

District CRIEFF

Gaelic Name

Craiobh

Tartan Designer unknown (included in Wilsons Records)

Date c. 1793

The medieval town cross still stands in the center of this ancient trading town of Strathearn. Built on the hillside overlooking the rich lands of the Drummond estates, Crieff apparently began as a place where Highlander and lowlander could meet and trade. The town takes its name from the Gaelic *craobh*, 'tree'. Legends vary; this may be a reference to a 'hanging tree' or simply recognition of the richness of the woodland in the area. Crieff was the most famous of the annual cattle drovers and buyers trysts until these moved south to Falkirk in the 1700's. Highlanders Loan ('Lane') just east of the town commemorates the drovers route south from Breadalbane down Glen Almond to the open country of the Earn. The modern town is noted for its beautiful setting overlooking Strathearn and for its fine hotels, a popular place for holidays.

There is mention, with no details of the Crieff district tartan in the accounts of Wilsons of Bannockburn dated 1793. In a manuscript of the same firm dated 1800, it is quoted in quantities of color but no actual scale is given.

Taken from "District Tartans of Scotland", by Gordon Teall & Philip Smith, Shephard-Walwyn (Publishers) Ltd.

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