESISIT YE 9 OF JANVAR ANNO 1606." His coat of arms was the impaled arms of Kincaid and Leslie of Rothes; his wife Christian Leslie, was a daughter of George Leslie, 4th Earl of Rothes.⁹ The Kincaid portion of this arms is a fess between two mullets in chief and a tower in base. The second coat of arms on this stone is that of his son Sir James Kincaid of that Ilk and is the impaled arms of Kincaid and Hamilton; his wife Dame Margaret Hamilton was the eldest daughter of Sir Robert Hamilton of Goslingtown.¹⁰



Thomas Kincaid, Surgeon



Alexander Kincaid, Lord Provost

From here we get only a couple of Kincaid coats of arms. **Thomas Kincaid, surgeon of Edinburgh** bore *Gules, on a fess Ermine a lozenge of the Field, between three mullets in chief Or and a triple-towered castle Argent masoned Sable in base*.¹¹ Next came **Alexander Kincaid, Lord Provost of Edinburgh** who matriculated on 2 December 1776 *Gules, on a chevron Argent three stars of the Field between two spur rowels Or in chief and in base a castle of the second masoned Sable*.¹² Alexander's matriculation specifically states that the chevron with the mullets was chosen in recognition of his marriage with Caroline Kerr, daughter of Lord Charles Kerr of Gamond.

Clearly all the coats of arms illustrated above vary around the theme of a fess Ermine between two mullets in chief and

⁹ National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK. CS. 7/45, fol. 414: Register of Acts and Decrees of Court of Session, 1st series.

¹⁰ National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK. GD243/1/3 no. 7.

¹¹ Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 1, folio 344.

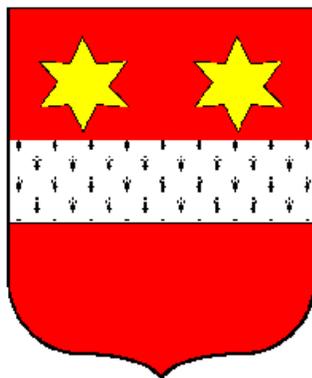
¹² Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, vol. 1, folio 345.

a triple-towered castle in base. We will now illustrate that the theme is almost the same as that of the Crawfords.

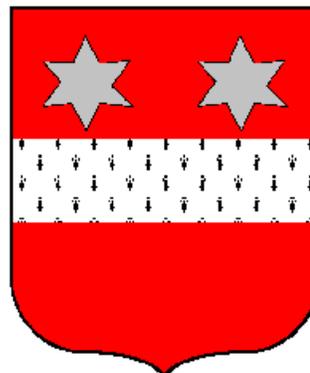


Crawford coat of arms in Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle

Also in the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle is a coat of arms which chronologically fits in the early 1400s. This would seem to be that of **Sir William Crauford of Haining** who is listed as a Keeper from 1404 to perhaps up to 1416 or that of his brother **Robert Crauford, Constable of Edinburgh Castle** in 1407.¹³ The coat of arms as displayed in the Great Hall is *Gules a Fess Ermine and in chief two stars Argent*. One has to be cautious in that the coat of arms presented in the Great Hall were that of what was believed to be correct for the person when either 1) the hall was constructed in the 16th century of 2) restored in the 19th century. Thus, the earlier ones may not be accurate.



Craufurd of Lochnorris



Coat of Arms in Great Hall

It is interesting that Alexander Nesbit in his heraldic work notes that the castle in the Kincaid coat of arms is in memory of the honorable exploits with the capture of Edinburgh Castle.¹⁴ Thus the castle was added to the coat of arms. Taking the castle away you get the arms rendered above that are in the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle. However, Alexander Nesbit attributes to the Craufurd's of Lochnorris, also known as Lefnoris or Leifnoreis; *Gules a Fess Ermine, and in chief, two Stars Or*.¹⁵ This blazon also differs very little from the coat of arms in the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle; the difference being the tincture of the stars. However, Slains Armorial of 1565 has for **Craufurd of auchnoris** simply *Gules, a fess Ermine*. Furthermore, the armorial of David Lindsay of the Mount, secundus has for **Craufurd of Lasnories** *Quarterly 1st and 4th, Gules a fess Ermine, 2nd and 3rd Azure a stag's head erased Or*.

¹³ *Rotuli Scaccarii Regum Scotorum: The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*. Volume 4 (1406-1436) & Fraser, William. *The Douglas Book*. Edinburgh, 1885. Vol. III (Charters): p. 405, no. 356.

¹⁴ Nisbet, Alexander. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: with the true art of blazon, according to the most approved heralds in Europe*. 2 vols. Edinburgh: Printed for J. MackEuen, 1722. Vol. 1: 420-421.

