

District GLASGOW

Gaelic Name

Glaschu

Tartan Designer Unknown

Date Pre 1819

Glasgow is perceived by many to be a product of the modern industrial age. In truth, St. Mungo set up his church near the banks of the river Clyde more than fourteen hundred years ago. Parts of Glasgow Cathedral date from the 1200s and the university, founded in 1451, is Scotland's second oldest. The oldest house in Glasgow, Provand's Lordship, was built in 1471. The Mitchell Library is the largest public reference library in Europe.

Commercial cycles have brought prosperity followed by difficult times -- the great tobacco 'boom', then the industrial revolution fuelled by the coal pits of central Scotland. Clyde built ships, such as the *Queen Mary*, set world standards, Glasgow is Scotland's largest urban center, the hub of a ring of smaller industrial and commercial towns. Much of the central city dates from the early 1800s and the older sections have given way to new high rise office and apartment buildings and the busy motorways.

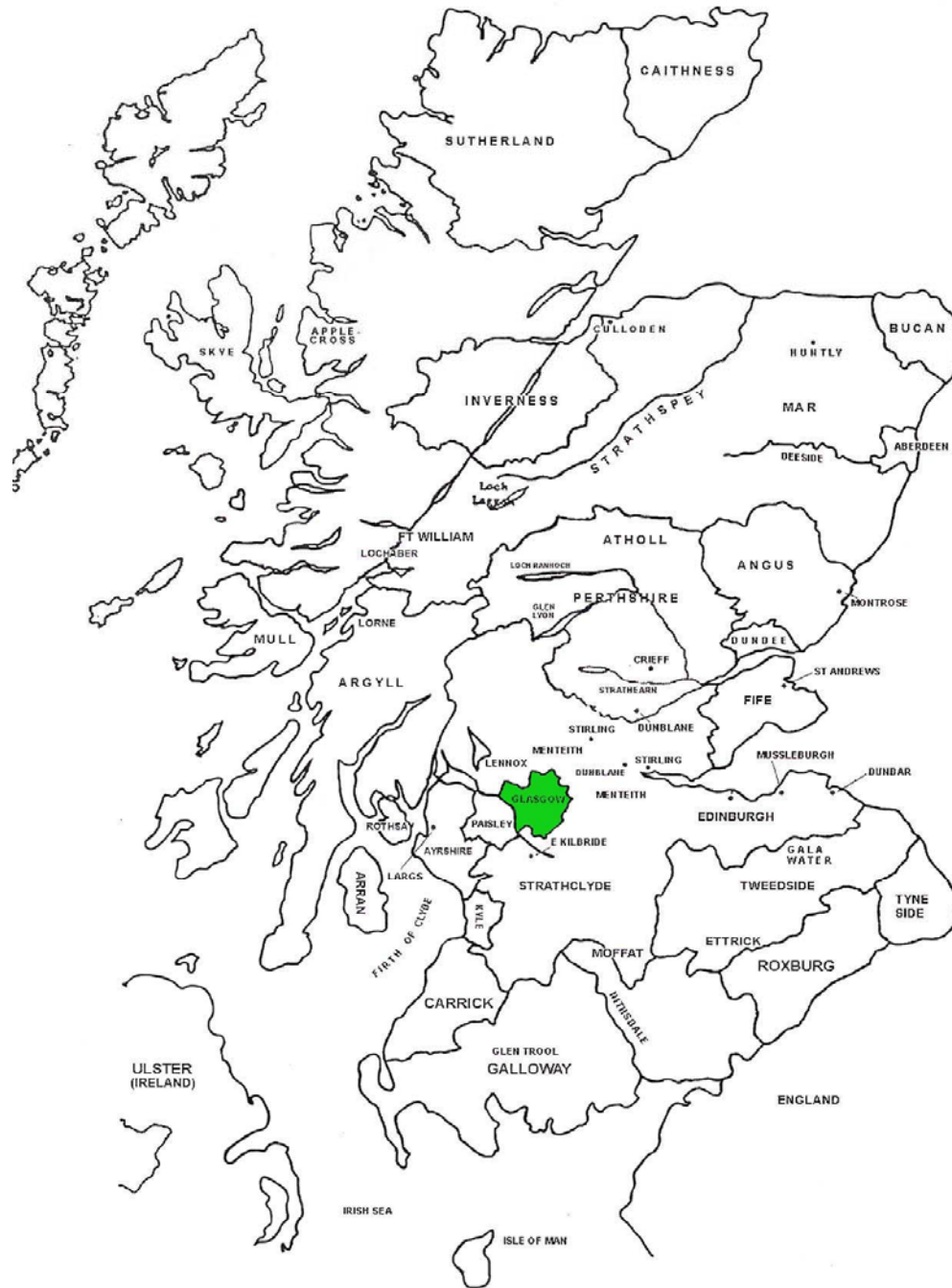
The Glasgow tartan dates from 1819,. For several decades a weaving error gave rise to an alternative patten. Research has restored the original pattern. The tartan is unique in that it specifies that the reddish color be that of madder, one of the earliest red producing dye plants. It is included in the 1819 Pattern Book of Wilsons of Bannockburn (p.73).

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

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