Village names   Fig. 5

Names containing ON bólstaðr 'a farm'   Fig. 7

Names containing ON staðir 'a farm'   Fig. 6

Names containing ON setr/sætr 'a hill farm/shieling'   Fig. 8

Along an Atholl Boundary

John Kerr

AN eighteenth-century report of Perthshire boundaries tells us that:

'The boundaries of estates are marked according to the nature of the country. In the valleys of the Highlands different proprietors are separated by substantial stone walls without mortar or by a river or a brook, or by a range of rocks or some other natural limit. The lower hills too are sometimes bisected by these walls, but more generally by boundary stones, fixed in the ground or set up singly; in other instances, if the stones are small, they are piled in heaps. The higher mountains are frequently divided in a similar manner, especially when different proprietors occupy the same side; but when they occupy different sides of the same ridge or general line of mountain, as continually happens between parallel glens, their properties are determined as "wind and water divides", which means the line of partition on the top of the mountain, between the windward and lee-side, or as it is still more nicely marked, by the tendency of the rain water after it falls upon the ground' (J. Robertson, 1795).

Many of the features mentioned in that report form part of the Commonty boundary between Glen Tilt and Glen Fender, situated in the south-east corner of the parish of Blair Atholl in north Perthshire. In Scotland, a 'commonty' was land beyond the head-dyke, used primarily for grazing, and the subject of this paper is the names of the features on this boundary and of the adjacent settlements. Because of the diversity and remoteness of this boundary, there were many disputes between tenants, and so in 1808 a definitive and detailed map was drawn up by David Buist, Land Surveyor. Entitled 'Plan of the Common of Glen Tilt', it was produced following submissions by a number of witnesses called to testify on behalf of the two lairds involved: John Fourth Duke of Atholl and General Robertson of Lude.

The Commonty was divided into three parts: a small portion of 30 acres being allocated to the parish minister, while Lude received 590 acres and the lion's share of 1,290 acres went to the Atholl Estate. It comprised a strip of land six miles in length and less than a mile wide, which for centuries had been a common property used for grazing purposes by the thirty farms in the vicinity. These enjoyed a servitude of pasturage and of fuel, feal (thick sods of earth for building walls) and divot (turves for thatching).

The west side of the boundary is situated in Glen Tilt and follows a line about two-thirds of the way up the steep side of the glen, while to the east, in Glen Fender, it follows mountain tops and
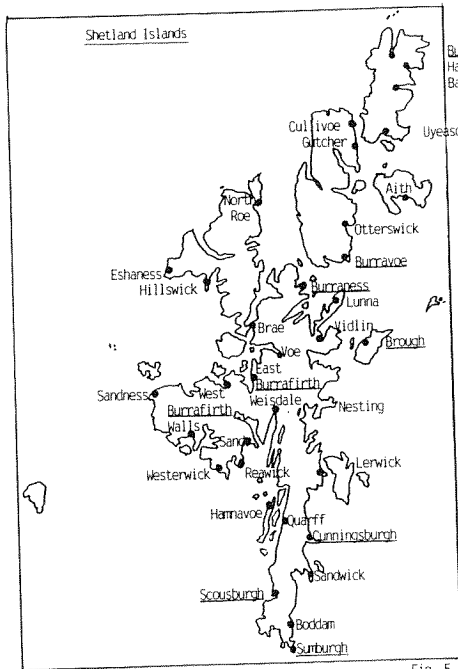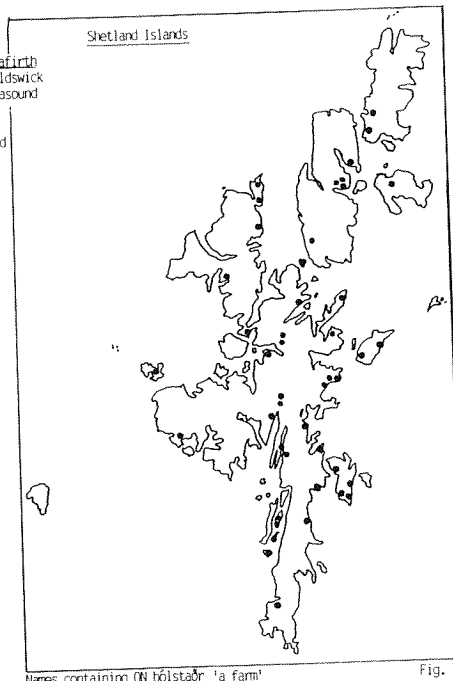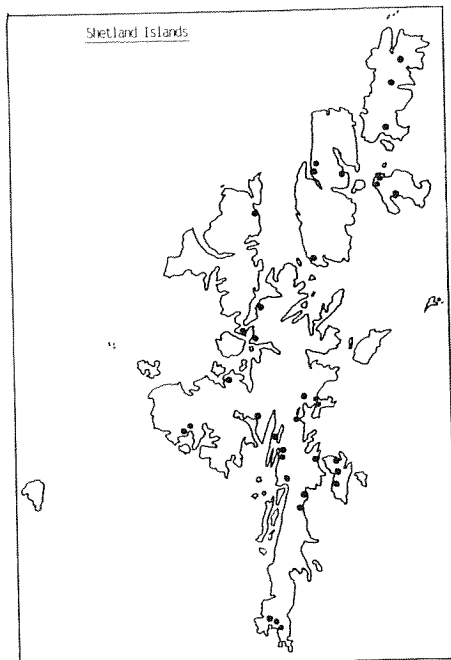
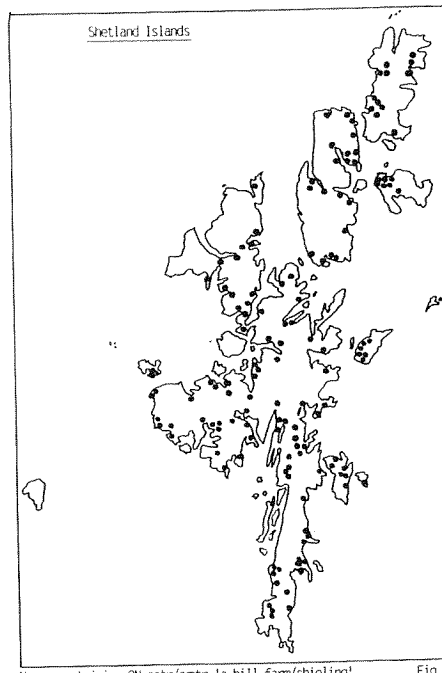high ridges and, lower down, streams and head-dykes.

