



Clan Macpherson is descended from Ewan Ban, second son of Muriach, Chief of Clan Chattan. Muriach, who had entered the church and become Prior of Kingussie, became Chief in 1153 upon the death of his elder brother. The old Scottish church had a tradition of married clergy and Macpherson means "Son of the Parson". Clan Chattan was a powerful confederation of clans and the chief of the Mackintoshes became chief of Clan Chattan through marriage in 1291. This was contested by the Macphersons who believed that they should lead the confederation and the dispute continued for several centuries until the Lord Lyon ruled in favour of Mackintosh in 1672.

Scotland's Highlanders have long been renowned for their fierce fighting nature and the Macphersons have well proven their Highland blood. The Macpherson Clan has fought in most of the battles of the Wars of Scotland. Staunch in their support for Bonnie Prince Charlie in the 1745 uprising they fought with distinction throughout the campaign. At the final Battle of Culloden, the clan was delayed and arrived too late to avert defeat. Helping the Prince to escape, the Chief, Ewan of Cluny, accompanied him to guide and protect him during his flight. For this his house was burned and the then enormous price of 1000 pounds put on his head. His clansmen sheltered him for nine years before he eventually escaped to France. Sir William Macpherson, twentieth Chief of the Clan, resides at Newton of Blairgowrie, in Perthshire.

The Clan lands are around Kingussie, to the South of Loch Ness

and the former Clan seat is Cluny Castle. The Macpherson symbol is the Wildcat and the motto "Touch not the Cat bot (without) a Glove"

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