¹⁵ Nesbit, Alexander. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: with the True Art of Blazon, according to the Most approved Herald's in Europe...* Edinburgh: J. MackEuen, 1722. p. 57.

It is also possible that the differencing that occurred was not an outright augmentation by a charge in base but a substitution of a charge with a different charge in base. In this case the coat of arms could be derived from the **William de Crawford** who appears in the Ragman Rolls as having rendered homage in 1296. In *Scottish Armorial Seals* he is noted as having had coat of arms given as *a fess ermine between three stars*.¹⁶ Based on Alexander Nesbit's work it seems that the later Crawfords who had coat of arms most similar to that of the 1296 William Crawford were the Crawfords of Ardmillan (alias of Bedland) who carried *Gules on a fess Ermine between three mullets Argent two crescents interlaced of the Field*.¹⁷



William de Crawford (1296)

However, Alexander Nesbit in the same heraldic work identifies the William de Crawford who rendered homage to King Edward I in 1296 to be the ancestor of the Crawfords of Haining.¹⁸ He writes the following.

William de Crawford, I take this to be the branch of the *Crawfords of Loudon*, who were afterward designed of *Haining in Stirling Shire*, which became one of the most considerable Families of the Name of Crawford. It came to end in an Heiress in the Time of Queen Mary. She married *Thomas Livingston* Son to the Lord *Livingston*, of whom came the *Crawford Livingstons of Haining*, of them are the *Crawfords of Lochcoat*, and the other *Crawfords in Linlithgow*. Of them also *Nicol Crawford of Oxgang*, Justice Clerk in King James V's Time.

It will later be shown from surviving records that he was accurate about the part where the Crawfords of Haining ending with an heiress who married Thomas Livingston. The Crawfords of Loudon are frequently noted as the chief line of the Crawfords from and of which the mother of William Wallace was closely tied to. However, Alexander Nesbit seems to have erred in that, as will be shown, the early Crawfords of Haining did not have three stars or mullets but one.

¹⁶ MacDonald, William Rae. *Scottish Armorial Seals*. Edinburgh: William Green and Sons, 1904.

¹⁷ Nesbit, Alexander. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: with the True Art of Blazon, according to the Most approved Heralds in Europe...* Edinburgh: J. MackEuen, 1722. p. 57.

¹⁸ Nesbit, Alexander. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: with the True Art of Blazon, according to the Most approved Heralds in Europe...* Edinburgh: J. MackEuen, 1722.

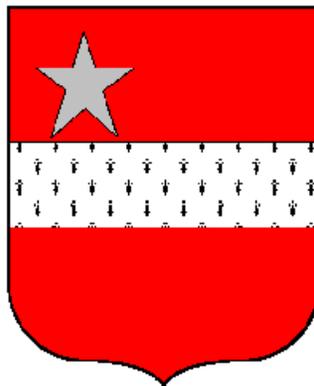


Archibald Crawford, Abbot of Holyrood

First of all, *Scottish Armorial Seals* gives the armorial seal of **Archibald Crawford, Abbot of Holyrood** as "A fess ermine with a star in dexter chief (and possibly another in sinister chief)."¹⁹ A brief biography of Archibald Crawford is given in *The Liber Cartarum Sancte Crucis Munimenta Ecclesie Sancte Crucis de Edwinesburg*.²⁰ It reads as follows:

ARCHIBALDUS de Crawford legitur Abbas Sanctae Crucis, ad annum 1457. He was a son of Sir William Crawford of Haining in the barony of Maxwell; he was first prior of Halyrudhouse, then Abbot. In 1459 he was one of the commissioners sent to treat with the English at Coventry about the prorogation of a truce. In 1474, a treaty being set on foot, in virtue of a marriage betwixt James Duke of Rothesay, Earle of Carrik and Lord Cunningham, and Princesse Cecil, 3d daughter of King Edward the 4th of England, Abbot Crawford was one of the Commissioners appointed for Scotland. In 1474 he was Lord high Thresaurer. In 1476, the last day of January, he is impowrd by King James to receive in the Church of St. Giles of Edinburgh, the 3d day of February next, the soume of 2000 marks English money, owing by King Edward the same day, as a part of Payment of 20,000 marks, because of matrimony betwixt his only son and heir, and Princess Cecile. He died in the beginning of 1483, (and was succeeded by Robert Ballantin of the house of Achinoul, a very worthy man) he build the abbay church from the ground.

He built the Abbey church that now stands, about 1460, or thereby. Upon it we see his arms ingraven above thirty times.