With the help of the Buist map and the Boundary Charter, from which I shall quote extracts, our fourteen-mile journey along this boundary starts in the south-west corner at Aldnaba (< Gaelic *Allt na Ba* 'stream of the cow', *allt* indicating a mountain stream). Immediately, the pastoral properties of Glen Tilt are revealed, as there is an abundance of limestone that produces lush grazing for livestock. The boundary dyke runs straight up the hill beside Meall Ghruaidh (< Gaelic *Meall Gruaidhe* 'hill of the brow', a topographical expression to describe its shape; *meall* denotes 'mound-shaped hill', and there are many in the area). Towards the summit the dyke turns sharply to the left at a place called Slocht-Vuilt (< Gaelic *Slochd-Mhuilt* 'hollow of the wedder'), another indication of extensive grazing in this part: *sloc* means 'den, place of shelter', and *mult* 'castrated sheep'.

At the corner, the boundary follows the head-dyke of Upper Campsie. A head-dyke was a dry-stone wall which divided the arable land and pasture of the farm from the moorland, heather and rough pasture further up the hillside. The name of Upper Campsie (< Gaelic *Ard Cam-Fhasaidh*) means 'point of the bent stance', and the name appears in documents of 1750 as *Ard Campsie*. This is shown in a charter of 1607 as *Campsy Mor*, together with *Campsy Beg* for the settlement lower down the hillside, which later became known as *Campsie*. It is appropriate that one of the Earl of Atholl's bowmen (a 'bowman' being a tenant of a cattle farm) should have been living here in 1669. The two Campsies were treated separately for rental purposes, and appeared as *Nether* and *Over* in late-eighteenth-century documents until the latter was cleared for a sheep run in 1802 and merged with Croftmore (< Gaelic *Croit Mor* 'great croft').

At the start of the nineteenth century, the houses and barns which made up Croftmore were pulled down because the tenants had departed, and a large new farm was built in their place and that farm remains to this day, located between the right-of-way and the peat road which further on forms part of the Commonty boundary. There are no early forms of the name *Croftmore*, and in the 1668 rental the tenant is shown as paying £20 Scots (a Scottish £ was equivalent to a twelfth part of an English one), together with casualties consisting of eight bolls of bere (a 'boll' was a volumetric measure equal to about 140lb, or 10 stone, of oats, and bere was a coarse form of barley); he also provided twelve stone of cheese and two stirks (bullocks between one and two years old). It is difficult to pinpoint the characteristics which gave rise to the name 'Great

Croft'. It may well have been its location, and it was certainly this factor which resulted in a number of farms being merged with it, the only new farm on this side of the glen.

Before the Campsie head-dyke was built, the line of the boundary changed direction to follow the contour of the hill, and this point was marked by Fuaran Croft Vic Finlay (< Gaelic *Fuaran Croite Mhic Fionnlagh* 'spring of the croft of Finlay's son'); *fuaran* means 'spring, well', sometimes denoting a pool for cattle to stand in to cool themselves, and here a small spring of pure water issues from the hillside. The head-dyke ceases in a short while, and the boundary is undefined as it crosses open pasture, its line being marked by another spring, Fuaran Raon Dui (< Gaelic *Fuaran Raoin Dubhaidh* 'spring of the field in shadow'); this name highlights another feature of the glen, where, because of the steep sides, rentals were sometimes divided according to the sunny and the shadow halves.

The settlement of Dalginross (< Gaelic *Dail Chinn Rois* 'haugh of the end of the headland') lies below the spring. This name describes its situation at the end of a vast upland plateau, where up to twelve buildings, some extant to a height of four feet, together with enclosures and a kiln, can still be seen. Dalginross stands at over 1,000 feet above sea-level, and in the 1820s was a 54-acre farm, with 20 acres set aside for pasture and hay and 34 for crops, which included oats, barley, pease, turnips and potatoes. It was inhabited till the 1890s. At the start of the seventeenth century it was appearing in charters and rentals as *Dalguras*, and in 1668 tenants were paying a rent of 200 marks (£133.6s.8d. Scots), plus six stone of cheese, six pints of butter, two geese and 36 poultry.

