

District GLEN ORCHY

Gaelic Name

Gleann Urchaidh

Tartan Designer Willsons of Bannochburn

Date Pre 1819

Glen Orchy is one of Argyll's loveliest glens. Cutting through the Western Grampians in a southwesterly direction from Bridge of Orchy, the River Orchy is joined by the River Lochy to pass along the Strath of Orchy, past Dalmally and onwards to Loch Awe. Though the glen is in Campbell country, the neighboring Glen Strae was once the headquarters of the recalcitrant Clan MacGregor. Today Glen Orchy is a popular tourist route for those motorists who wish to avoid the arterial roads.

The sett illustrated is now established Glen Orchy district tartan. It is taken from 'Old and Rare Scottish Tartans' by D.W. Stewart (1893) in which it is described as 'MacIntyre and Glenorchy'. It echoes the Glen Orchy sett in the 1819 Wilson's pattern book. It is possible that the sett may have evolved from the hand woven design procured from the Highlands by one of Wilson's agents. Two other setts named MacIntyre-Glenorchy are to be found in the records of the Highland Society of London (c.1820) No. 196 which is different in warp and weft and No. 473.

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

This clan information sheet has been prepared by
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