Craufurds of Haining (1542, 1562)

It is clear that this biographer misread Maxwell for Manwell. He was specific in that Archibald, Abbot of Holyrood

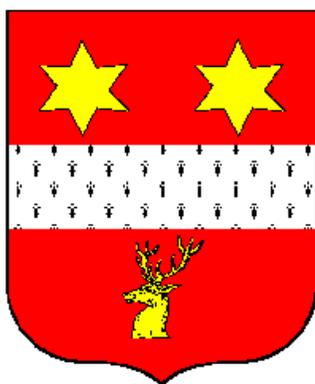
¹⁹ MacDonal, William Rae. *Scottish Armorial Seals*. Edinburgh: William Green and Sons, 1904. p. 60.

²⁰ *Liber Cartarum Sancte Crucis Munimenta Ecclesie Sancte Crucis de Edwinesburg*. Edinburgh, 1840. p. xxxi.

was a son of Sir William Crawford of Haining. Next we turn to the early armorials for evidence of the coat of arms of the Crawfords of Haining and we learn that they are indeed like that of Archibald, Abbot of Holyrood. The first located reference to this arms is in the Armorial de Berry of 1450 which has one **Guilleme crafort** as *Gules, a fess Ermine and in dexter chief a mullet of six points Argent*. From there we then have the Scots Roll of 1455 giving for **Crafurd** *Gules, a fess Ermine and in dexter chief a mullet Argent*. Then we get blazons specific to the Crawfords of Haining. The armorial of David Lindsey of the Mount in 1542 has **craufurde of hanyng** as *Gules, a fess ermine and in dexter chief a mullet Argent*. The Queen Mary's Roll of 1562 attributed to Sir Robert Foreman has for **Craufurd of Haining** *Gules, a fess ermine and in dexter chief a mullet Argent*. Forman's Armorial of 1563 in the Advocates Library has for **Cruvfurd of Hanyng** *Gules, a fess ermine and in dexter chief a mullet Argent*. Thus, it is clear that up to this point the Craufurds of Haining were clearly noted as having one star only with it being in the dexter chief.

However, after this point the coat of arms changed. Slains Armorial of 1565 has for **Crafurd of haning** *Gules, a fess Ermine and in chief two mullets Or*. The old arms are then simply identified as Craufurd with the Seton Armorial of 1591 giving for **Craufurd** *Gules, a fess Ermine and in dexter chief a mullet Argent*. Clearly something occurred in the early 1560s to cause a change in the coats of arms of both the Crawfords and the Kincaids. We can get an idea of why the Crawfords of Haining went to two gold stars by looking at the arms of his descendantss.

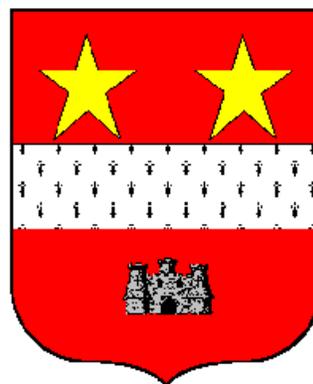
We have representations of the coat of arms of two branches of **Sir William Craufurd of Haining** who was Keeper of Edinburgh Castle at the beginning of the 15th century; namely that of Haining and of Ferme. They are presented below in pictorial format with Kincaids of that Ilk again given alongside for an easy comaparison..



Craufurd of Haining



William Craufurd of Ferme and Flaschis



Kincaids of that Ilk (modern)

The above arms of the Craufurds of Haining were recorded by Alexander Nesbit as "*Gules a Fess Ermine, betwixt two Stars in chief, and a Hart's-Head couped in Base Or.*"²¹ He cites the Workman's manuscript. This would be Mr. Workman's Manuscript of 1565/66 held at that Lord Lyon's Office. However, it is important to note that on 16 August 1546, *Agnes Craufuird* was served heir to her father William Craufuird of Haining in the lands of Manwell; namely the lands of Haning, Mawdestoun, Nicoltoun, Gillandersland, Manwelrig, Gilmudiland, wester Ballinbreicht and the mill of Manwell.²² She married Thomas Livingstoun as, on 16 November 1561, Agnes Craufurd of Hanyng and Thomas Levingstoun, her husband, granted the lands of *Gillanderisland* in the lordship of Hanyng and barony of Manwell to Mr. William Creichtoun, rector of Colquhodilstane.²³ On 26 October 1602, their son, *Thomas Levingstoun de Hanyng*, was served her to his mother in the lands of Manuel.²⁴ It is clear that the lands of Haining

²¹ Nesbit, Alexander. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: with the True Art of Blazon, according to the Most approved Heralds in Europe...* Edinburgh: J. MackEuen, 1722. p. 57.