Within a few yards of the spring, the boundary reaches the peat road built to enable tenants to transport their dried peats from the mosses further up and follows this for a short distance. One of these mosses was called Mon A Clarach (< Gaelic *Moine na Claraiche* 'moss of the plain'): a name that exactly defines the terrain in this part, a wide expanse of upland plateau over 600 feet above the valley floor. This moss is below Meall Dalmin (< Gaelic *Meall Dalach Mine* 'hill of the level meadow': again a name echoing the topography of this area. The peat road crosses a little rill called Fea Garrow na Clarach (< Gaelic *Feith Garbh na Claraiche* 'rough bog of the plain', *feith* meaning 'stream running through or out of bogland').

Achagowal (< Gaelic *Achadh Gobhail* 'field of the fork') lies down in the valley; *achadh* is a common Perthshire term for 'field, meadow', usually used of a smaller unit of land, while *gobhal*

describes its appearance as 'prong-shaped'. The name appears as *Achagowill* in a contract of 1599, and as *Achagouall* in the rental of 1668, which shows John Stewart as paying £26.13s.4d. Scots and providing as services 54 loads of peat for Blair Castle.

Fasscarie (< Gaelic *Fas Gairbh* 'rough stance', with *fas* indicating a resting-place or level spot where drovers paused), was a substantial settlement on the plateau, consisting of seven buildings and a kiln. Donald Macklauchlan, the tenant in 1742, had completed the sixth year of his seven-year tenure and his annual rent was £24 Scots, two poultry and the transportation of 20 loads of peat to Blair Castle.

Forty yards on from the little rill, the boundary reaches the head-dyke of Drumnabeachan (< Gaelic *Druim nam Beathaichean* 'ridge of the beasts', *druim* meaning 'ridge' or spine of a hill). This was a 38-acre farm growing oats, barley and potatoes in the 1820s and pasturing 24 wedders, 50 ewes and 45 hoggs. Soon after joining the new head-dyke, the boundary strikes off and follows the old head-dyke of Drumnabeachan, still visible as a turf bank. Sometimes called a 'feal' dyke, this was an ancient form of enclosure used when stones were scarce.

At the end of the old dyke, the Commonty march crosses Fuaran na Craggan (< Gaelic *Fuaran na Cragain* 'spring of the rocks'), named after a small rocky outcrop nearby. A lint pool with inlet and outlet is close by, and it was here that sheaves of flax were left to ret in the running water for ten to fourteen days. The Drumchat dyke, still visible as a grass- and heather-covered stone dyke, forms the boundary at this point. Drumchat (< Gaelic *Druim a'Chait*) means 'ridge of the cat', and there are a few other places in Atholl named similarly, one being Beinn a'Chait, a 2,700 foot mountain on the north side of Glen Tilt. Drumchat was grazing ground till 1732 when it became a permanent settlement, and the last crops were cultivated here in 1745 and the land returned to pasture.

The boundary follows the Drumchat dyke for half a mile till the north-east corner when the dyke takes a 90-degree turn, and from then on the march is undefined. The peat road terminates at the Mona More (< Gaelic *Moine Mor* 'great moss'), and this was the most important moss in the area, many of the settlements lower down having rights to cast, win and lead peats from it. Each settlement was given a section of the moss and within that area each tenant had his own clearly defined stretch, a moss-grieve ensuring that the rules about cutting and stacking peat to dry out were strictly observed. Caistail Dubh 'black castle' is a hillock

over-looking the moss and to the north has a commanding view of Glen Tilt. This was a dun, a Pictish ring fort with faint traces of a circular turf bank visible below the summit.

The boundary changes direction at Fuaran n' Ime (< Gaelic *Fuaran an Ime* 'the butter spring'): another clue to extensive cattle-grazing in this part. This spring has virtually dried up now, but originally it plunged hundreds of feet into the valley below. The next directional change is in the middle of open ground, and this is marked by a march-stone, the most prominent in this area of pasture. Eye-witness accounts indicated that there were two march-stones forming the line at this point, and a few hundred yards further on there is another prominent one. From here the boundary crosses Glaicmore (< Gaelic *Glac Mhor* 'the big defile'), whose name describes the ravines formed by tributaries to the Tilt river, and which lies below Meallnaduie (< Gaelic *Meall Duibhe* 'hill of darkness'), a hill darkened by extensive coverage of heather up to its summit.

Inchgrenich (< Gaelic *Innis Cruinnich* 'the sheltered gathering meadow') was a collection point for cattle prior to their being driven to market, *innis* meaning 'field' for cattle to pasture in and *cruinnich* 'place for assembling livestock'. The presence of a marble seam was first brought to the attention of the Fourth Duke in 1813, and Marble Lodge, a small hunting lodge, was built on the site of the old deserted settlement, and named after the nearby marble quarry. Soon the famous green marble of Glen Tilt was appearing in many forms. The statue of the Fourth Duke in Dunkeld Cathedral stands on a huge marble plinth, while a smaller plinth supports a silver stag adorning the dining table in Blair Castle. Among smaller items is the baptismal font in nearby Tenandry Church.

