District HUNTLY

Gaelic Name

Hunndaigh

Tartan Designer Unknown

Date Pre 1717

Huntly is a town in Strathbogie near the confluence of the Rivers Deverson and Bogie. The early parts of Huntly Castle, now a ruin, date from the twelfth century but was largely built in the 1400s. This district was given to Sir Adam, Lord of Gordon, by Robert the Bruce for services rendered, and he remained part of the Gordon estates until this day. The Chief of Clan Gordon is the Marquis of Huntly who now resides at Aboyne. The present feudal Baron of Huntly is successor in title to a former Duke of Richmond, Gordon and Lennox. The complex Huntly tartan is perhaps one of the most authentic 'district' tartans known. It appears to have been in general use in about 1745 by members of several clans in this area -- Gordon, Ross, Brodie, Forbes, Munro and Macrae. It was worn, with a slight variation, by Prince Charles Edward in 1745 while a guest of the MacRaes, one of whom is believed to have worn a version of the tartan at the Battle of Sherrifmuir in 1715.

The tartan may have had a Jacobite identification. Today it remains its district affiliation but is sometimes worn as an alternative sett by the clans mentioned above.

There are several variation of the Huntly District sett on record but the proportions are those stated by D.C. Stewart.

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

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