²² Scotland. Chancery. *Inquisitionvm ad capellam domini regis retornatarvm, qvae in publicis archivis Scotiae adhvc servantvr, abbrevatio ...* Printed by command of His Majesty King George III. in pursuance of an address of the House of commons of Great Britain. 3 vol. London : s.n., 1811-16. Vol. 2: Stirling, no. 2.

²³ "Protocol Book of Nicol Thounis 1559-1564." Ed. James Beveridge and James Russell. Edinburgh: Printed for the Society by J. Skinner & Company, Ltd., 1927. *Scottish Record Society*. 57: no. 52, p. 12.

²⁴ Scotland. Chancery. *Inquisitionvm ad capellam domini regis retornatarvm, qvae in publicis archivis Scotiae adhvc servantvr, abbrevatio ...* Printed by command of His Majesty King George III. in pursuance of an address of the House of commons of Great Britain. 3 vol. London : s.n., 1811-16. Vol. 2: Stirling, no. 36.

passed out of the Crawford family through the heiress of William Craufurd of Haining. The coat of arms given in the Workman's manuscript would have to relate to a predecessor of Agnes Craufurd who married Thomas Livingston prior to 1546.

Sir William Crawford of Haining also held the lands of Ferme. The *Exchequer Rolls* record that Sir William Craufurd of Haining and Ferme, keeper of Edinburgh Castle, received the annuity of Earl of Douglas by indenture with customars.²⁵ William acquired the lands of Ferme from Archibald, Earl of Douglas on 21 May 1400.²⁶ Later we find the seal of his successor in the lands; namely William Crawford, Lord of Ferme and Flaschis. It was appended to a document dated 6 December 1506 is recorded in *Scottish Heraldic Seals* as "A fess ermine between two stars in chief and a fleur-de-lis in base."²⁷ The *Scottish Heraldic Seals* show examples of these arms continuing with the Crawfords of Ferme down to the end of the 16th century.

Thus, the lands of Haining and Ferme held by Sir William of Craufurd, Keeper of Edinburgh Castle, continued in possession of the Craufurds as two separate lines for well over 100 years. In terms of coat of arms for the two branches the coat of arms for Ferme branch has documentation back to at least 1506 and they contained two mullets. On the other hand the Crawfords of Haining were documented up to 1563 as having one mullet in dexter chief and then they switched to two mullets. Certainly the Crawfords of Haining were the senior branch as the lands of Haining and Manuel were the principal lands of the patriarch Sir William Crawford. One can see how a junior branch may have differenced their arms with the two mullets. Regardless, when the Haining branch ended in an heiress in 1546 it seems that the writers of the armorials changed the blazon to be more in tune with the junior Ferme branch. However, this brings both lines too close to that of the Kincaids of that Ilk and the armorials from the mid 1560s forward to the end of the century seem to try to compensate by adding an extra mullet to the Kincaid arms or changing the field color to azure. However, clearly the **Lairds of Kincaid** held firm to the two mullets as evidenced by the tomb stones in the Clachan of Campsie cemetery and were able to gain official recognition in the 1800s.

In the end the coat of arms of the two branches of Sir William Crawford of Haining and Ferme are different only by the charge in base. They are most similar to that of the Kincaids of that Ilk. Again, the difference being the charge in base and the use of mullets versus stars. The Kincaids ended up with mullets which have five points versus the stars which have six points (thus mullets are stars with five points). As the Crawfords of Haining in the 1542 and 1562 armorials used stars, it is clear that they were basically interchangeable. Thus, each family has a different augmentation to the basic coat of arms of Gules a Fess Ermine, and in chief, two stars or mullets Or. Since the coat of arms of the Kincaids of that Ilk are most similar to the coat of arms of that of the Crawfords of Haining and Ferme., this suggests that either 1) the Kincaids descend from a common ancestor of these Crawfords either in the direct male line or through a heiress or 2) that the Kincaids assumed a coat of arms similar to that of their Crawford superior.

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70 Royal Road
Fredericton, NB
Canada
E3A 4V2
7kincaid@nb.sympatico.ca

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²⁵ *Rotuli Scaccarii Regum Scotorum: The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*. Volume 4 (1406-1436). pp. 19, 42, 115, 176, 252.

²⁶ Fraser, William. *The Douglas Book*. Vol. III (Charters). Edinburgh, 1885. no. 342. p. 401.

²⁷ Stevenson, John Horne and Marguerite Wood. *Scottish Heraldic Seals*. Volume two: Personal Seals A-J. Glasgow, 1949. p. 298.