For the next few miles the boundary follows a line 700 feet above the river, and beyond the march-stones it turns at a stone in the face of Beallach na Daorre (< Gaelic *Bealach na Doire* 'pass of the thicket', *bealach* meaning 'passage, way through mountains', and *doire* 'grove, thicket' or even 'isolated clump of trees'. Being the only stone in the area, this one must be the turning point. The next turn occurs at a stone in the face of Beallach Righ n'Uan (< Gaelic *Bealach Righ n' Uan* 'pass of the shieling of the lamb'). There are two places on the ridge above where the land dips slightly, and these must have given rise to the two *Bealach* place-names.

Pitenecie (cf. Gaelic *Bal an Easaich* 'town of the deep rocky stream') is so named because it stands near a narrow, steep and

craggy part of the river Tilt. This was an eight-acre farm which in the eighteenth century supplied seven able-bodied men to the Duke of Atholl's Fencibles, a form of local militia. It appears in a 1592 charter as *Pittinacie* and later, according to the ground officer, 'there is not another spot that yields so much'. In the 1668 rental the *Pittinasie* tenant, Duncan Stewart, was given the sunny half of the settlement and he and his wife shared the shadow half. Their annual rent was £6.13s.4d. Scots and casualties of a kid and a lamb, twelve poultry and 50 loads of peat. As services they were obliged to provide a day's shearing at the Mains of Blair. The first element *pit* (< Pictish *pett*) is the only Pictish element in this paper and means 'farm, homestead'. Another meaning of *pit* caused some embarrassment to the Victorians and around 1850 the name was changed to *Balaneasie*, *baile* indicating a farm of some consequence.

Tomlia (< Gaelic *Tom Liath* 'the grey knoll') is on the watershed between Glen Tilt and Glen Fender and is the source of the stream after which the next settlement is named, that is, Aldandow (< Gaelic *Alltan Dubh* 'the little black stream'). This is a common name in Perthshire and describes the colour of the water, blackened by peat; *alltan*, a diminutive of *allt*, means 'streamlet'. In the 1750s, the rent was £50 Scots and, as the Scottish pound value was being phased out at this time, the sterling equivalent of £4.3s.4d. also appeared in the agreement. Donald Stewart, the tenant, was also paying a *cuideag* of 8d, this being a 'small extra portion'.

The boundary crosses Toman Loin Luich (< Gaelic *Toman Loin Fluich* 'little knoll of the wet meadow', *toman*, 'small hillock', being a diminutive of *tom*, *lon* a rare term in Atholl for 'field' and *fluich* meaning 'wet'). This wetness relates to the nearby stream called Ald na Muichan (< Gaelic *Allt na Muidhean* 'stream of the churns'): further evidence of cattle-grazing. The boundary changes direction at Stack Glass (< Gaelic *Stac Glas* 'grey projecting rock', *stac* meaning 'precipice, steep cliff'); and then it crosses two streams, the first called Aldmore (< Gaelic *Allt mor* 'big stream') by means of a ford called Aan na Hecabeg (< Gaelic *Athan na Eachdra Bhig* 'little ford of the enclosure', *athan* being a diminutive of *ath* 'shallow part of a river' and *eachdra* from *eachdarran*, denoting a 'pen' for containing straying cattle and sheep).

The name Dallngoilsich (< Gaelic *Dail na Goillseiche*) is obscure but probably means 'distorted haugh'; it denotes a 20-acre farm where the remains of eight buildings, a corn-drying kiln and enclosures are visible. It appears as *Dalnagelsich* in the 1761 rental, when Alexander Stewart was paying £36 Scots and a *cuideag* of 4d.

The boundary proceeds due north to Ald Torkie (< Gaelic *Allt*

Torcaidh 'stream of the boar') and crosses it at Aan n' Lui (< Gaelic *Athan na Laoigh* 'little ford of the calves') and, to quote from the charter, 'in the middle between two fords—no great distance between them—known by the same name, Aan n' Lui'. Far below lies Forest Lodge, built in 1779 as a small shooting lodge and subsequently enlarged. In correspondence and documents it has always been known as Forest Lodge and there is no explanation for the name 'Tilt Lodge' given on the Buist map other than a cartographical error.

At its northernmost point, the boundary turns sharply at Lurg na Cloich Ban (< Gaelic *Lurg na Cloiche Baine* 'ridge of white stone'), which is high up the precipitous hillside, and closer inspection reveals a small ridge of quartz here. The boundary then climbs Craigmore (< Gaelic *Creag Mhor* 'big cliff'), a name that exactly describes the precipice above, and proceeds straight to the top of Cairn Torkie (< Gaelic *Carn Torcaidh* 'mountain of the boar', *carn* Scotticized to *cairn* being a standard mountain term in the Grampians and relating to mountains which are conical and round-topped rather than peaked and pointed).

The boundary charter gives a vivid description of its direction across the mountain tops:

'From there all the way on the Glen Tilt side as the wells rise and the heather and fog separate from the stones down by the Coir Torkie [< Gaelic *Coire Thorcaidh* "corrie of the boar"] and Coir' I'an [< Gaelic *Coirre Fhiann* "corrie of the warrior", in this case Fingal, a third-century hero of Celtic folk stories]. From here past Cairnkil Challum [< Gaelic *Charn Mhic Ghille Chaluim* "son of the lad of Malcolm's mountain", *gille* in this sense meaning "boy, youth"] and Sroinchlerich [< Gaelic *Sron a' Chleirich* "promontory of the cleric", *sron* being a common term in the Central Highlands for a "nose" or ridge of a hill of which there are several examples of those in Atholl].'

For these two miles, the boundary is just below the watershed and the high ridges of Ben Gloe (< Gaelic *Beinn a'Ghlo* 'mountain of the mist'), a collective name for four peaks which are each over 3,000 feet. These mountains are famous for their witch, a vicious and malevolent female who drove cattle into bogs where they perished, and rode the forest horses by night till they dropped from sheer exhaustion. The charter continues:

'...to a well which is the source of Cromaldan [< Gaelic *Crom Alltan* "the little crooked stream"; this streamlet rises on the watershed, and *crom* 'bent' describes the turn it takes as it emerges from the corrie]. From there by the same line of separation of springs, heather and fog from the stones on the Glen Tilt side, till it reaches the upper spring or well of Ald Chonich

[< Gaelic *Allt Chonaich* "stream of the moss"; *moss* here means a peat moss, and eighteenth-century records show that nearby tenants were casting their peats a little below the source of the stream which rises near the summit of Cairn Lia (< Gaelic *Carn Liath* "the grey mountain")]'.

Ald Chonich marks the boundary till it joins the Fender Water and reaches the Sheal of Righn'ald (< Gaelic *Righ an Allt*), a tautological name meaning 'shieling of the shieling of the stream'. Here the footprints of nine bothies are visible on both sides of the river. Attempts were made to grow crops here in the 1730s as an area of land on the north side was ploughed up. This was one of the places where Robertson of Lude's share of the Commonty extended to the west side of the Fender Water and the southern end of his pasture was marked by a ditch. At the point where the boundary changes direction, a march-stone was sited with 'A' for Atholl on one side and 'L' for Lude on the other. This was a common way of marking boundaries by using the initials of the relevant lairds. In the previous century Lude had a much larger bridgehead of land on the west side and the extent of his holding was defined with named march-stones and these appear on an older map. An extract from the 1697 boundary charter runs thus:

' ... continues the march and directly to a stone called Calachlude [< Gaelic *Clach Lude* "Lude's stone"; this is at the bottom of the hill near a stream and, being the only stone of any size in the hill face, was easy to locate] ... and straight to a white stone at the top of the hill called Tomchlarich [< Gaelic *Tom Claraiche* "knoll of the plain"]. Thence to a stone called Clachglassnearacach ["grey stone of ..."—the meaning of this name being obscure; a large stone stands in isolation in a wide expanse of pasture, directly opposite a settlement across the river, and was easy to pasture, directly opposite a settlement across the river, and was easy to plot]. Then down to the ford of Achalain [< Gaelic *Achadh Leathann* "the broad field"; *leathann* means "spacious area", reflecting the situation of the settlement, the only one on this side of the river, where footings of four buildings can be seen in a gently sloping green pasture]. Then to a big stone called March Stone or Clach na Criche [< Gaelic *Clach na Criche* "boundary stone", *crioch* denoting "landmark, border"].'

The Commonty boundary crosses the Fender water amd follows the head-dyke till it reaches Brakoch Lude (< Gaelic *Breachach Lude* 'Lude's speckled place'), a name which relates to the quality of pasture. Here the remains of a few shieling bothies are visible beside a large sheep fank, probably constructed from the stones of the buildings. This shieling appears as *Ribrachachloid* in a contract of 1613; by the eighteenth century the shieling element *ri-* of this name had been dropped when families ceased to live there during the summer months. The boundary continues round the head-dyke,

which forms a clear division between the pasture land inside and the moorland outside, and so reaches Brakoch Kincraigie (< Gaelic *Breacach Kincraigie* 'Kincraigie's speckled place'), where a few footings remain. The two shielings had been merged by 1754 and were appearing in rentals as *the two Bracochs* and in 1761 as *Breackoch*. The boundary passes round these head-dykes and descends the hill to rejoin the Fender Water, which forms the march for about a mile, when it leaves it and heads up a dried-up stream bed to its source, Fuaran Craggan Chip (< Gaelic *Fuaran Craggan Cip* 'spring of the rocky top of the hump', *ceap* being a Gaelic word little-used in the Grampians and meaning 'top, high place', probably the edge of the bank formed by a glacier).

This point forms the most northern boundary of the Four Merk Land of Lude, another of his bridgeheads on the west side of the river. A 'merkland' was generally a land which gave full employment to one plough and a family in the arable parts of the country, and the term was used in land assessment. The term is derived from the Scots merk, a silver coin worth 13s.4d., and therefore the merkland was divisible into such fractions as 6s.8d. land (half a merk), a 3s.4d. land (a quarter merk), a 10s. land (three-quarters of a merk) and sometimes a 5s. land (three-eighths of a merk). The system was introduced in the twelfth century, and by the fourteenth a merkland was equivalent to four cows or 26 stone of cheese, etc.

The boundary crosses Aldglaicsellaich (< Gaelic *Allt Glaice Seilich* 'stream of the hollow of the willow'). The willow, *seileach*, was a valuable tree for the Highlander and was put to endless uses; no part of it was wasted, as the bark was used for tanning leather while the foliage was an acceptable food for cattle and horses; young twigs were employed in basket work and even for making rope. The boundary proceeds up the hill along an old turf dyke which formed the head-dyke for Auldindulash (< Gaelic *Alltan Dubh–Glass* 'the little grey/black stream'); this appears in 1750 rentals as *Aldendulassigh* and is now known locally as *Burn Douglas*! In the 1830s the tenant maintained that, because his farm was the highest in the glen and therefore exposed to the ravages of grazing cattle and sheep, his kitchen garden and corn yard should be enclosed within a stone wall.

Croftnacushag (< Gaelic *Croit na Cusaig* 'the wild mustard croft') is across the river and was deserted by 1800. In 1750 the tenant, Donald McLean, did not possess a lease and paid £5.14s.7½d. sterling a year in rent plus casualties of a lamb or 3s.4d., six hens or 3s. and a pint of butter or 1s.4d. By the middle of the

eighteenth century it was established practice for the landlord to offer a cash alternative and this was often taken up by the tenant and added to his rent.

The boundary continues to follow the head-dykes of the Glen Fender settlements and passes Braie Lude (< Gaelic *Braigh Lude* 'Lude's upland'), a name that needs no explanation. Lower down is the settlement of Balnaheglis (< Gaelic *Bail na h-Eaglaise* 'Kirktown'), which normally appears in rentals as *Kirktown of Lude*. This is beside the old Lude church which features in the Bagimond Rolls of the thirteenth century and paid tithes to Rome of two merks. This is the heartland of the Barony of Lude as the Robertson family had their principal dwelling-house on the slope across the river from the church until 1650 when it was burnt to the ground by Cromwellian troops. The clue to the Gaelic derivation of Lude comes from that slope: Gaelic *leathad* means 'broad slope, side of a hill', and it is easy to see the derivation of this name from the situation of the earlier residence.

The next part of the head-dyke, still a turf bank, belonged to Renroy (< Gaelic *Raon Ruadh* 'field of a reddish colour', *raon* denoting 'upland field'). Renroy was a substantial settlement, and gable ends of several of the buildings are still standing. It was inhabited until well into the twentieth century. It appears in the 1750 rental as *Rinroy*, when the tenant of half of the land, John Campbell, was paying a similar rent to others in the glen, £5.14s.7½d. sterling and a lamb, six hens and a pint of butter.

Little Lude is just outside the Four Merk Land and there are no early variants. As long ago as 1607 it was appearing in charters in this form and in 1668, when the tenant was paying £33.6s.8d. Scots yearly in rent. The tenant cultivated eleven acres of oats, three and a half of barley, one of turnips, three of potatoes and half an acre of lint on his nineteen-acre arable farm in 1823.

Tomnaculaig (< Gaelic *Tom na Culaige*) means 'rising ground of the little nook'; *tom* not only means 'hillock' but also 'rising ground', and that is more appropriate for this and the next two settlements. The name appears as *Tomnaculag* in a 1737 contract, and in the 1820s oats, barley, pease, turnips and potatoes were cultivated here. It also contained the glen school, which closed in 1913. Next along the head-dyke is Tomnabrack (< Gaelic *Tom na Braic* 'rising ground of the deer'), and indeed when I was there two or three years ago there were a couple of deer on the hill above the settlement. There are no early forms of the name and it appeared in the same style in rentals throughout the eighteenth century. Nearby there was until some three years ago a

cruck-framed barn, the last remaining example of this ancient form of building in Atholl: in this method, the roofing timbers were branches of trees which did not rest on the wall-head, but were carried right down to floor level and supported the roof independently of the walls.

Tomnaguie (< Gaelic *Tom na Gaothie* 'rising ground of the wind') appears in the 1782 rental as *Tomnaguy*. Its name seems to indicate that its position was more exposed than those of other settlements in the area. Beside one of the farm buildings there are the remains of a horse-gang platform; this was a raised circular platform of 25 to 30 feet in diameter, and here two, three or four horses drove the threshing machinery with underground gearing linking the platform with the threshing shed. The boundary continues to follow the head-dykes of the settlements and takes a line along the face of Meall Ghruaidh where the dividing line between pasture and moor is easy to see. Here it is marked by an old rusting wire fence, erected in the 1850s.

The name Molochmore (< Gaelic *Mullach More* 'the big top', with *mullach* meaning 'summit, upper extremity') reflects the position of this settlement on the edge of the steep bank caused by a glacier. It appears in a 1613 document as *Moalychmoir* and in a 1737 contract as *Mualichmore*. The tenant, George Ritchie, appeared before the Excise Court in Dunkeld in 1828 charged with selling whisky at a dance held in his barn, without a licence. One of the guests was an excise officer who had helped himself to large quantities of the liquor. George pleaded that the officer must have realised that he, George, had nothing to do with the whisky sale and had only donated the use of his barn and played the fiddle for the dancers!

Molochbeg (< Gaelic *Mullach Bheg* 'the little top') is lower down the glen and also near the bank of the river. It appears as *Moalych Beg* in a 1613 document. A survey of six pairs of settlements in the area that are distinguished by the adjectives *mor* 'big' and *beag* 'little' reveals that the names bear no relationship to size. In every case, including the *Mullachs*, the name with *Mor* lies further up the glen, where you would expect the smaller or secondary settlement to be, showing that here these terms have a topographical meaning.

Tirinie (< Gaelic *Tir Ingne* 'land of the claw place', where *tir* means 'land' as distinct from water) appears in a charter of 1613 as *Tyrine*. I cannot explain this name, but close to Tirinie Farm near Aberfeldy, 20 miles distant, there is a hollow shaped like a bird's foot. This was the ancient seat of the MacIntoshes, Thanes of Glen

Tilt in 1350, and in 1668 it appeared as *Tirinie*, when the tenant, William Mackintosh, paid £97.13s.4d. Scots and a stone of cheese as his yearly rental. The Mill of Tirinie was close by and appears in the 1613 charter as *Molendino de Tyrinie*. Millers had to provide a service for their customers and that is why in the vicinity of this mill there was *Lie Ailhous Cropt*, which also appears in the charter; this was a primitive hostelry for the provision of entertainment, i.e., food and drink for the suckeners while they waited, accommodation if needed, and stabling for their horses. The mill was situated at Tomvoulin (< Gaelic *Tom Mhuilinn* 'rising ground of the mill'), half way down the slope from Tirinie to the Fender, and the mill lade is still visible. The mill ceased to operate in 1780 and the land, appearing as *Tomvulin* in the rentals, was absorbed by Donald Robertson for cultivation of crops. This was a rural corn mill, a single-storey building built from local materials. It was called a black or Norse mill and contained a simple set of machinery with a small horizontal paddle for water to play on; the grinding stones were in the same plane as the paddles and consequently it was extremely ineffective and needed constant repair.

The land of Tildunie (< Gaelic *Toil Daoine* 'hole of the men') lies at the confluence of the rivers Tilt and Fender and appears in the 1613 charter as *Toldowny*. Apparently, one day the ground opened up and the menfolk of Tildunie disappeared only to re-appear across the river as oxen in a place called Toldamh (< Gaelic *Toll Daimh*) 'hole of the oxen'.

Kincraigie (< Gaelic *Ceann Creige* 'head of the crag') was a large settlement perched high up on the east side of Glen Tilt and below a rocky outcrop which is the reason for the name. It appears in the 1613 charter as *Kymncraigie*, when it was the main seat of the Robertsons of Kincraigie. By 1737 there were eight tenants here and the name was appearing in its current form. Finally there is Cuil Chroil (< Gaelic *Cuil* ...? 'corner of the ?')---another name with an obscure meaning. This was situated right on the boundary and was in ruins by 1800. From here the boundary circumnavigates Le'd More (< Gaelic *Leathad Mor* 'great slope'), another example of how these names echo the topography of Glen Tilt. And that completes the fourteen-mile circuit.

Boundaries are an integral part of a landscape, and Highland boundaries are still largely intact and some have been unchanged for centuries. The Glen Tilt names are very revealing, describing the steep sides of the glen with its sunny and its shadow halves and the fertile upland plain. Some relate to the grazing of sheep on lush pasture encouraged by the limestone strata, and even today Glen Tilt

lambs make good prices in the market at Perth. A great many of these names relate to cattle and their grazing area and, along with those alluding to milk and butter, indicate that at one time these animals played a vital rôle in the economy of the glen. In Glen Fender, being lower down, the names are more diverse and many tend to be topographical. Very ordinary features like fords, dykes and boundary stones were named, showing the important part they played in everyday life. There is little romance in these names, rather are they the naming of human purpose and endeavour.

OLD STRUAN

NOTES

This is a revised version of the paper given on 1 April 1989 at the XXIth Annual Study Conference organized by the Council for Name Studies, held at the University of St Andrews.

Primary sources.

The 1808 forms are taken from David Buist's 'Plan of the Common of Glen Tilt', and earlier ones from sixteenth-. seventeenth- and eighteenth-century charters, rentals and maps, all housed in the Charter Room of Blair Castle, Perthshire.

Secondary works consulted.

E. Dwelly, *Illustrated Gaelic to English Dictionary* (Glasgow, 1967).

J. Robertson, *General View of the Agriculture in the County of Perth* (Edinburgh, 1795).

W.J. Watson, *History of the Celtic Place-Names in Scotland* (Edinburgh, 1926).

APPENDIX

1808 Forms	Early Forms	Gaelic	Meaning
Aldnaba	---	Allt na Ba	Stream of the cow
Meall Chruaidh	1790 Mealgruye	Meall Cruaidhe	Hill of the brow
Slocht-Vuilt	1790 Stockvult	Slochd Mhuilt	Hollow of the wedder
Upper Campsie	1750 Ard Campsie	Ard Cam-Fhasaidh	Point of the bent stance
Campsie	1607 Campsy Beg	Cam-Fhasaidh beag	Little bent stance
Croftmore	1668 Croftmore	Croit Mor	Great croft
Fuaran Croft Vic Findlay	–	Fuaran Croite Mhic Fionnlagh	Spring of the croft of Findlay's son
Fuaran Raon Duit	–	Fuaran Raoin Dubhaidh	Spring of the field in shade
Dalginross	1607 Dalguras	Dail Chinn Rois	Haugh of the end of the headland
Mon A Clarach	–	Moine na Claraiche	Moss of the plain
Meall Dalmin	–	Meall Dalach Mine	Hill of the level meadow
Fea Garrow Na Clarach	–	Feith Garbh na-Claraiche	Rough bog of the plain
Achagowal	1599 Achagowill	Achadh Gobhail	Field of the fork
Fasscarie	1742 Fascharry	Fas Gairbh	Rough stance
Drumnabeachan	1800 Drumnabacon	Druim nam-Beathaichean	Ridge of the beasts
Fuaran Na Craggan	–	Fuaran na Cragain	Spring of the rocks
Drumchat	1742 Drumahat	Druim a' Chait	Ridge of the cat
Mona More	–	Moine Mor	Great moss
Caistail Dubh	1790 Castle Dow	Caisteal Dubh	Black castle
Fuaran N' Ime	1760 Fuarannameen	Fuaran an Ime	Butter spring
Glaicmore	–	Glac Mhor	Big defile

1808 Forms	Early Forms	Gaelic	Meaning
Meallnadui	–	Meall Duibhe	Hill of darkness
Inchgrenich	17c Inchcruineach	Innis Cruinnich	Sheltered gathering meadow
Beallach na Daorre	1760 Ballichnadur	Bealach na Doire	Pass of the thicket
Beallach Righ n'Uan	1760 Ballichruinanuan	Bealach Righ n' Uan	Pass of the shieling of the lamb
Pitenecie	1688 Pittinasie	Bal an Easaich	Town of the deep rocky stream
Tomlia	–	Tom Liath	Grey knoll
Aldandow	–	Alltan Dubh	Little black stream
Toman Loin Luich	1760 Tommalinluack	Toman Loin Fluich	Little knoll of the wet meadow
Ald na Muichan	–	Allt na Muidhean	Stream of the churns
Stack Glass	–	Stac Glas	Grey projecting rock
Aldmore	–	Allt Mor	Big stream
Aan na Hecrabeg	1760 Leachnahooncaoidh	Athan na h-eachdra Bhig	Little ford of the enclosure
Dallngoilsich	1761 Dalnagelsich	Dail na Goillseiche	Distorted haugh
Ald Torkie	–	Allt Torcaidh	Stream of the boar
Aan n' Lui	1750 Aldnalui	Athan na Laoigh	Little ford of the calves
Lurg na Cloich Ban	1760 Lowrochnachlochbuin	Lurg na Cloiche Baine	Ridge of the white stone
Craig More	–	Creag Mhor	Big cliff
Cairn Torkie	–	Carn Torcaidh	Mountain of the boar
Coir Torkie	–	Coire Thorcaidh	Corrie of the boar

1808 Forms	Early Forms	Gaelic	Meaning
Coir'l'an	–	Coire Fhiann	Corrie of the warrior
Cairnkil Challum	1790 Carn Ikle Callum	Charn Mhic Ghille Chaluim	Son of the lad of Malcolm's mountain
Sroinchlerich	–	Sron a' Chleirich	Promontory of the cleric
Ben Cloe	1790 Binaglow	Beinn a' Chlo	Mountain of the mist
Cromaldan	–	Crom Alltan	Little crooked stream
Ald Chonich	1760 Aldnahonich	Allt Chonaich	Stream of the moss
Cairn Lia	–	Carn Liath	Grey mountain
Sheal of Righn'ald	1729 Rinald	Righ an Allt	Shieling of the stream
1697 Calachlude	1760 Callich Lude	Clach Lude	Lude's stone
1697 Tomchlarich	1760 Tonlachlarich	Tom Claraiche	Knoll of the plain
1697 Clachglassnearacach	1760 Clachglassniricah		Grey stone of ...
Achalain	1745 Achlinie	Achadh Leathann	Broad field
1697 Clach na Criach	–	Clach na Criche	Boundary stone
Brakoch Lude	1613 Ribrachachloid	Breacach Lude	Luke's speckled place
Brakoch Kincraigie	–	Breacach Kincraigie	Kincraigie's speckled place
Meallbreacach	–	Meall Breacaich	Speckled hill
Fuaran Craggan Chip	–	Fuaran Craggan Cip	Spring of the rocky top of the lump
Aldglaicsellaich	1806 Aldnaghlachsellich	Allt Glaice Seilich	Stream of the hollow of the willow
Auldindulash	1750 Aldendulassigh	Alltan Dubh-Glass	Little black/grey stream
Croftnacushag	1671 Croftnacushick	Croit na Cusaig	Wild mustard croft

1808 Forms	Early Forms	Gaelic	Meaning
Braie Lude	1750 Brae of Lude	Braigh Lude	Lude's upland
Balnaheglis	1723 Kirktown of Lude	Bail na h-Eaglaise	Kirktown
	Lude	Leathad	Slope
Renroy	1671 Reinroy	Raon Ruadh	Reddish field
Little Lude	1688 Little Lude		
Tomnaculaig	1737 Tomnaculag	Tom na Culaige	Rising ground of the little nook
Tomnabrack	1750 Tomnabrac	Tom na Braic	Rising ground of the deer
Tomnaguie	1761 Tomnaguy	Tom na Gaoithe	Rising ground of the wind
Molochmore	1613 Moalychmoir	Mullach Mor	Big top
Molochbeg	1613 Moalych Beg	Mullach Bheg	Little top
Tirinie	1613 Tyrine	Tir Ingne	Land of the claw place
Tomvoulin	1707 Tomvullen	Tom Mhuilinn	Rising ground of the mill
Tildunie	1613 Toldowny	Toll Daoine	Hole of the man
	1750 Toldamh	Toll Daimh	Hole of the oxen
Kincraigie	1613 Kymncraigie	Ceann Creige	Head of the crag
Cuil Chroil	1760 Cuilchruill	Cuil ?	Corner of the ...?
Le'd More	–	Leathad Mor	Great slope